



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

Jennifer W.
Copy to
Lynette

SEP 13 2005 RECEIVED

SEP 19 2005

Marcy Leavitt, Chief
Surface Water Quality Bureau
State of New Mexico Environment Department
P. O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110

SURFACE WATER
QUALITY BUREAU

Re: Request for EPA review and approval on the *Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the Pecos Headwaters Watershed, Ft. Sumner Reservoir to Headwaters*

Dear Ms. Leavitt:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the nine (9) TMDLs transmitted by your letter to Miguel Flores dated June 21, 2005. By this letter, EPA is approving the loadings as established in the documents grouped together as the *Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the Pecos Headwaters Watershed, Ft. Sumner Reservoir to Headwaters*, to include:


- *Total Maximum Daily Load for Temperature in Bull Creek (Cow Creek to headwaters), Subsegment No. 20.6.4.217 NMAC, reach NM-2214.A_091 (formerly NM-PR1-20210)*
- *Total Maximum Daily Load for Temperature in Cow Creek (Bull Creek to headwaters), Subsegment No. 20.6.4.217 NMAC, reach NM-2214.A_102 (formerly NM-PR1-20200 split)*
- *Total Maximum Daily Load for Temperature in Cow Creek (Pecos River to Bull Creek), Subsegment No. 20.6.4.217 NMAC, reach NM-2214.A_090 (formerly NM-PR1-20200 split)*
- *Total Maximum Daily Load for Temperature in Gallinas River (Las Vegas Diversion to headwaters), Subsegment No. 20.6.4.215 NMAC, reach NM-2212_00 (formerly NM-UPRI-10300)*
- *Total Maximum Daily Load for Temperature in Pecos River (Cañon de Manzanita to Alamitos Canyon), Subsegment No. 20.6.4.217 NMAC, reach NM-2214.A_003 (no WBS identifier)*
- *Total Maximum Daily Load for Turbidity in Cow Creek (Bull Creek to headwaters), Subsegment No. 20.6.4.217 NMAC, reach NM-2214.A_102 (formerly NM-PR1-20200 split)*
- *Total Maximum Daily Load for Turbidity in Cow Creek (Pecos River to Bull Creek), Subsegment No. 20.6.4.217 NMAC, reach NM-2214.A_090 (formerly NM-PR1-20200 split)*
- *Total Maximum Daily Load for Turbidity in Pecos River (Alamitos Canyon to Willow Creek) NM-2214.A_002 (formerly NM-PR11-30000 or UPR1-30000)*

- *Total Maximum Daily Load for Turbidity in Pecos River (Cañon de Manzanita to Alamos Canyon), Subsegment No. 20.6.4.217 NMAC, reach NM-2214.A_003 (no WBS identifier)*

Based on this review, EPA concludes that the TMDLs listed above meet the requirements found in Section 303 of the Clean Water Act and the implementing regulations at 40 CFR 130.7. EPA is therefore pleased to approve the TMDL loadings contained in these documents and their incorporation as updates to the New Mexico Water Quality Management Plan. Please note that while included in the NMED submittal, an implementation plan is not required by current regulations and this approval does not address the existence or the adequacy of any implementation plans contained within these submissions.

Please find enclosed, Final Review reports on the *Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the Pecos Headwaters Watershed, Ft. Sumner Reservoir to Headwaters*. We commend your staff for the considerable effort that went into developing and establishing these TMDLs. If you would like to discuss these approvals, please contact me or Catherine Penland of my staff at (214) 665-7122.

Sincerely,


Miguel I. Flores
Director,
Water Quality Protection Division

Enclosures