



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

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OFFICE OF
WATER AND
WATERSHEDS

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

AUG 27 2018

Re: Approval of the Salt River Subbasin Sediment TMDLs (HUC: 17040105)

Dear Mr. Burnell:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality submitted the Salt River Subbasin Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency dated August 24, 2015, revised sediment TMDLs dated August 2, 2017, and August 21, 2018. Following our review, the EPA is pleased to approve 16 sediment TMDLs for the waters listed in the tables below.

Table 1: EPA-Approved TMDLs on Impaired Waters

Water Body Name	Assessment Unit Number
Newswander Canyon	ID17040105SK001_02b
Tincup Creek	ID17040105SK003_02
Luthi Canyon	ID17040105SK003_02i
Haderlie Creek	ID17040105SK003_02j
Upper Boulder Creek	ID17040105SK006_02c
Graehl Canyon	ID17040105SK006_02g
Lower Stump Creek	ID17040105SK006_04
Smoky Creek	ID17040105SK007_02c
Draney Creek	ID17040105SK007_02f
Tygee Creek	ID17040105SK007_03
White Dugway Creek	ID17040105SK008_02a
Beaver Dam Creek	ID17040105SK008_02c
Crow Creek	ID17040105SK008_04
Rock Creek	ID17040105SK011_03
Little Elk Creek	ID17040105SK012_02a
Spring Creek	ID17040105SK012_03

Our review indicates that these allocations have been established at a level that, when fully implemented, should lead to the attainment of the sediment water quality standards. Therefore, the IDEQ does not need to include these waters on the next 303(d) list of impaired waters for sediment.

This approval only includes those waters for which TMDL were completed and does not constitute approval for the proposed de-listing of waters within Hydrologic Unit Code 17040105 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.

We would like to recognize the cooperation of Hannah Harris, Don Essig and Lynn Van Every in resolving the outstanding issues and bringing these TMDLs to completion.

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 you may call Jayne Carlin of my staff at (206) 553-8512.

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Opalski, Director
Office of Water and Watersheds

cc: Mr. Mark Cecchini-Beaver, Deputy Attorney General, Idaho
Mr. Rick Grisel, Deputy Attorney General, Idaho
Mr. Don Essig, Surface Water Program Manager, IDEQ
Mr. Graham Freeman, TMDL Program Coordinator, IDEQ
Mr. Lynn Van Every, Water Quality Manager, Pocatello Regional Office, IDEQ
Ms. Hannah Harris, Pocatello Regional Office, IDEQ
Mr. Laird Lucas, Advocates for the West
Ms. Kristen Boyles, Earthjustice