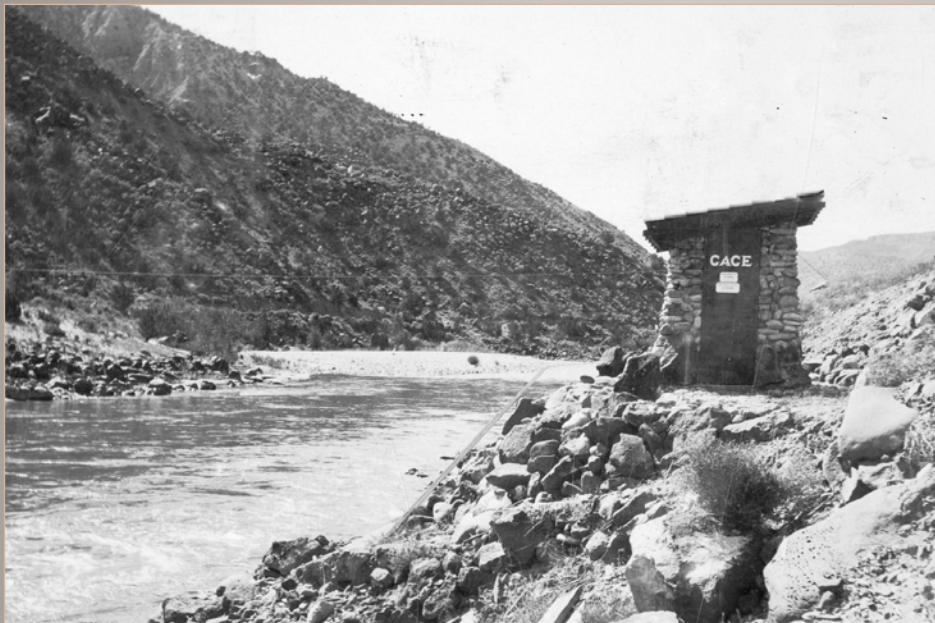


U.S. Geological Survey Monitoring Milestones— Rio Grande at Embudo, NM (08279500)



Located at the site of the first U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) training camp for hydrographers, the [Rio Grande at Embudo, NM \(08279500\)](#), streamgage has been collecting water data since January 1889. The development and adaptation of equipment and techniques at this location became the foundation of USGS streamgaging methods.



Cobblestone streamgage house, Rio Grande River, Embudo, New Mexico. Photograph by USGS. Accessed January 13, 2025, at <https://library.usgs.gov/photo/index.html#/?terms=embudo>.

Note: Streamgages are typically named in abbreviated forms of their locations.



Recognized by the World Meteorological Organization as a Centennial Observing Station.



USGS Monitoring Milestones—Recognizing monitoring locations for their valuable longevity.

Today, water level, discharge, water temperature, and turbidity data are collected at the streamgage. Data are used for river forecasts, to help time releases and account for waters from the San Juan-Chama transbasin diversion as part of the [Rio Grande Compact](#) (signed in 1938 by Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas to apportion waters of the Rio Grande), and to help establish and protect water rights, including those for tribes.

The streamgage is funded by the [USGS Federal Priority Streamgages](#) program, a federally-funded “backbone” network of streamgages that are designated to meet the priorities of the United States.



Rio Grande at Embudo, New Mexico streamgage house, April 16, 2012. Photograph by John Lucero, USGS.

For more information about the U.S. Geological Survey Water Monitoring Networks:

Contact the [National Streamgage Networks Coordinator](#)

Visit <https://www.usgs.gov/mission-areas/water-resources/science/centennial-streamgages>