

December 3, 2025

## Quality Assurance Assessment of External Datasets for Development of the Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d)/ §305(b) 2026-2028 Integrated List

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The New Mexico Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) used external datasets along with data collected by the SWQB to develop the 2026-2028 CWA §303(d)/§305(b) Integrated List. Chemical, physical, biological, and bacteriological data for any stream, river, lake, or reservoir in the state may be considered for assessment purposes and subject to New Mexico's water quality standards published in 20.6.4 NMAC. Prior to incorporation into the development of the Integrated List and Report, data obtained from external sources must first be reviewed with regards to data quality, usefulness, and consistency with SWQB procedures.

External data generally consists of data submitted from outside entities as well as data retrieved from publicly available national and regional water quality databases. The SWQB Data Submission Guidelines<sup>1</sup> in combination with the Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM) Appendix A<sup>2</sup>, the SWQB Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), and SWQB Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)<sup>3</sup> are used to assess the quality of external datasets for inclusion into the development of the Integrated List. Specifically, datasets and associated documentation are reviewed to determine: (1) if there is documentation of QA/QC procedures that, at a minimum, meet the QA/QC requirements described in the SWQB's most recent quality assurance project plan (QAPP); and (2) if there is reasonable evidence or assurance that these procedures were followed. Data determined to be data quality level 3 or 4 as described in the Data Submission Guidelines meet required quality assurance standards for full assessment purposes.

For the 2026-2028 listing cycle, data packets were received or acquired from the following sources:

- Amigos Bravos
- N3B – Los Alamos and U.S. DOE Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office
- Silver City Watershed Keepers
- Upper Pecos Watershed Association and Pathfinder Environmental, LLC
- Trout Unlimited
- Philmont Scout Ranch Boy Scouts of America
- New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute
- NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau

Attached are quality assurance reviews of the above-mentioned datasets. In addition, EPA, USGS and Pueblo monitoring data for assessable watersheds throughout New Mexico were downloaded from the Water Quality Portal<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/data-submittals/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/calm/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.env.nm.gov/surface-water-quality/sop/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.intellusnm.com/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.waterqualitydata.us/>



December 3, 2025

Shannon Romeling  
Amigos Bravos  
P.O. Box 238  
114 Des Georges Place  
Taos, NM 87571

Re: Quality Assurance Assessment for External Water Quality Data Submitted by Amigos Bravos to the Surface Water Quality Bureau for the State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List for 2026-2028.

Dear Ms. Romeling:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) solicited outside organizations to submit chemical, physical, biological, habitat and bacteriological data for all streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the state, acquired in the last five (5) years that could be considered subject to New Mexico's water quality standards published in 20.6.4 NMAC and incorporated into the development of the **State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List (IR) for 2026-2028**.

The NMED SWQB received Amigos Bravos' water quality dataset on July 16, 2025, for consideration in development of the **2026-2028 IR**. Data were collected in various stream locations around Northern New Mexico (NM) including the Rio Pueblo de Taos, Rio Fernando, Rio Hondo, Red River, and Rio Grande. The data's temporal coverage is 2023 through 2024. The SWQB acknowledges the data were collected to monitor change in water quality for the protection of surface waters in NM.

The SWQB Quality Assurance Officer (QAO) has reviewed the data and the supporting documentation, and determined most of the data collected in surface water does meet the quality assurance requirements for use in the development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data quality tables identified in Appendix A of the 2025 Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology were used in combination with the 2024 SWQB Quality Assurance Project Plan for *Water Quality Management Programs* (SWQB QAPP) and associated SWQB Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to assess the quality level of the submitted data with respect to assessment to determine its suitability for assessment in the development of the IR. Specifically, the submitted documentation associated with each dataset was reviewed to determine: (1) if there was documentation of QA/QC procedures that, at a minimum, meet the QA/QC requirement described in the SWQB's most recent QAPP and SOPs; and (2) if there was reasonable evidence or assurance that these procedures were followed. The determination of data quality level with respect to IR assessment can be found on the next page.

