



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

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APR 28 2008

Department of Environmental Quality
State Water Quality Division

Reply To: OWW-134

APR 24 2008

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

Subject: Approval of the Pend Oreille Lake Tributaries Temperature TMDLs

Dear Mr. Burnell:

Following our review and evaluation of the Pend Oreille Lake Tributaries Temperature TMDLs by Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to approve the 35 TMDLs for the waters listed in the table below. These TMDLs were submitted to EPA by IDEQ on January 9, 2008.

Table of Approved TMDLs

Name of Creek/Water Segment	Assessment Unit #	Pollutant	Listing Status on 303(d)
Pack River	ID17010214PN039_04 ID17010214PN041_02	Temperature	Yes
Pack River	ID1710214PN031_04 ID17010214PN039_03 ID17010214PN041_03	Temperature	Unlisted but impaired
Rapid Lightning Creek	ID17010214PN033_03	Temperature	Yes
Gold Creek	ID17010214PN034_02	Temperature	Yes
Grouse Creek	ID17010214PN035_03 ID17010214PN036_02 ID17010214PN036_03	Temperature	Yes
NF Grouse Creek	ID17010214PN037_02	Temperature	Yes
Trout Creek	ID17010214PN032_02	Temperature	Yes
Hellroaring Creek	ID17010214PN044_02	Temperature	Yes
Jeru Creek	ID17010214PN043_02	Temperature	Yes
McCormick Creek	ID17010214PN042_02	Temperature	Yes
Sand Creek	ID17010214PN049_02 ID17010214PN049_03	Temperature	Yes (Unknown Cause)
Sand Creek	ID17010214PN048_03		Yes
Upper Cocolalla Creek	ID17010214PN014_04	Temperature	Yes

Name of Creek/Water Segment	Assessment Unit #	Pollutant	Listing Status on 303(d)
Upper Cocolalla Creek	ID17010214PN014_02	Temperature	Unlisted but impaired
Upper Cocolalla Creek	ID17010214PN014_03	Temperature	Yes
Lower Cocolalla Creek	ID17010214PN012_04	Temperature	Yes
Fish Creek	ID17010214PN015_03	Temperature	Yes
Hoodoo Creek	ID17010214PN003_02a ID17010214PN003_02	Temperature	Yes
Granite Creek	ID17010214PN027_02 ID17010214PN027_03	Temperature	Yes
Cedar Creek	ID17010214PN026_02	Temperature	Yes
'South' Gold Creek (watershed includes Chloride Gulch & West Gold)	ID17010214PN021_02 ID17010214PN021_03 ID17010214PN022_02 ID17010214PN023_02 ID17010214PN023_03 ID17010214PN024_02	Temperature	Yes
Trestle Creek	ID17010214PN030_02	Temperature	Yes

As identified in the table, EPA is approving TMDLs for four waterbody segments which were not included on the 2002 303(d) list. During the TMDL development process, IDEQ determined these waters were not meeting water quality standards for temperature. These waters would have been included in the 2002 303(d) list had this information about impairment been available when the list was compiled.

This approval includes all load allocations established in the TMDL, since all of these allocations are required to attain applicable water quality criteria throughout the watershed. Our review indicates that these allocations have been established at a level that, when fully implemented, will lead to the attainment of the water quality criteria addressed by these TMDLs. Therefore, the IDEQ does not need to include these waterbodies on the next 303(d) list of impaired waters for the pollutants covered by this TMDL.

This submittal also includes implementation strategies for the TMDLs. IDEQ developed and submitted these strategies pursuant to the TMDL Settlement Agreement of July 2002. EPA has no duty to approve or disapprove implementation strategies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA); therefore, 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 implementation of these strategies.

By EPA's approval, these TMDLs are now incorporated into the State's Water Quality Management Plan under §303(e) of the CWA. If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 553-7151, or you may call Martha Turvey of my staff at (206) 553-1354.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael F. Gearheard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Michael F. Gearheard, Director
Office of Water and Watersheds

cc: Doug Conde, Attorney General, Idaho
Mike McIntyre, Surface Water Program Manager, IDEQ
Marti Bridges, TMDL Program Manager, IDEQ
Ed Tulloch, Water Quality Manager, Coeur d' Alene Regional Office, IDEQ
Robert Steed, Coeur d' Alene Regional Office, IDEQ
Laird Lucas, Advocates for the West
Kristen Boyles, Earthjustice