



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

RECEIVED

FEB 26 2003

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
STATE WATER QUALITY PROGRAMS

Reply To
Attn Of: OW-135

FEB 24 2003

David Mabe, Administrator
State Water Quality Programs
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
1410 N. Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706-1255

Dear Mr. Mabe:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to approve 9 sediment and 2 nutrient Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the Lower Henry's (Teton) River Subbasin submitted to us on August 2, 2002. Another letter clarifying the waterbodies for which TMDLs were completed was submitted on October 16, 2002, and additional information was submitted on December 9, 2002, and January 10, 2003. The segment information on the TMDLs being approved is:

<u>Waterbody</u>	<u>WOLS Seg</u>	<u>TMDL Parameter</u>
Teton River, Hwy 33 to Bitch Cr.	2116	Sediment, Nutrients
Teton River, Trail Cr. To Hwy 33	2117	Sediment
Badger Creek, Hwy 32 to Teton R.	2125	Sediment
South Leigh Creek, WY line to Teton R.	2128	Sediment
Packsaddle Creek, Headwaters to Teton R.	2129	Sediment
Darby Creek, Hwy 33 to Teton R.	2134	Sediment
N. Fork Teton River, Forks to Henry's Fork	2113	Sediment, Nutrients
Spring Creek, WY line to Teton R.	2127	Sediment
Fox Creek, WY line to Teton R.	2136	Sediment

The calculation of the bedload portion of the sediment loading capacity was by necessity a rough estimate with many broad assumptions. Since these types of calculations are subject to significant uncertainty, we would like to work with your staff to explore additional modeling techniques in future sediment TMDLs.

We appreciate the cooperative effort of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality staff and local watershed interests in developing these TMDLs. We look forward to implementation of the TMDLs, and to continuing collaborative work on the water quality issues in the Lower Henry's (Teton) River watershed. By EPA's approval, these TMDLs are now incorporated into the State's Water Quality Management Plan under Section 303(e) of the Clean Water Act.

If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 553-1261, or you may call Leigh Woodruff of my staff at (208) 378-5774.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" and "S".

Randall F. Smith
Director
Office of Water

cc: Marti Bridges, IDEQ
Troy Saffle, IDEQ
Mark Shumar, IDEQ