



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155
Seattle, WA 98101-3188**

WATER DIVISION

AUG 23 2019

Ms. Mary Anne Nelson, Administrator
Water Quality Division
Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706-1255

Re: Approval of the Hatwai Creek Subbasin Temperature TMDLs (HUC: 17060306)

Dear Ms. Nelson:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) submitted the Hatwai Creek Subbasin Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on July 22, 2019. The IDEQ revised the TMDLs for the following two waterbodies (located in Category 4a of Idaho's 2016 Integrated Report) to address the temperature impairments. The EPA had previously approved the temperature TMDLs for these waterbodies in December 2010. Following our review, the EPA is pleased to approve two TMDLs for the waters and pollutants listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1. EPA-Approved Revised Temperature TMDLs Using Updated Methodology

Name of Creek/Water Segment	Assessment Unit #	Pollutant
Hatwai Creek- 1 st and 2 nd order	ID17060306CL067_02	Temperature
Hatwai Creek- 3 rd order	ID17060306CL067_03	Temperature

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 standards in the waters addressed by these TMDLs. Therefore, the IDEQ does not need to include these waters on the next §303(d) list of impaired waters for the pollutants covered by these TMDLs.

This approval only includes those waters for which a TMDL was completed and does not constitute approval for the proposed de-listing of waters within Hydrological Unit Code 17060306 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.

Your submittal also includes implementation strategies for the TMDLs. IDEQ developed and submitted these strategies pursuant to the TMDL Settlement Agreement of July 2002. As you know, 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 implementation of these strategies.

By the 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) 553-1855, or have your staff contact Keyyana Blount of my staff at (206) 553-0850.

Sincerely,

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Camie Grandinetti

for Daniel D. Opalski
Director

- cc: Mr. Mark Cecchini-Beaver, Deputy Attorney General, Idaho
Mr. Jason Pappani, Surface Water Program Manager, IDEQ
Mr. Graham Freeman, TMDL Program Manager, IDEQ
Ms. Sujata Connell, Surface Water Quality Manager, Lewiston Regional Office, IDEQ
Mr. Jason Williams, Lewiston Regional Office, IDEQ
Ms. Amanda Laib, Lewiston Regional Office, IDEQ
Mr. Cory Sandow, Lewiston Regional Office, IDEQ
Mr. Laird Lucas, Advocates for the West
Ms. Kristen Boyles, Earthjustice