

Off Site

Subject: White Rock Sampling

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From: Kim Granzow <kgranzow@lanl.gov>

To: mikea@lanl.gov

CC: Stephen Yanicak <syanicak@lanl.gov>, gturner@doeal.gov,
Steven Rae <stevenrae@lanl.gov>, Jeff Walterscheid <jeffw@lanl.gov>,
john young <john_young@nmenv.state.nm.us>, mdale@lanl.gov, slug@lanl.gov,
pgomez@lanl.gov

Off-site (White Rock Canyon Springs)
New Spring

Mike:

Thank you for letting us go along with you to sample Springs 1 and 2 and Sandia Spring. We felt that cooperation between our parties was good and overall the trip was a success.

We noted that the LANL Spring 2 sample was not field filtered; however as long as the sample was filtered within a couple of hours, these data should be valid. We were hoping that LANL would field filter our sample for us (1 Liter per station), but due to insufficient battery charge, this was not possible. We filtered and preserved our samples immediately upon return to the office.

Concerning Sandia Spring: we noted that LANL sampled approximately 300 - 400 feet downstream of the spring source in the active drainage which represents surface water, not ground water. We sampled near the source on the slope side of the canyon, hence, it will be interesting to see if the chemistries match between the ground-water sample and the surface water sample. In addition, we recommend that the LANL sample data from last year and this year be designated with a different name so that the data user will be aware that these data reflect something potentially different than years past.

As you are probably aware, OB staff (Ralph Ford-Schmid and Dave Englert) accompanied CCNS on a White Rock Canyon sampling trip in October, departing from Buckman on October 10. Our main purpose in escorting CCNS was to show them the location of White Rock Canyon springs. We also wanted to see, given the low flow conditions of the Rio Grande, if there were any undocumented springs discharging into the river. Dave observed two new springs; one above the Spring 3 Series, which we recommend naming Spring 2B, and one above the Spring 4 Series, which we recommend naming Spring 3C. (CCNS would like to name these CCNS-1 and CCNS-2 respectively). It is advised that names for these springs be decided upon fairly quickly.

This Tuesday, Nov. 5, NMED hiked down Blue Dot trail to these new springs and took field parameter measurements and collected a sample from each spring for Dale Counce to run major anion analyses. Specific Conductance at Spring 2B was 2.5 times higher than what we would expect from a spring in that area (Spring 3C Specific Conductance was equal to that of the Spring 4 Series).

Because of its unusual chemistry, we would like to go back to Spring 2B next Friday, Nov. 15 and collect samples for a more complete analytical analysis. We plan on meeting at the Blue Dot trail head at 9:00 AM. Please let us know if you would like to participate.

Thanks.

Kim



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White Rock Sampling

