

ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
 STATE OF NEW MEXICO
 COUNTY OF SAN JUAN

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
 ex rel., STATE ENGINEER,

 Plaintiff,

D-1116-CV-75-184
 Honorable James J. Wechsler
 Judge Pro Tempore

vs.

SAN JUAN RIVER BASIN
 ADJUDICATION

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.,

 Defendants,

La Plata River Section

vs.

THE JICARILLA APACHE TRIBE and
 THE NAVAJO NATION,

Defendant-Interveners.



STATUS REPORT

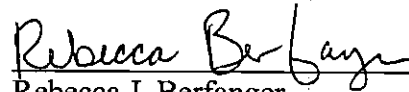
At the status conference on December 2, 2025, the Court ordered the State of New Mexico, *ex. rel.* State Engineer (“The State”) to provide this Status Report on the adjudication of water rights in the La Plata section of the San Juan River Stream System. The State is filing this report ahead of the Status Conference set for June 5, 2026.

Category – La Plata Section	Task and Status	Estimated Deadline
A. Adjudication of Surface Water Irrigation Rights	COMPLETED Almost 600 consent orders have been entered for all known claims to surface water in La Plata.	COMPLETED
	COMPLETED Notice published to “Unknown Claimants” in February 2018, with an April 2018 deadline for claims. No claims were made to surface water rights, only claims to groundwater rights. NOTE: Groundwater rights will not be included in the State’s upcoming <i>inter se</i> .	COMPLETED

<p>B. Motions to Amend Consent Orders</p>	<p>IN PROCESS Following the State’s review of all consent orders in 2022, on February 28, 2023, the Court granted two procedural orders for the State to file global motions: one order to address clerical errors, and one order to address substantive errors. As of May 2026, the State has filed 15 Global Motions, which the Court has granted. The State will file a global motion that addresses the elements of Priority Date and Rate of Flow in June 2026. The State anticipates objections may be filed.</p> <p>IN PROCESS The State will file six 60(B) Motions to amend individual consent orders not included in Global Motions. The State anticipates objections may be filed.</p> <p>IN PROCESS The State will file 60(B) motions to amend water rights elements of ponds in consent orders. The State anticipates objections may be filed.</p>	<p>June 2026</p> <p>Summer 2026</p> <p>Fall 2026</p>
<p>C. Adjudication of Domestic and Stock Water Uses – Surface Water Rights</p>	<p>COMPLETED The Court entered an Order to Show Cause and a Scheduling and Procedural Order for the Adjudication of Surface Water Right Claims for Domestic and Stock Watering Purposes on March 4, 2019. Six claims required additional review. All claims have been resolved.</p>	<p>COMPLETED</p>
<p>D. Adjudication of Surface Water Rights of Area Municipalities: Aztec, Bloomfield and Farmington</p>	<p>IN PROCESS The State will continue consulting with three area municipalities of Aztec, Bloomfield and Farmington.</p>	<p>Summer 2026</p>
<p>E. <i>Inter Se</i> Proceedings and Entry of Partial Final Judgment and Decree</p>	<p>1. The State will compile an Appendix that includes: a summary of the water rights adjudicated in all consent orders; court orders that supplement water rights in Appendix; and maps depicting the water rights listed in the Appendix.</p>	<p><i>Inter se</i> to begin following the completion of steps above.</p>
	<p>2. The State will file a Motion and Proposed Order to Establish Procedures for <i>Inter Se</i> Proceedings and Entry of Partial Final Judgment and Decree.</p>	<p>Following the States’s review of Appendix</p>

	3. The State will file its Motion to Enter Partial Final Judgment and Decree. The Appendix and maps will be filed with the Motion for Entry of Proposed Partial Final Judgment and Decree.	Following Court's ruling on Procedural Motion
	4. The State will file an updated service list, mail notice to all known claimants, and also publish notice of draft Partial Final Judgment Decree and <i>inter se</i> proceedings.	Following Court's ruling on Procedural Motion
	5. Deadline for filing <i>inter se</i> objections.	30 days after last date of publication
	6. The State will file and post online a report summarizing <i>inter se</i> objections, and will mail objections to water rights owners.	30 days after deadline for objections
	7. Mandatory scheduling conference on <i>inter se</i> objections.	
	8. Court proceedings on <i>inter se</i> objections.	
	9. Entry of order resolving <i>inter se</i> objections.	
	10. Briefing on Motion to Enter Partial Final Judgment and Decree.	
	11. Court to enter Partial Final Judgment and Decree on Surface Water Rights in La Plata Section, including a final Appendix and maps.	

Respectfully submitted,

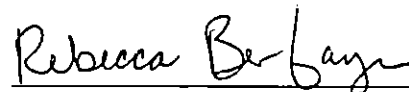


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ex rel., State Engineer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on May 21, 2026, an electronic version of this document was filed and served by electronic mail to sanjuanwater-grp@nmcourts.gov.



Rebecca J. Berfanger