



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 10

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OFFICE OF
WATER AND
WATERSHEDS

FEB 10 2014

Mr. Barry Burnell, Administrator
Water Quality Division
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706-1255

Re: Approval of the Addendum and Five Year Review for the Palisades Subbasin Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for HUC Number 17040104

Dear Mr. Burnell:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) submitted the Addendum and Five Year Review to the Palisades Subbasin Assessment and TMDLs for sediment and E. coli bacteria to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on December 10, 2013. Following our review, the EPA is pleased to approve three TMDLs for the waters and pollutants listed in the table below:

Table: EPA Approved TMDLs on Impaired Waters

<i>Name of Creek/Water Segment</i>	<i>Assessment Unit #</i>	<i>Pollutant</i>
Snake River – Black Canyon Creek to river mile 856	ID17040104SK001_02	Sediment
Indian Creek- Idaho/Wyoming border to Palisades Reservoir	ID17040104SK024_04	Sediment
Rainey Creek – source to mouth	ID17040104SK028-04	E. coli bacteria

This submittal also includes implementation strategies for the TMDLs. The IDEQ developed and submitted these strategies pursuant to the TMDL Settlement Agreement of July 2002. The EPA has no duty to approve or disapprove implementation strategies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA); therefore, the EPA is not taking action on these strategies. Implementation is the critical next step to realize improvements in water quality. And, we encourage IDEQ to continue their work with responsible parties on the implementation of these strategies.

We would like to recognize Mr. Aaron Swift's hard work and cooperation in bringing these TMDLs to completion.

By the EPA's approval, these TMDLs are now incorporated into the State's Water Quality Management Plan under Section 303(e) of the CWA. If you have any comments or questions,

please feel free to call me at (206) 553-1855, or you may call Martha Turvey, of my staff, at (206) 553-1354.

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Opalski, Director
Office of Water and Watersheds

cc: Mr. Doug Conde, Attorney General, Idaho
Mr. Mike McIntyre, Surface Water Program Manager Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Ms. Marti Bridges, TMDL, Program Manager, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Pete Wagner, Boise Regional Administrator, Boise Regional Office, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Lance Holloway, Watershed Manager, Boise Regional Office, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Aaron Swift, Watershed Coordinator, Boise Regional Office, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Jason Fales, Watershed Coordinator, Boise Regional Office, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Laird Lucas, Advocates for the West
Ms. Kristen Boyles, Earthjustice