Page   of   Assessor:       Date of Assessment:

Date of Assessment Protocol used:       Date of WQS used:       Verified by/on:

Level I Nutrient Assessment Form

|  |
| --- |
| Assessment Unit: |
| Site Location: |
| Ecoregion: |
| Designated Aquatic Life Use: |

A stream is Fully Supporting with respect to New Mexico’s narrative nutrient standard if none or one of the indicators are present. If **two or more** of the indicators are present and indicated as causes of concern, a Level II Nutrient Survey and Assessment should be conducted.

**Check all indicators that were present during the Level I Surveys in one or more seasons.**

*CAUSAL VARIABLES*

**Total Nitrogen (TN)** and/or **Total Phosphorus (TP)** are causes of concern

* + () one or more TN grab samples exceed appropriate threshold value (**Table 1**).
  + () one or more TP grab samples exceed appropriate threshold value (**Table 1**).

**Table 1. Nutrient threshold values based on ecoregion and aquatic life use (in mg/L)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Ecoregion 21-**  **Southern Rockies** | | **20/22-**  **AZ/NM Plateau** | | **23-**  **AZ/NM Mountains** | | **24/79-Chihuahuan Desert** | **26-**  **Southwestern Tablelands** | | |
| **ALU 🡪** | CW | T/WW (volcanic) | CW | T/WW | CW | T/WW | T/WW | CW | T | WW |
| TN | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.28 | 0.48 | 0.25 | 0.29 | 0.53 | 0.25 | 0.38 | 0.45 |
| TP | 0.02 | 0.02 (0.05) | 0.04 | 0.09 | 0.02 | 0.05 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.03 |

*RESPONSE VARIABLES*

**Dissolved oxygen saturation** is a cause of concern

* + () one or more D.O. percent saturation (local) measurements are greater than 120%

**pH** values are a cause of concern

* + () one or more pH measurements are greater than the appropriate aquatic life criterion
    - * pH greater than 8.8 for High Quality Cold and Coldwater
      * pH greater than 9.0 for Marginal Cold, Cool, Warm, and Marginal Warmwater

**Algae** coverage is a cause of concern

* + () Percent algal cover is greater than 50% during any season

**Periphyton** growth is a cause of concern

* + () Periphyton on coarse substrate has a rating of >2 (>1 mm thick) during any season

**Anoxia** is a cause of concern

* + () Anoxic layer (“rotten egg” smell and black color) was present under rocks and/or in

depositional areas.

**Level I Assessment (Check One):**

**Fully Supporting**

Two or more indicators present – **Level II Survey and Assessment required**

Insufficient Data (add NOTES below)

**NOTES:**

*\*Attach nutrient report from SWQB database*

### Revised 12 January 2011 (sjj)