

Monday, May 23, 2016

Hello RWEACT leadership,

I wanted to update you all and let you know that the RWEACT water quality probes are in the water and monitoring water quality on the Rio from Thirty Mile campground all the way down to Del Norte. I am including pictures of what our probe casings look like (a pvc pipe covering the probe for protection with a School of Mines sticker on them so people don't use them for target practice or mess with them). And I am also including pictures from the installation of the Del Norte probe we installed in the middle of the bridge. My colleague Jackie Randell, who has helped every year with this project, was brave enough to rapel off the bridge over the Rio with power tools while the river was flowing high-- 4000 cfs that day. Kevin Terry came to help as we needed one more set of arms. Plus it turns out Kevin was strong enough to single-handedly pull Jackie up so she didn't have to climb up the rope. Thanks, Kevin!! In the past this probe has sat on the ground by the gauge house and has been covered in mud. Hopefully this year the probe will stay clean and the data will be reliable.

I am happy to present the data to anyone who is interested. I have several private land owners who allow me on their land every year to put probes out (the Leavells at the 4UR and the Lambs at Soward Ranch) so I plan to meet with them and show them how the water is looking. If anyone would ever like me to come present- casually or with a full blown power point, I am happy to do it, I would love to reach out to the community more.

If you want to check the data, 5 of the 10 probes are connected to the CDWR website thanks to Scott Veneman. I am providing the link and the list of the names of the stations to look for. You can click on: Conductivity, DO, DO % saturation, temperature, pH, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), and Turbidity. I will go down every two weeks to check on the probes, clean them, download information, change batteries on the other 5 probes that are not powered by the CDWR. If you are watching the data and see something funky going on, please contact me. I will be watching them but sometimes it takes a fresh eye to catch unusual patterns.

To view water quality data go to this link:

<http://www.dwr.state.co.us/Surfacewater/data/division.aspx?div=3>

Thank you for this great opportunity! I am excited to spend another season in the field. Hopefully this year will be a story of recovery as the water quality and aquatic life continue to rebound.

Ashley

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Station List: My Stations RWEACT

Current ConditionsGraph(s)Edit List

current station values...Print ReportError Codes

Abbrev	Station Name	Parameter	Gage Ht	Value	Date/Time
RIOBOXCO	RIO GRANDE RIVER AT MOUTH OF BOX CANYON NEAR ...	DISCHRG	3.95 ft	M	5/23/2016 10:30
RIODELCO	RIO GRANDE RIVER NEAR DEL NORTE, CO	DISCHRG	4.18 ft	4640 cfs	5/23/2016 09:45
RIOMARCO	RIO GRANDE RIVER AT MARSHALL PARK CAMPGROUND ...	DISCHRG	6.14 ft	M	5/23/2016 10:30
RIOWAGCO	RIO GRANDE RIVER AT WAGON WHEEL GAP	DISCHRG	4.04 ft	2810 cfs	5/23/2016 10:15
RIOMILCO	RIO GRANDE RIVER AT THIRTY MILE BRIDGE NEAR CREEDE	DISCHRG	3.57 ft	1050 cfs	5/23/2016 10:15
SOUOLCO	SOUTH FORK RIO GRANDE RIVER BELOW COLUMBINE C...	DISCHRG	4.42 ft	M	5/23/2016 10:30