## Data Quality Level Determination

The water quality data submitted by Amigos Bravos collected in various locations in the Rio Pueblo de Taos, Rio Fernando, Rio Hondo, Red River, and Rio Grande have been reviewed for consideration for development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data package included adequate supporting documentation to determine if the QA/QC requirements identified in the 2024 SWQB QAPP and associated SOPs were met. All instantaneous measurements collected with stream side meters have been assigned a Data Quality Level (DQL) of 2 and may be usable for purposes such as supporting data, screening, and planning to guide SWQB decision making in the future. Chemical data applicable to the IR and analyzed by methods approved in the SWQB QAPP or 20.6.4.14 NMAC may be used for development of the IR and have been assigned a DQL of 3. The bacteriological data (*E. coli*) data submitted may be used for development of the IR and have been assigned a DQL of 3. A more detailed description of DQLs with respect to assessment is in Appendix A of the SWQB's Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM). All external data considered for the development of the IR are subject to the criteria and requirements detailed in the CALM and 20.6.4 NMAC. Data and supporting quality assurance and quality control documents submitted by Amigos Bravos will be retained in project documents in accordance with applicable sections of New Mexico's Retention and Disposition of Public Records regulations, codified at 1.21.2 NMAC.

For additional information regarding the CALM or the IR, please contact Meredith Zeigler at [meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov](mailto:meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov) or (505) 490-5866.

For information regarding the determination of the DQL, please contact me at [emily.miller@env.nm.gov](mailto:emily.miller@env.nm.gov) or (505) 660-3534.

QA Officer Review: \_\_\_\_\_



December 3, 2025

Lawrence Rodriguez  
and Brian Harcek

N3B – Los Alamos and  
Environmental Management  
Los Alamos Field Office  
1200 Trinity Drive  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Re: Quality Assurance Assessment for External Water Quality Data Submitted by N3B – Los Alamos and U.S. DOE Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office to the Surface Water Quality Bureau for the State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List for 2026-2028.

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Dear Mr. Rodriguez and Mr. Harcek:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) solicited outside organizations to submit chemical, physical, biological, habitat and bacteriological data for all streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the state, acquired in the last five (5) years that could be considered subject to New Mexico's water quality standards published in 20.6.4 NMAC and incorporated into the development of the **State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List (IR) for 2026-2028**.

The NMED SWQB received N3B – Los Alamos and U.S. DOE Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office's water quality dataset on July 16, 2025, for consideration in development of the **2026-2028 IR**. Data were collected in 10 Assessment Units (AUs) on the Pajarito Plateau. The data being considered by the SWQB have temporal coverage between 2020-2025. The SWQB acknowledges the data were collected to monitor change in water quality for the protection of surface waters in NM.

The SWQB Quality Assurance Officer (QAO) has reviewed the data and the supporting documentation, and determined the data collected in surface water does meet the quality assurance requirements for use in the development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data quality tables identified in Appendix A of the 2025 Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology were used in combination with the 2024 SWQB Quality Assurance Project Plan for *Water Quality Management Programs* (SWQB QAPP) and associated SWQB Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to assess the quality level of the submitted data with respect to assessment to determine its suitability for assessment in the development of the IR. Specifically, the submitted documentation associated with each dataset was reviewed to determine: (1) if there was documentation of QA/QC procedures that, at a minimum, meet the QA/QC requirement described in the SWQB's most recent QAPP and SOPs; and (2) if there was reasonable evidence or assurance that these procedures were followed. The determination of data quality level with respect to IR assessment can be found on the next page.

