



REGION 6

DALLAS, TX 75270

October 13, 2026

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL

Mr. James C. Kenney, Secretary
New Mexico Environment Department
Post Office Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

RE: Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the Jemez River Watershed

Dear Mr. Kenney:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has received the New Mexico Surface Water Quality Bureau's request for EPA review and approval of the final document titled Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the Jemez River watershed (henceforth, 'Final Report'). EPA received the Final Report and submission letter on August 18, 2026. The Final Report includes 35 TMDLs for 23 assessment units in the Jemez River watershed.

Based on our review, we conclude that the TMDLs addressing water quality-limited segments meet the requirements found in Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and the implementing regulations found at 40 CFR § 130.7. The EPA is pleased to approve 33 of 35 TMDLs contained in the Final Report as summarized in the enclosed table. The EPA also acknowledges that these TMDLs will be incorporated as updates to the State of New Mexico Water Quality Management Plan and the Continuing Planning Process (WQMP/CPP). The EPA is not acting on two TMDLs for assessment units which are not identified as water quality-limited on the state's EPA approved 2026-2028 CWA §303(d) List of Impaired Waters.

We appreciate the opportunity to work closely with the Surface Water Quality Bureau, and we commend you and your staff for the considerable effort that went into developing these TMDLs. If you would like to discuss these approvals, please contact me at (214) 665-6647 or Robert Cook of my staff at (214) 665-7141.

Sincerely,

TROY HILL

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HILL
Date: 2026.10.13
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Troy C. Hill, P.E.
Director
Water Division

Enclosure

cc: Jonas Armstrong, NMED, jonas.armstrong2@env.nm.gov
Shelly Lemon, NMED, shelly.lemon@env.nm.gov
Heidi Henderson, NMED, heidi.henderson@env.nm.gov

Enclosure: Summary Table - TMDLs for the Jemez River Watershed.

Table 1: TMDL Allocations					
	TMDL	WLA	WLA _{Growth}	LA	MOS
TMDL American Creek (Rio de las Palomas to headwaters)					
Temperature (kJ/day)	2.57×10^7	0	0	2.06×10^6	5.14×10^6
E. coli (cfu/day)	8.26×10^8	0	0	3.49×10^8	3.88×10^8
TMDL for Calaveras Creek (Rio Cebolla to headwaters)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.37	0	0	0.315	0.056
TMDL for Clear Creek (Rio de las Vacas to San Gregorio Lake)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.41	0	0	0.35	0.06
TMDL for Clear Creek (San Gregorio Lake to headwaters)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.16	0	0	0.13	0.02
TMDL for East Fork Jemez (San Antonio Creek to VCNP bnd)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	1.37	0	0	1.165	0.205
TMDL for East Fork Jemez (VCNP to headwaters)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.82	0	0	0.69	0.12
TMDL for Fenton Lake					
Plant Nutrients: Total Phosphorus (lbs/day)	14.9	0	0	13.4	1.5
Plant Nutrients: Total Nitrogen (lbs/day)	447.8	0	0	403.0	44.8
TMDL for Jaramillo Creek (East Fork Jemez to headwaters)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.41	0	0	0.35	0.06
Sedimentation (lbs TSS/day)	14.02	0	0	11.22	2.80
E. coli (cfu/day)	9.18×10^8	0	0	8.26×10^8	9.18×10^7
TMDL for Jemez River (Jemez Pueblo bnd to Rio Guadalupe)					
Temperature (kJ/day)	1.88×10^9	3.96×10^6	0	1.50×10^9	3.76×10^8

