



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

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FEB 13 2017

OFFICE OF
WATER AND WATERSHEDS

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

Dear Mr. Burnell:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is pleased to approve nineteen TMDLs listed in the tables below for the Teton River Subbasin. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality submitted the Teton River Subbasin 2016 Total Maximum Daily Load document for EPA's approval on October 13, 2016.

EPA approves four TMDLs on Idaho's most current list of impaired waters and shown on the table below.

EPA-Approved TMDLs on Impaired Waters

<i>Waterbody Name</i>	<i>Assessment Unit #</i>	<i>Pollutant</i>
South Fork Moody Creek	ID17040204SK006_02	Sediment
North Fork Moody Creek	ID17040204SK007_02	E. coli
Driggs Springs spring creek complex – located between Teton Creek and Woods Creek	ID17040204SK049_02	E. coli.
Woods Creek – source to mouth, including spring creek tributaries	ID17040204SK050_02	E. coli.

The EPA also approves the following eight TMDLs that were not meeting water quality standards for the pollutants below but had not previously been included on Idaho's List. The EPA understands that these waters would have been included on the List had the State been aware of the impairments listed below on these waters at the time the List was completed.

Table 2: EPA-Approved TMDLs on Unlisted but Impaired Waters

<i>Waterbody Name</i>	<i>Assessment Unit #</i>	<i>Pollutant</i>
Teton River – Cache Bridge to Highway 33 Bridge	ID17040204SK017_04	Temperature
Teton River – Teton Creek to Cache Bridge	ID17040204SK020_04	Temperature
Teton River – Tributaries between Trail Creek to Teton Creek	ID17040204SK026_04	Temperature
Teton River – Warm and Drake Creeks confluence to Trial Creek	ID17040204SK028_03	Temperature, sediment
Trail Creek diversion to mouth	ID17040204SK035_03	Sediment
Fox Creek	ID17040204SK041_02	Temperature
Fox Creek	ID17040204SK042_02	Temperature

The IDEQ revised seven temperature and sediment TMDLs using different methodologies for the following waterbodies (located in Category 4a of the 2012 Integrated Report) to address these impairments. The EPA had previously approved these TMDLs for these waterbodies on February 24, 2003 and September 26, 2003.

Table 3 EPA-Approved Revised Temperature and Sediment TMDLs Using Different Methodologies

<i>Waterbody Name</i>	<i>Assessment Unit #</i>	<i>Pollutant</i>
Teton River – Cache Bridge to Highway 33 Bridge	ID17040204SK017_04	Sediment
Teton River – Teton Creek to Cache Bridge	ID17040204SK020_04	Sediment
Teton River – Tributaries between Trail Creek to Teton Creek	ID17040204SK026_02	Temperature
Teton River – Tributaries between Trail Creek to Teton Creek	ID17040204SK026_04	Sediment
Spring Creek - North Leigh Creek to mouth	ID17040204SK054_03	Temperature
Spring Creek – source to North Leigh Creek	ID17040204SK056_02	Temperature
Spring Creek – source to North Leigh Creek	ID17040204SK056_03	Temperature

This approval only includes those waters for which a TMDL was completed and does not constitute approval for de-listing of waters within Hydrologic Unit Code 17040204 from the Idaho §303(d) list. Any proposed de-listing of waters will be considered at the time of submission of the next §303(d) list of impaired waters.

The EPA appreciates the cooperation and work of the IDEQ Boise Regional Office on this TMDL, especially the coordination prior to the public comment period and the sharing of a pre-public comment draft with EPA staff. We support this sort of early involvement and believe it results in a better understanding of the approaches used to develop the TMDL and enables meaningful discussions to occur between Idaho and EPA staff that can later expedite EPA’s review of the final document.

The October 13, 2016, submittal also includes the Implementation Strategies for the TMDLs. The strategies were developed and submitted pursuant to the TMDL Settlement Agreement of July 2002. The EPA currently has no duty to approve or disapprove Implementation Strategies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and therefore, EPA is not taking action on them. However, we believe implementation is the critical next step for realizing improvements in water quality called for in the TMDL and encourage IDEQ to continue their work with Responsible Parties on implementation.

By EPA's approval, these TMDLs are now incorporated into the State's Water Quality Management Plan under §303(e) of the Clean Water Act. If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to call me at (206)553-1906, or you may call Bill Stewart of my staff at (208) 378-5753.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christine Psyk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Christine Psyk, Acting Director
Office of Water and Watersheds

cc: Mr. John Tippetts, IDEQ Director, by email
Mr. Doug Conde, IDEQ Attorney General, by email
Mr. Don Essig, IDEQ Surface Water Program Manager, by email
Mr. Mark Shumar, IDEQ TMDL Coordinator, by email
Mr. Troy Saffle, IDEQ, Idaho Falls Regional Office, by email

