Page extract from STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR AMENDMENT OF STANDARDS, Water Quality Control Commission, WQCC 03-05(R), In The Matter of the Triennial Review of Standards for Intrastate and Intrastate Surface Waters, 20.6.4 NMAC, May 13, 2005. Entire SOR available online at <a href="ftp://ftp.nmenv.state.nm.us/www/swqb/Standards/TriennialReview/2005/NM-WQStandards-StatementOfReasons">ftp://ftp.nmenv.state.nm.us/www/swqb/Standards/TriennialReview/2005/NM-WQStandards-StatementOfReasons</a> 05-18-2005 pdf

existing or attainable use. AB also failed to explain the legal basis for challenging a decision made 14 years ago.

- 20.6.4.123 RIO GRANDE BASIN [The]Perennial reaches of the Red river upstream of the mouth of Placer creek, all perennial reaches of tributaries to the Red river, and all other perennial reaches of tributaries to the Rio Grande in Taos and Rio Arriba counties unless included in other segments.
- **A. Designated Uses**: domestic water supply, fish culture, high quality coldwater [fishery]aquatic life, irrigation, livestock watering, wildlife habitat[,] and secondary contact.

## B. [Standards]Criteria:

- (1) In any single sample: [eonductivity shall not exceed] specific conductance 400 μmhos/cm or less (500 μmhos or less for the Rio Fernando de Taos)[,] and pH [shall be] within the range of 6.6 to 8.8, temperature [shall not exceed] 20°C (68°F) or less[, and turbidity shall not exceed 25 NTU]. For the Red river in this segment, total phosphorus (as P) less than 0.1 mg/L. The use-specific numeric [standards]criteria set forth in 20.6.4.900 NMAC are applicable to the designated uses listed above in Subsection A of this section.
- (2) [The monthly geometric mean of fecal coliform bacteria shall not exceed 100/100 mL; no single sample shall exceed 200/100 mL] The monthly geometric mean of E. coli bacteria 126 cfu/100 mL or less; single sample 235 cfu/100 mL or less (see Subsection B of [20.6.4.13]20.6.4.14 NMAC). [20.6.4.123 NMAC Rp 20 NMAC 6.1.2120, 10-12-00; A, XX-XX-05]

[NOTE: The segment covered by this section was divided effective XX-XX-05. The standards for the additional segment are under 20.6.4.129 NMAC.]

- 230. The Commission adopts NMED's proposal to amend the segment description to limit the designated uses to perennial reaches because the intermittent reaches are properly covered by new Section 20.6.4.98.
- 231. The Commission adopts NMED's proposed numeric segment-specific criterion for total phosphorus for the Red River (and for the Rio Hondo in segment 129) because it corrects an inadvertent error. The criterion was applicable to these streams until the 1998 triennial review, when it was inadvertently removed. Similar segment-specific criteria for total phosphorus are currently applicable to Sections 109, 208, 404, 406, and 407.

## 20.6.4.124 RIO GRANDE BASIN - Perennial reaches of Sulphur creek from its headwaters to its confluence with Redondo creek.

- **A. Designated Uses:** limited aquatic life, wildlife habitat, livestock watering and secondary contact.
- B. Criteria:
- (1) In any single sample: pH within the range of 2.0 to 9.0 and temperature 30°C (86°F) or less. The use-specific criteria set forth in 20.6.4.900 NMAC are applicable to the designated uses listed above in Subsection A of this section.
- (2) The monthly geometric mean of E. coli bacteria 548 cfu/100 mL or less, single sample 2507 cfu/100 mL or less (see Subsection B of 20.6.4.14 NMAC).
- (3) The chronic aquatic life criteria of Subsections I and J of 20.6.4.900 NMAC shall also apply. [20.6.4.124 NMAC N, XX-XX-05]
  - 232. The Commission adopts NMED's proposal of a new section based upon the unique conditions of Sulphur Creek because the current use and pH criterion are not appropriate. The pH in Sulphur Creek at normal base flows generally varies between 2.0 and 5.0.

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Page extract from *STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR AMENDMENT OF STANDARDS*, Water Quality Control Commission, WQCC 03-05(R), In The Matter of the Triennial Review of Standards for Intrastate and Intrastate Surface Waters, 20.6.4 NMAC, May 13, 2005. Entire SOR available online at <a href="mailto:tp://ftp.nmenv.state.nm.us/www/swqb/Standards/TriennialReview/2005/NM-WQStandards-StatementOfReasons 05-18-2005.pdf">tp://ftp.nmenv.state.nm.us/www/swqb/Standards/TriennialReview/2005/NM-WQStandards-StatementOfReasons 05-18-2005.pdf</a>.

233. The Commission rejects AB's proposal to replace "limited aquatic life" with "aquatic life" and to exclude the chronic criteria in Section 20.6.4.900.J for the reasons stated in Section 20.6.4.HH, and there is no reason to adopt the second proposal if the first is not adopted.

## 20.6.4.125 RIO GRANDE BASIN - Perennial reaches of San Pedro creek.

- A. Designated Uses: coldwater aquatic life, irrigation, livestock watering, wildlife habitat and secondary contact.
  - B. Criteria:
- (1) In any single sample: pH within the range of 6.6 to 8.8 and temperature 25°C (77°F) or less. The use-specific numeric criteria set forth in 20.6.4.900 NMAC are applicable to the designated uses listed above in Subsection A of this section.
- (2) The monthly geometric mean of E. coli bacteria 126 cfu/100 mL or less; single sample 410 cfu/100 mL or less (see Subsection B of 20.6.4.14 NMAC).

  [20.6.4.125 NMAC N, XX-XX-05]
  - 234. The Commission adopts this new segment for San Pedro Creek for the reasons set out above in paragraph 210, above; see Segment 111.
- 20.6.4.126 RIO GRANDE BASIN Perennial portions of Cañon deValle from Los Alamos national laboratory (LANL) stream gage E256 upstream to Burning Ground spring, Sandia canyon from Sigma canyon upstream to LANL NPDES outfall 001, Pajarito canyon from Arroyo de La Delfe upstream into Starmers gulch and Starmers spring and Water canyon from Area-A canyon upstream to State Route 501.
- A. Designated Uses: coldwater aquatic life, livestock watering, wildlife habitat and secondary contact.
  - B. Criteria:
- (1) In any single sample: pH within the range of 6.6 to 8.8 and temperature 24°C (75.2°F) or less. The use-specific numeric criteria set forth in 20.6.4.900 NMAC are applicable to the designated uses listed above in Subsection A of this section.
- (2) The monthly geometric mean of E. coli bacteria 548 cfu/100 mL or less; single sample 2507 cfu/100 mL or less (see Subsection B of 20.6.4.14 NMAC).
  [20.6.4.126 NMAC N, XX-XX-05]
  - 235. Both UC and NMED proposed to segment and adopt segment-specific standards for waters within or near LANL. The segments, set out now as segments 126, 127 and 128, are identical, but different designated uses and criteria were urged in this segment.
  - 236. The Commission adopts this new segment to classify waters based upon an intensive study by the USFWS. The study supports the designated uses of coldwater aquatic life, wildlife habitat, secondary contact, and livestock watering. The aquatic life, wildlife habitat and recreation uses are required by CWA Section 101(a)(2) unless a UAA supports not designating them. For this segment, coldwater is the appropriate subcategory of aquatic life use because it is supported by the USFWS report and is consistent with the aquatic life use in adjacent Section 20.6.4.121, which includes tributaries of the Rio Grande in Bandelier National Monument (where high quality coldwater is the designated use). For this segment, secondary contact is the appropriate

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