Table 1: TMDL Allocations - <i>continued</i>					
TMDL for Jemez River (Jemez Pueblo bnd to Rio Guadalupe)					
Turbidity (lbs TSS/day)	-Duration- Consec- utive Days	TMDL	WLA	LA	MOS
	3	1053.14	2.22	892.95	157.97
	4	955.81	2.01	810.43	143.37
	5	890.93	1.88	755.42	133.64
	6	826.05	1.74	700.41	123.91
	7	793.61	1.67	672.90	119.04
	14	663.85	1.40	562.87	99.58
	30	534.09	1.12	452.85	80.11
	TMDL	WLA	WLA _{Growth}	LA	MOS
TMDL for La Jara Creek (East Fork Jemez to headwaters)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.08	0	0	0.07	0.01
Temperature (kJ/day)	2.75×10^7	0	0	2.20×10^7	5.51×10^6
TMDL for Redondo Creek (Sulphur Creek to headwaters)					
Dissolved Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.09	0	0	0.08	0.01
TMDL for Rio Cebolla (Fenton Lake to headwaters)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	2.34	1.52	0	0.47	0.35
Plant Nutrients: Total Phosphorus (lbs/day)	1.86	1.33	0	0.34	0.19
Plant Nutrients: Total Nitrogen (lbs/day)	7.44	5.32	0	1.37	0.74
TMDL for San Antonio Creek (VCNP bnd to headwaters)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	2.15	0	0	1.83	0.32
Plant Nutrients: Total Phosphorus (lbs/day)	0.77	0	0	0.69	0.08
Plant Nutrients: Total Nitrogen (lbs/day)	3.08	0	0	2.77	0.31

Table 1: TMDL Allocations - <i>continued</i>					
TMDL for Rio Cebolla (Fenton Lake to headwaters) - <i>continued</i>					
Turbidity (lbs TSS/day)	-Duration- Consec- utive Days	TMDL	WLA	LA	MOS
	3	648.06	235.38	315.47	97.21
	4	572.48	207.93	278.68	85.87
	5	522.09	189.63	245.15	78.31
	6	471.70	171.33	229.62	70.76
	7	446.51	162.18	217.36	66.98
	14	345.74	125.57	168.30	51.86
	30	244.96	88.97	119.25	36.74
	TMDL	WLA	WLA _{Growth}	LA	MOS
TMDL for Rio Cebolla (Rio de las Vacas to Fenton Lake)					
Temperature (kJ/day)	1.42×10^8	0	0	1.14×10^8	2.85×10^7
<i>E. coli</i> (cfu/day)	2.15×10^9	0	0	1.93×10^9	2.15×10^8
TMDL for Rio de las Vacas (Clear Creek to headwaters)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.76	0	0	0.65	0.11
TMDL for Rito Penas Negras (Rio de las Vacas to headwaters)					
<i>E. coli</i> (cfu/day)	8.26×10^8	0	0	7.43×10^8	8.26×10^7
TMDL for Rito de los Indios (San Antonio Creek to headwaters)					
Plant Nutrients: Total Phosphorus (lbs/day)	0.14	0	0	0.13	0.01
Plant Nutrients: Total Nitrogen (lbs/day)	0.56	0	0	0.50	0.06
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.22	0	0	0.19	0.03
TMDL for San Antonio Creek (East Fork Jemez to VCNP bnd)					
Total Recoverable Aluminum (lbs/day)	5.78	0	0	4.91	0.87

Table 1: TMDL Allocations - <i>continued</i>					
	TMDL	WLA	WLA_{Growth}	LA	MOS
TMDL for San Gregorio Lake					
Plant Nutrients: Total Phosphorus (lbs/day)	9.2	0	0	8.3	0.9
Plant Nutrients: Total Nitrogen (lbs/day)	276.8	0	0	249.1	27.7
TMDL for Sulphur Creek (Redondo Creek to headwaters)					
Dissolved Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.09	0	0	0.08	0.01
TMDL for Sulphur Creek (San Antonio Creek to Redondo Creek)					
Dissolved Aluminum (lbs/day)	0.19	0	0	0.16	0.03
TMDL for Vallecito Ck (Perennial Prt Div abv Ponderosa to headwaters)					
Sedimentation/Siltation (lbs TSS/day)	6.42	0	0	5.14	1.28
Turbidity (lb TSS/day)	-Duration- Consec- utive Days	TMDL	WLA	LA	MOS
	3	13.66	0	11.61	2.05
	4	12.34	0	10.49	1.85
	5	11.46	0	9.74	1.72
	6	10.59	0	9.00	1.59
	7	10.15	0	8.63	1.52
	14	8.39	0	7.13	1.26
	30	6.64	0	5.64	1.00