## Data Quality Level Determination

The water quality data submitted by N3B – Los Alamos and U.S. DOE Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office collected in 10 AUs along the Pajarito Plateau have been reviewed for consideration for development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data package included adequate supporting documentation to determine if the QA/QC requirements identified in the 2024 SWQB QAPP and associated SOPs were met. Chemical data applicable to the IR and analyzed by methods approved in the SWQB QAPP or 20.6.4.14 NMAC may be used for development of the IR and have been assigned a DQL of 3. A more detailed description of DQLs with respect to assessment is in Appendix A of the SWQB's Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM). All external data considered for the development of the IR are subject to the criteria and requirements detailed in the CALM and 20.6.4 NMAC. Data and supporting quality assurance and quality control documents submitted by N3B – Los Alamos and U.S. DOE Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office will be retained in project documents in accordance with applicable sections of New Mexico's Retention and Disposition of Public Records regulations, codified at 1.21.2 NMAC.

For additional information regarding the CALM or the IR, please contact Meredith Zeigler at [meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov](mailto:meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov) or (505) 490-5866.

For information regarding the determination of the DQL, please contact me at [emily.miller@env.nm.gov](mailto:emily.miller@env.nm.gov) or (505) 660-3534

QA Officer Review: \_\_\_\_\_



December 3, 2025

Alicia Hallmark

Silver City Watershed Keepers  
305A North Cooper Street  
Silver City, NM 88061

Re: Quality Assurance Assessment for External Water Quality Data Submitted by Silver City Watershed Keepers to the Surface Water Quality Bureau for the State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List for 2026-2028.

Dear Ms. Hallmark:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) solicited outside organizations to submit chemical, physical, biological, habitat and bacteriological data for all streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the state, acquired in the last five (5) years that could be considered subject to New Mexico's water quality standards published in 20.6.4 NMAC and incorporated into the development of the **State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List (IR) for 2026-2028**.

The NMED SWQB received Silver City Watershed Keepers' water quality dataset on July 16, 2025, for consideration in development of the **2026-2028 IR**. Data were collected in San Vicente Creek and Pinos Altos Creek. The data's temporal coverage is 2022 through 2025. The SWQB acknowledges the data were collected to monitor change in water quality for the protection of surface waters in NM.

The SWQB Quality Assurance Officer (QAO) has reviewed the data and the supporting documentation, and determined most of the data collected in surface water does meet the quality assurance requirements for use in the development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data quality tables identified in Appendix A of the 2025 Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology were used in combination with the 2024 SWQB Quality Assurance Project Plan for *Water Quality Management Programs* (SWQB QAPP) and associated SWQB Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to assess the quality level of the submitted data with respect to assessment to determine its suitability for assessment in the development of the IR. Specifically, the submitted documentation associated with each dataset was reviewed to determine: (1) if there was documentation of QA/QC procedures that, at a minimum, meet the QA/QC requirement described in the SWQB's most recent QAPP and SOPs; and (2) if there was reasonable evidence or assurance that these procedures were followed. The determination of data quality level with respect to IR assessment can be found on the next page.

## Data Quality Level Determination

The water quality data submitted by Silver City Watershed Keepers collected in San Vicente Creek and Pinos Altos Creek have been reviewed for consideration for development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data package included adequate supporting documentation to determine if the QA/QC requirements identified in the 2024 SWQB QAPP and associated SOPs were met. All instantaneous measurements collected with stream side meters have been assigned a Data Quality Level (DQL) of 2 and may be usable for purposes such as supporting data, screening, and planning to guide SWQB decision making in the future. The bacteriological data (*E. coli*) data submitted may be used for development of the IR and have been assigned a DQL of 3. A more detailed description of DQLs with respect to assessment is in Appendix A of the SWQB's Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM). All external data considered for the development of the IR are subject to the criteria and requirements detailed in the CALM and 20.6.4 NMAC. Data and supporting quality assurance and quality control documents submitted by Silver City Watershed Keepers will be retained in project documents in accordance with applicable sections of New Mexico's Retention and Disposition of Public Records regulations, codified at 1.21.2 NMAC.

For additional information regarding the CALM or the IR, please contact Meredith Zeigler at [meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov](mailto:meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov) or (505) 490-5866.

