

**MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR**

James C. Kenney, Cabinet Secretary

NEWS RELEASE*For Immediate Release***Oct. 5, 2022**

The Environment Department's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.

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NMED responding to spill from overturned truck near Pinos Altos

SILVER CITY — New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) staff are responding to the site of an overturned truck and spill along New Mexico Highway 15, north of Pinos Altos.

NMED immediately responded after being notified of the spill on Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 4. On September 26, a truck owned by R. Marley, LLC overturned, resulted in emulsified oil flowing down Jaybird Canyon, a tributary to Meadow Creek. Meadow Creek is a tributary of Sapillo Creek. Jaybird Canyon, Meadow Creek, and Sapillo Creek are waters of the state with protections established for aquatic life, wildlife habitat, livestock watering, irrigation, and recreational contact. NMED is still investigating how far the emulsified oil has travelled downstream and the volume of the release. At this time, NMED has not issued any water advisories in the area. Staff will continue to monitor the situation and issue advisories in the future if warranted.

NMED is working with R. Marley LLC, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, New Mexico Game and Fish, and other agencies as necessary to clean up the spill. NMED will also consider appropriate actions to enforce state laws associated with any identified violations. Crews are expected to arrive on site tomorrow to begin initial work and will continue for the foreseeable future with NMED oversight.

Environmental emergencies and spills of oil, toxic substances, hazardous substances, or other contaminants in New Mexico must be reported to the Environment Department as soon as possible and within 24 hours at 505-827-9329 (for emergencies) and for non-emergencies at either 866-428-6365 (voicemail 24-hour per day) or 505-476-6000 (during business hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

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NMED does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age or sex in the administration of its programs or activities, as required by applicable laws and regulations. NMED is responsible for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning non-discrimination requirements implemented by 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. If you have any questions about this notice or any of NMED's non-discrimination programs, policies or procedures, you may contact: Kathryn Becker, Non-Discrimination Coordinator | NMED | 1190 St. Francis Dr., Suite N4050 | P.O. Box 5469 | Santa Fe, NM 87502 or (505) 827-2855 or nd.coordinator@state.nm.us. If you believe that you have been discriminated against with respect to a NMED program or activity, you may contact the Non-Discrimination Coordinator.

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