

File -> Approved TMDLs



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

JUN 21 2006

RECEIVED

JUN 23 2006

Department of Environmental Quality
State Water Quality Division

Reply to
Attn Of: OWW-134

Barry Burnell, Administrator
Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706

Re: Approval of the CJ Strike Subbasin Assessment and TMDLs

Dear Mr. Burnell:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to approve the total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) listed in the table below for sediment, nutrients and dissolved oxygen for the Snake River, CJ Strike Reservoir, Little Canyon Creek and Cold Springs Creek, contained in the March 2006 King Hill - CJ Strike Reservoir Subbasin Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Load, and June 1, 2006, Addendum.

Waterbody Name	Assessment Unit (HUC 17050101)	Pollutant
Snake River	SW005_07	Sediment, nutrients
C.J. Strike Reservoir	SW001_02, SW001_05, SW001_06, SW001_07	Nutrients, dissolved oxygen
Cold Springs Creek	SW014_03	Sediment
Little Canyon Creek	SW012_02, SW012_03, SW012_03a	Sediment

The King Hill – CJ Strike Reservoir Subbasin Assessment also included a list of recommended changes to Idaho’s 303(d) list for the next listing cycle. We appreciate the opportunity to review the basis for the proposed listing changes prior to the official submittal. We understand that Idaho will submit these proposed changes as part of the next 303(d) list. At the time the 303(d) list is submitted, EPA will make a final agency determination under a separate administrative process.

We recognize that developing this TMDL has been a difficult process, and we appreciate the patience and dedication of your staff in this effort. In particular, Bryan Horsburgh did an excellent job coordinating early efforts, and Marti Bridges and Julia Achabal were very helpful in final discussions and Addendum preparation. We greatly appreciate their support.

The submittal also included an implementation strategy for the TMDLs, pursuant to the TMDL Settlement Agreement of July 2002. EPA currently 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 this implementation strategy. 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 working with appropriate parties and agencies to ensure that necessary actions are taken to achieve the TMDL reductions. We hope that continued collaboration will result in effective implementation of the TMDL and restoration of water quality in the C.J. Strike Reservoir subbasin.

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) 553-1751, or you may call Leigh Woodruff of my staff at (208) 378-5774.

Sincerely,



Michael F. Gearheard, Director
Office of Water and Watersheds

cc: Toni Hardesty, Director - IDEQ
Mike McGown, Regional Administrator - IDEQ
Craig Shepard, Boise Regional Office, IDEQ
Marti Bridges, TMDL Program Manager - IDEQ
Laird Lucas, Advocates for the West
Kristin Boyles, Earthjustice