For information regarding the determination of the DQL, please contact me at [emily.miller@env.nm.gov](mailto:emily.miller@env.nm.gov) or (505) 660-3534.

QA Officer Review: \_\_\_\_\_



December 3, 2025

Meredith Zeigler  
Assessment Coordinator  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department

Re: Quality Assurance Assessment for External Water Quality Data Submitted by Upper Pecos Watershed Association and Pathfinder Environmental, LLC to the Surface Water Quality Bureau for the State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List for 2026-2028.

Dear Ms. Zeigler:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) solicited outside organizations to submit chemical, physical, biological, habitat and bacteriological data for all streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the state, acquired in the last five (5) years that could be considered subject to New Mexico's water quality standards published in 20.6.4 NMAC and incorporated into the development of the **State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List (IR) for 2026-2028**.

The NMED SWQB received Upper Pecos Watershed Association and Pathfinder Environmental, LLC water quality dataset on September 9, 2025, for consideration in development of the **2026-2028 IR**. Data were collected in Cow Creek and the Pecos River. The data's temporal coverage is 2022 through 2024. The SWQB acknowledges the data were collected under sub-grant agreements and contacts with the NMED SWQB for Clean Water Act Section 319. The SWQB may assess data from monitoring locations that meet the definition of surface waters of the state in 20.6.4.7 NMAC and all applicable quality assurance requirements.

The SWQB Quality Assurance Officer (QAO) has reviewed the data and the supporting documentation, and determined the data collected in surface water does meet the quality assurance requirements for use in the development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data quality tables identified in Appendix A of the 2025 Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology were used in combination with the 2024 SWQB Quality Assurance Project Plan for *Water Quality Management Programs* (SWQB QAPP) and associated SWQB Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to assess the quality level of the submitted data with respect to assessment to determine its suitability for assessment in the development of the IR. Specifically, the submitted documentation associated with each dataset was reviewed to determine: (1) if there was documentation of QA/QC procedures that, at a minimum, meet the QA/QC requirement described in the SWQB's most recent QAPP and SOPs; and (2) if there was reasonable evidence or assurance that these procedures were followed. The determination of data quality level with respect to IR assessment can be found on the next page.



## Data Quality Level Determination

The water quality data submitted by Upper Pecos Watershed Association and Pathfinder Environmental, LLC have been reviewed for consideration for development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data package included adequate supporting documentation to determine if the QA/QC requirements identified in the 2024 SWQB QAPP and associated SOPs were met. The data package consisted of stream temperature results collected by data loggers in the Pecos River and Cow Creek. The stream temperature data may be used for development of the IR and have been assigned a DQL of 3. A more detailed description of DQLs with respect to assessment is in Appendix A of the SWQB's Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM). All external data considered for the development of the IR are subject to the criteria and requirements detailed in the CALM and 20.6.4 NMAC. Data and supporting quality assurance and quality control documents submitted by Upper Pecos Watershed Association and Pathfinder Environmental, LLC will be retained in project documents in accordance with applicable sections of New Mexico's Retention and Disposition of Public Records regulations, codified at 1.21.2 NMAC.

For additional information regarding the CALM or the IR, please contact Meredith Zeigler at [meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov](mailto:meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov) or (505) 490-5866.

For information regarding the determination of the DQL, please contact me at [emily.miller@env.nm.gov](mailto:emily.miller@env.nm.gov) or (505) 660-3534.

QA Officer Review: \_\_\_\_\_



December 3, 2025

Meredith Zeigler  
Assessment Coordinator  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department

Re: Quality Assurance Assessment for External Water Quality Data Submitted by Trout Unlimited to the Surface Water Quality Bureau for the State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List for 2026-2028.

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Dear Ms. Zeigler:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) solicited outside organizations to submit chemical, physical, biological, habitat and bacteriological data for all streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the state, acquired in the last five (5) years that could be considered subject to New Mexico's water quality standards published in 20.6.4 NMAC and incorporated into the development of the **State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List (IR) for 2026-2028**.

