



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**REGION 10**  
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF  
WATER AND  
WATERSHEDS

**APR 10 2013**

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

Re: Approval of the Little Salmon River Subbasin TMDLs (HUC: ID17060210)

Dear Mr. Burnell:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality submitted the Little Salmon River Subbasin Total Maximum Daily Loads for sediment and bacteria to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on March 15, 2013. Following our review, the EPA is pleased to approve two TMDLs for the waters and pollutants listed in the tables below:

**Table 1: EPA-Approved TMDLs on Impaired Waters**

| <b>Name of Creek/Water Segment</b> | <b>Assessment Unit #</b> | <b>Pollutant</b>  |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Mud and Little Mud Creek           | ID17060210SL008_03       | Sediment          |
| East Branch Goose Creek            | ID17060210SL010_04       | Bacteria (e-coli) |

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 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 pollutant(s) covered by these TMDLs.

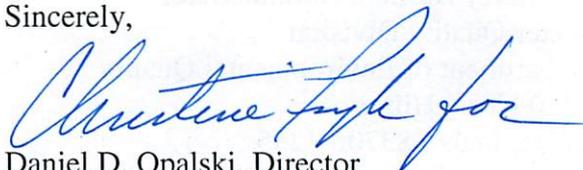
This approval only includes those waters for which a TMDL was completed and does not constitute approval for the proposed de-listing of waters within Hydrologic Unit Code ID17060210 from the Idaho §303(d) list. Any proposed de-listing of waters will be considered at the time of submission of the next §303(d) list of impaired waters.

This submittal also includes implementation strategies for the TMDLs. The IDEQ developed and submitted these strategies pursuant to the TMDL Settlement Agreement of July 2002. 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 Mr. Joshua Schultz's hard work and cooperation in 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. Doug Conde, Attorney General, Idaho  
Mr. Mike McIntyre, Surface Water Program Manager, IDEQ  
Ms. Marti Bridges, TMDL Program Manager, IDEQ  
Mr. Pete Wagner, Boise Regional Administrator, Boise Regional Office, IDEQ  
Mr. Lance Holloway, Watershed Manager, Boise Regional Office, IDEQ  
Mr. Joshua Schultz, Watershed Coordinator, Boise Regional Office, IDEQ  
Mr. Laird Lucas, Advocates for the West  
Ms. Kristen Boyles, Earthjustice