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Truckee River 340 times muddier than normal this morning; back to normal tonight

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The Truckee River as seen from downtown Reno this morning. / Brian Duggan/RGJ

Written by Staff reports

The Truckee River is muddy today, but it should be back to normal this evening.

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Truckee Meadows Water Authority

The water had a turbidity as much as 340 times higher than normal this morning as mud washed into the river from thunderstorms Tuesday night in the Gray Creek and Bronco Creek drainages near Floriston, said Paul Miller, manager of water quality and operations for the Truckee Meadows Water Authority.

"We expect in another eight hours for it to be clear through Reno," Miller said in a 1 p.m. interview. TMWA sent a worker upstream and the water was already clear up there, he said.

Although temperatures are near the triple-digit mark, TMWA won't



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need to restrict water use, he said. And water flowing through taps will be as good as normal.

The Truckee River is their main source of water but with the muddy water they have decreased the amount of water they draw from the river, increased the time they give it to settle, increased the chemicals they use in the water and turned on wells to pull water out of the ground, Miller said.

"High turbidity is something we're used to dealing with," Miller said.

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