The NMED SWQB received a water quality dataset from Trout Unlimited on September 10, 2025, for consideration in development of the 2026-2028 IR. Data were collected in Chihuahueros Creek. The data's temporal coverage is 2020 through 2022. The SWQB acknowledges the data were collected as part of the River Stewardship Program. The SWQB may assess data from monitoring locations that meet the definition of surface waters of the state in 20.6.4.7 NMAC and all applicable quality assurance requirements.

The SWQB Quality Assurance Officer (QAO) has reviewed the data and the supporting documentation, and determined the data collected in surface water does not meet the quality assurance requirements for use in the development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data quality tables identified in Appendix A of the 2025 Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology were used in combination with the 2024 SWQB Quality Assurance Project Plan for *Water Quality Management Programs* (SWQB QAPP) and associated SWQB Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to assess the quality level of the submitted data with respect to assessment to determine its suitability for assessment in the development of the IR. Specifically, the submitted documentation associated with each dataset was reviewed to determine: (1) if there was documentation of QA/QC procedures that, at a minimum, meet the QA/QC requirement described in the SWQB's most recent QAPP and SOPs; and (2) if there was reasonable evidence or assurance that these procedures were followed. The determination of data quality level with respect to IR assessment can be found on the next page.

## Data Quality Level Determination

The water quality data submitted by Trout Unlimited have been reviewed for consideration for development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data package included adequate supporting documentation to determine if the QA/QC requirements identified in the 2024 SWQB QAPP and associated SOPs were met. The data package consisted of stream temperature results collected by data loggers in Chihuahuénos Creek. The stream temperature data have been assigned a Data Quality Level (DQL) of 2 and may be usable for purposes such as supporting data, screening, and planning to guide SWQB decision making in the future. A more detailed description of DQLs with respect to assessment is in Appendix A of the SWQB's Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM). All external data considered for the development of the IR are subject to the criteria and requirements detailed in the CALM and 20.6.4 NMAC. Data and supporting quality assurance and quality control documents submitted by Trout Unlimited will be retained in project documents in accordance with applicable sections of New Mexico's Retention and Disposition of Public Records regulations, codified at 1.21.2 NMAC.

For additional information regarding the CALM or the IR, please contact Meredith Zeigler at [meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov](mailto:meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov) or (505) 490-5866.

For information regarding the determination of the DQL, please contact me at [emily.miller@env.nm.gov](mailto:emily.miller@env.nm.gov) or (505) 660-3534.

QA Officer Review: \_\_\_\_\_



December 3, 2025

Meredith Zeigler  
Assessment Coordinator  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department

Re: Quality Assurance Assessment for External Water Quality Data Submitted by Philmont Scout Ranch Boy Scouts of America to the Surface Water Quality Bureau for the State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List for 2026-2028.

Dear Ms. Zeigler:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) solicited outside organizations to submit chemical, physical, biological, habitat and bacteriological data for all streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the state, acquired in the last five (5) years that could be considered subject to New Mexico's water quality standards published in 20.6.4 NMAC and incorporated into the development of the **State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List (IR) for 2026-2028**.

The NMED SWQB received a water quality dataset from Philmont Scout Ranch Boy Scouts of America on August 7, 2024, for consideration in development of the 2026-2028 IR. Data were collected in Bonito Creek. The data was collected in 2023. The SWQB acknowledges the data were collected under sub-grant agreements and contacts with the NMED SWQB for Clean Water Act Section 319. The SWQB may assess data from monitoring locations that meet the definition of surface waters of the state in 20.6.4.7 NMAC and all applicable quality assurance requirements.

