





FINAL

2016 - 2018

State of New Mexico
Clean Water Act
Section 303(d)/Section 305(b)
Integrated
Report

RECORD OF DECISION



Prepared by:

New Mexico Environment Department Surface Water Quality Bureau 1190 St. Francis Dr. Santa Fe, NM 87505 www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swqb Rio Ruidoso (Eagle Ck to US Hwy 70 Bridge) AU:NM-2208 20 WQS: 20.6.4.208

1996 Action: Previously listed for turbidity, stream bottom deposits, plant nutrients and temperature. Turbidity should be removed from the listing as there are no numeric criteria for turbidity in a coldwater fishery. Temperature data are available from four stations on the Rio Ruidoso. The cumulative ratio of temperature exceedences for these stations is 0/64. This reach is fully supporting for temperature. Fecal coliform with a ratio of 1/5 since 1993 will be added as Full Support, Impacts Observed.

1998 Action: Turbidity and temperature were removed as a cause of non-support. Stream bottom deposits, and plant nutrients were retained as causes of non-support. Fecal coliform will be added to the 305(b) list as Full Support, Impacts Observed.

2002 Action: Plant nutrient assessments completed in 2002 confirm the listing.

2006 Action: This AU was intensively surveyed as part of the Rio Penasco (2003) survey. Reference in name to "Seeping Springs Lakes" changed to US Hwy 70 Bridge because Seeping Springs Lakes is not a definitely location (several lakes in a series). A TMDL was prepared for Plant Nutrients (TN and TP). Benthic macroinvertebrates and pebble count data collected at the station @ CR16 bridge near Hondo were compared to reference station Rio Ruidoso @ Mescalero bnd. The bio score was 86 % of reference even though there was a 238% increase in % fines. Therefore, sedimentation/siltation (SBD) was removed as a cause of non support.

2014 Action: This AU was sampled during the 2012 Sacramento Mountains survey. Previously noted under AU "Rio Ruidoso (Rio Bonito to HWY 70)", this AU is the result of a split at Eagle Creek to acknowledge the change in hydrologic character and difference in assessment conclusions. Additional sampling related to potential nutrient impairment was implemented by the Village of Ruidoso in this AU. There were 3 of 8 e. coli exceedences at both the GLENCOE-FR 443 and CR E002 stations. Causal indicators (specifically SWQB-collected TN data) as well as response indicators (specifically Village DO sonde data) were present at levels that did not met applicable threshold values. Additionally, the 0.1 mg/L segment-specific total phosphorus WQC was exceeded 7/23 times. The numeric turbidity SEV was exceeded. Therefore, nutrients remains listed, and e. coli and turbidity were added.

2016 Action: 2013 sonde data submitted by the Village of Ruidoso continues to document excursions of the DO criterion. A revised nutrients TMDL is being drafted.

Rio Ruidoso (Perennial prt Rio Bonito to Eagle Ck) AU:NM-2208_21 WQS: 20.6.4.208

2014 Action: Previously noted under AU "Rio Ruidoso (Rio Bonito to HWY 70)", this AU is the result of a split at Eagle Creek to acknowledge the change in hydrologic character and difference in assessment conclusions.

Rio Ruidoso (US Hwy 70 Bridge to Carrizo Ck)