



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

Reply To
Attn Of: OW-134

JUN 6 2000

RECEIVED

JUN 09 2000

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
STATE WATER QUALITY PROGRAMS

David Mabe, State Water Quality Program Administrator
State of Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
Division of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706-1265

Dear Mr. Mabe:

Following our review and evaluation of the Cottonwood Creek Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) developed under the Memorandum of Understanding with the Idaho Division of Environmental Quality (IDEQ), the Nez Perce Tribe and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, EPA is pleased to approve the TMDLs as follows:

Temperature TMDLs for Upper Cottonwood Creek, Shebang Creek, Stockney Creek, Long Haul Creek sub-watersheds. The temperature TMDLs apply during the summer time period.

Nutrients and dissolved oxygen TMDLs for Upper Cottonwood Creek, Shebang Creek, Stockney Creek, Long Haul Creek sub-watersheds with the exception of those waters which are within Indian country, as defined at 18 USC section 1151. These TMDLs are applicable between May and October 31.

Sedimentation TMDL for Upper Cottonwood Creek, Shebang Creek, Stockney Creek, Long Haul Creek sub-watersheds with the exception of those waters which are within Indian country, as defined at 18 USC section 1151.

Pathogen TMDL for Upper Cottonwood Creek, Shebang Creek, Stockney Creek, Long Haul Creek sub-watersheds with the exception of those waters which are within Indian country, as defined at 18 USC section 1151.

This approval applies to the TMDLs submitted in the document titled "Cottonwood Creek Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL)" as submitted to EPA on May 18, 2000.

This approval includes a total of 26 TMDLs for water-quality limited segments on the 1998 303(d) List - 5 TMDLs for temperature, 5 TMDLs for sediment, 5 TMDLs for nutrients, 5 TMDLs for dissolved oxygen, 5 TMDL for pathogens, and 1 TMDL for ammonia.

We appreciate the opportunity to work closely with DEQ throughout the development of this TMDL. We look forward to hearing of the water quality improvements which result from the implementation of this TMDL and to continuing to work collaboratively with your staff on water quality issues in the Cottonwood Creek watershed.

By EPA's approval, these TMDLs are incorporated into the State's Water Quality Management Plan under Section 303(e) of the Clean Water Act.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (206) 553-1234 or Curry Jones of the Watershed Restoration Unit, Office of Water at (206) 553-6912.

Sincerely,



Chuck Clarke
Regional Administrator

cc: John Cardwell, IDEQ
Don Essig, IDEQ

United States
Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) For Cottonwood Creek Watershed

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq., as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987, P.L. 100-4, the Environmental Protection Agency, the State of Idaho, and the Nez Perce Tribe are jointly establishing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for the following §303(d) listed waterbodies and pollutants in the Cottonwood Creek Watershed.

Cottonwood Creek Watershed Total Maximum Daily Load	
§303(d) Listed Water	TMDLs
Cottonwood Creek #3288	Sediment, Temperature, Nutrients, Dissolved Oxygen, Pathogens (Bacteria), Ammonia
Red Rock Creek # 3289	Sediment, Temperature, Nutrients, Dissolved Oxygen, Pathogens (Bacteria)
South Fork Cottonwood Creek #3290	Sediment, Temperature, Nutrients, Dissolved Oxygen, Pathogens (Bacteria)
Long Haul Creek # 5221	Sediment, Temperature, Nutrients, Dissolved Oxygen, Pathogens (Bacteria)
Shebang Creek # 5644	Sediment, Temperature, Nutrients, Dissolved Oxygen, Pathogens (Bacteria)
Stockney Creek # 7288	Sediment, Temperature, Nutrients, Dissolved Oxygen, Pathogens (Bacteria)

These 31 TMDLs have been established to ensure compliance with water quality standards which apply to these waters. The joint establishment of these TMDLs does not and shall not be utilized or construed to establish, waive or otherwise affect any claims of sovereignty, jurisdiction, or other authorities of the Environmental Protection Agency, the State of Idaho or the Nez Perce Tribe.

These TMDLs shall become effective immediately.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Cottonwood Creek Watershed

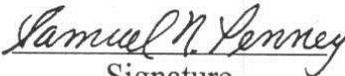


Signature

6-4-2000

Date

Chuck Clarke,
Reg. Administrator,
U.S. EPA, Region 10



Signature

5-5-2000

Date

Samuel N. Penney,
Chairman,
Nez Perce Tribe



Signature

5-17-2000

Date

C. Stephen Allred,
Administrator,
Idaho Division of Environmental Quality