The SWQB Quality Assurance Officer (QAO) has reviewed the data and the supporting documentation, and determined the data collected in surface water does not meet the quality assurance requirements for use in the development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data quality tables identified in Appendix A of the 2025 Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology were used in combination with the 2024 SWQB Quality Assurance Project Plan for *Water Quality Management Programs* (SWQB QAPP) and associated SWQB Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to assess the quality level of the submitted data with respect to assessment to determine its suitability for assessment in the development of the IR. Specifically, the submitted documentation associated with each dataset was reviewed to determine: (1) if there was documentation of QA/QC procedures that, at a minimum, meet the QA/QC requirement described in the SWQB's most recent QAPP and SOPs; and (2) if there was reasonable evidence or assurance that these procedures were followed. The determination of data quality level with respect to IR assessment can be found on the next page.

## Data Quality Level Determination

The water quality data submitted by Philmont Scout Ranch Boy Scouts of America have been reviewed for consideration for development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data package included adequate supporting documentation to determine if the QA/QC requirements identified in the 2024 SWQB QAPP and associated SOPs were met. All instantaneous measurements collected with stream side meters, chemical data, and bacteriological data (*E. coli*) have been assigned a Data Quality Level (DQL) of 2 and may be usable for purposes such as supporting data, screening, and planning to guide SWQB decision making in the future. A more detailed description of DQLs with respect to assessment is in Appendix A of the SWQB's Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM). All external data considered for the development of the IR are subject to the criteria and requirements detailed in the CALM and 20.6.4 NMAC. Data and supporting quality assurance and quality control documents submitted by Philmont Scout Ranch Boy Scouts of America will be retained in project documents in accordance with applicable sections of New Mexico's Retention and Disposition of Public Records regulations, codified at 1.21.2 NMAC.

For additional information regarding the CALM or the IR, please contact Meredith Zeigler at [meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov](mailto:meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov) or (505) 490-5866.

For information regarding the determination of the DQL, please contact me at [emily.miller@env.nm.gov](mailto:emily.miller@env.nm.gov) or (505) 660-3534.

QA Officer Review: \_\_\_\_\_



December 3, 2025

Meredith Zeigler  
Assessment Coordinator  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department

Re: Quality Assurance Assessment for External Water Quality Data Submitted by New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute to the Surface Water Quality Bureau for the State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List for 2026-2028.

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Dear Ms. Zeigler:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) solicited outside organizations to submit chemical, physical, biological, habitat and bacteriological data for all streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the state, acquired in the last five (5) years that could be considered subject to New Mexico's water quality standards published in 20.6.4 NMAC and incorporated into the development of the **State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List (IR) for 2026-2028**.

The NMED SWQB received a water quality dataset from New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute on September 12, 2025, for consideration in development of the 2026-2028 IR. Data were collected in Bonito Creek. The data was collected 2022-2025. The SWQB acknowledges the data were collected under sub-grant agreements and contacts with the NMED SWQB for Clean Water Act Section 319. The SWQB may assess data from monitoring locations that meet the definition of surface waters of the state in 20.6.4.7 NMAC and all applicable quality assurance requirements.

The SWQB Quality Assurance Officer (QAO) has reviewed the data and the supporting documentation, and determined the data collected in surface water does not meet the quality assurance requirements for use in the development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data quality tables identified in Appendix A of the 2025 Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology were used in combination with the 2024 SWQB Quality Assurance Project Plan for *Water Quality Management Programs* (SWQB QAPP) and associated SWQB Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to assess the quality level of the submitted data with respect to assessment to determine its suitability for assessment in the development of the IR. Specifically, the submitted documentation associated with each dataset was reviewed to determine: (1) if there was documentation of QA/QC procedures that, at a minimum, meet the QA/QC requirement described in the SWQB's most recent QAPP and SOPs; and (2) if there was reasonable evidence or assurance that these procedures were followed. The determination of data quality level with respect to IR assessment can be found on the next page.

