



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

SEP 30 2003

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
STATE WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

Reply To  
Attn Of: OW-134

David Mabe, Administrator  
State Water Quality Programs  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
1410 North Hilton  
Boise, Idaho 83706-1255

Re: Approval of Sediment and Nutrient Total Maximum Daily Loads for Streams in the Brownlee Reservoir (Weiser Flat) Subbasin, Idaho

Dear Mr Mabe:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to approve the below listed Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the Brownlee Reservoir (Weiser Flat) Subbasin (Hydrologic Unit Code 17050201). The TMDLs were submitted by Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for EPA's approval in the document, *Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the Brownlee Reservoir (Weiser Flat) Subbasin*, dated July 2003 via cover letter dated August 11, 2003. A clarification letter dated September 11, 2003, was also submitted correcting a table entry. This approval applies to the following eight TMDLs for five different waterbodies:

Waterbody	TMDL Parameter
Dennett Creek (Headwaters to Snake River)	Sediment
Hog Creek (Headwaters to Snake River)	Nutrients
Scott Creek (Headwaters to Snake River)	Nutrients, Sediment
Warm Springs Creek (Headwaters to Snake River)	Nutrients, Sediment
Jenkins Creek (Headwaters to Snake River)	Nutrients, Sediment

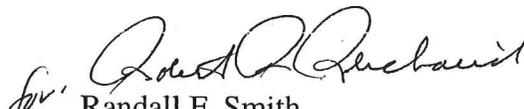
Based on our review and evaluation of the TMDLs, we found that they meet the regulatory and statutory requirements for approval under the Clean Water Act. This approval includes all load allocations assigned to sources on the subject waters. Our analysis indicates that these allocations have been established at levels that, when fully implemented, will lead to the attainment of the State water quality criteria addressed by the TMDLs in the subject waterbodies within the Brownlee Reservoir (Weiser Flat) subbasin.

The submittal letter and TMDL document indicate that DEQ will propose listing several of the subject streams for bacteria and delisting Dennett Creek for temperature and Hog Creek for sediments. We understand that Idaho will submit these proposed listing changes as part of the first 303(d) list submittal following approval of these TMDLs. EPA appreciates the opportunity to review the basis for the proposed revisions prior to their official submittal. A final agency determination regarding these proposals will be made as part of EPA's Section 303(d) administrative review process when the final list revisions are submitted by DEQ.

We appreciated the opportunity to work with your staff throughout the development of these TMDLs. In particular, Tonya Dombrowski has performed excellent technical analysis in development of these TMDLs. We have very much enjoyed working with her and are sorry to hear of her departure from DEQ. We congratulate her on her new employment position. We look forward to working with your staff during the implementation of these TMDLs and the water quality improvements which will be realized in the Brownlee Reservoir (Weiser Flat) subbasin as a result.

By EPA's approval, these TMDLs are incorporated into the State's Water Quality Management Plan under Section 303(e) of the CWA. Congratulations on your fine work. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (206) 553-1261 or Mark Filippini, at (206) 553-6327.

Sincerely,

  
Randall F. Smith  
Director  
Office of Water

cc: Marti Bridges, Idaho DEQ  
Craig Shepard, Idaho DEQ  
Michael McIntyre, Idaho DEQ