

Return to Water

photographs and text by Katia Romero

Based on the general concept for this work being return to water, I opted for the theme that asks the question: *where does my water go after it goes down the sink?* I started wondering where sink water would go after we finish using it and ended up with a narrative of the path water takes to get to a water treatment plant and then back to us or back to the environment. For narrative purposes and due to some complications on capturing images of freshwater, I chose to showcase the loop of the water coming back to us and being used again at the sink.

For the production of images, I took the ones that feature parts of the sink in my kitchen, the manhole image is from a street near my house, and the image of the tanks is from a sewage/water treatment plant in Courtenay. Editing was done mostly in LRC, with the exception of the image of the water treatment tanks, which required some patch editing in Photoshop. Most of the editing was reduction of noise due to the high ISO used in the images of frozen water droplets or water ripples, white balancing, and exposure.

Thanks to this project I learned that most of the water we use is skillfully recycled and reused for the same purposes or returned back to the environment. I was initially under the worrisome impression that we contributed to water pollution this way but the amount of contamination it produces is vastly reduced by water treatment plants all around the world.