## Data Quality Level Determination

The water quality data submitted by New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute have been reviewed for consideration for development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data package included adequate supporting documentation to determine if the QA/QC requirements identified in the 2024 SWQB QAPP and associated SOPs were met. The bacteriological data (*E. coli*) data submitted have been assigned a Data Quality Level (DQL) of 2 and may be usable for purposes such as supporting data, screening, and planning to guide SWQB decision making in the future. A more detailed description of DQLs with respect to assessment is in Appendix A of the SWQB's Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM). All external data considered for the development of the IR are subject to the criteria and requirements detailed in the CALM and 20.6.4 NMAC. Data and supporting quality assurance and quality control documents submitted by New Mexico Water Resources Research Institute will be retained in project documents in accordance with applicable sections of New Mexico's Retention and Disposition of Public Records regulations, codified at 1.21.2 NMAC.

For additional information regarding the CALM or the IR, please contact Meredith Zeigler at [meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov](mailto:meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov) or (505) 490-5866.

For information regarding the determination of the DQL, please contact me at [emily.miller@env.nm.gov](mailto:emily.miller@env.nm.gov) or (505) 660-3534.

QA Officer Review: \_\_\_\_\_



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
GOVERNOR

JAMES C. KENNEY  
CABINET SECRETARY

December 3, 2025

Meredith Zeigler  
Assessment Coordinator  
Surface Water Quality Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department

Re: Quality Assurance Assessment for External Water Quality Data Submitted by the NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau to the Surface Water Quality Bureau for the State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List for 2026-2028.

Dear Ms. Zeigler:

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) solicited outside organizations to submit chemical, physical, biological, habitat and bacteriological data for all streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the state, acquired in the last five (5) years that could be considered subject to New Mexico's water quality standards published in 20.6.4 NMAC and incorporated into the development of the **State of New Mexico's Clean Water Act (CWA) §303(d) / §305(b) Integrated Report and List (IR) for 2026-2028**.

The NMED SWQB received a water quality dataset from the NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau on August 4, 2025, for consideration in development of the 2026-2028 IR. Data were collected in Red River. The data was collected in 2024. The SWQB acknowledges the data were collected to monitor change in water quality for the protection of surface waters in NM.

The SWQB Quality Assurance Officer (QAO) has reviewed the data and the supporting documentation, and determined the data collected in surface water does meet the quality assurance requirements for use in the development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data quality tables identified in Appendix A of the 2025 Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology were used in combination with the 2024 SWQB Quality Assurance Project Plan for *Water Quality Management Programs* (SWQB QAPP) and associated SWQB Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to assess the quality level of the submitted data with respect to assessment to determine its suitability for assessment in the development of the IR. Specifically, the submitted documentation associated with each dataset was reviewed to determine: (1) if there was documentation of QA/QC procedures that, at a minimum, meet the QA/QC requirement described in the SWQB's most recent QAPP and SOPs; and (2) if there was reasonable evidence or assurance that these procedures were followed. The determination of data quality level with respect to IR assessment can be found on the next page.



## Data Quality Level Determination

The water quality data submitted by the Ground Water Quality Bureau have been reviewed for consideration for development of the 2026-2028 IR. The data package included adequate supporting documentation to determine if the QA/QC requirements identified in the 2024 SWQB QAPP and associated SOPs were met. Chemical data applicable to the IR and analyzed by methods approved in the SWQB QAPP or 20.6.4.14 NMAC may be used for development of the IR and have been assigned a DQL of 3. A more detailed description of DQLs with respect to assessment is in Appendix A of the SWQB's Comprehensive Assessment and Listing Methodology (CALM). All external data considered for the development of the IR are subject to the criteria and requirements detailed in the CALM and 20.6.4 NMAC. Data and supporting quality assurance and quality control documents submitted by NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau will be retained in project documents in accordance with applicable sections of New Mexico's Retention and Disposition of Public Records regulations, codified at 1.21.2 NMAC.

For additional information regarding the CALM or the IR, please contact Meredith Zeigler at [meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov](mailto:meredith.zeigler@env.nm.gov) or (505) 490-5866.

For information regarding the determination of the DQL, please contact me at [emily.miller@env.nm.gov](mailto:emily.miller@env.nm.gov) or (505) 660-3534.

QA Officer Review: \_\_\_\_\_