



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

APR 10 2014

Re: Approval of the Pahsimeroi River Subbasin Total Maximum Daily Load 2013 Addendum (HUC ID17060202)

Dear Mr. Burnell:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) submitted the Pahsimeroi River Subbasin Addendum Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and Five Year Review for sediment, temperature, and bacteria to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on January 16, 2014. Following our review, the EPA is pleased to approve the TMDLs for the waters and pollutants listed in the table below:

Table 1: EPA Approved TMDLs on Impaired Waters

| Name of Creek/Water Segment | Assessment Unit # | Pollutant |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Pahsimeroi River – Meadow Creek to Patterson Creek (tributaries) | ID17060202SL002_02 | <i>E. coli</i> (Bacteria) |
| Pahsimeroi River – Sulphur Creek to Patterson Creek | ID17060202SL002_05 | Temperature |
| North Fork Lawson Creek – source to mouth | ID17060202SL004_02 | Sediment |
| Short Creek- source to mouth | ID17060202SL026_02 | Sediment |
| Pahsimeroi River – Meadow Creek to Patterson Creek | ID17060202SL002_02 | Temperature |
| Pahsimeroi River – Meadow Cr. to Patterson Creek | ID17060202SL002_02 | Sediment |
| Pahsimeroi River – Mahogany Creek to Burnt Creek | ID17060202SL018_04 | Temperature |
| East-Fork Pahsimeroi River south to mouth | ID17060202SL022_03 | Temperature |
| Pahsimeroi River – Patterson Creek to mouth | ID17060202SL001_05 | Temperature |

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 pollutants covered by these TMDLs.

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. Curtis Cooper for his 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 Section 303€ of the Clean Water Act.

If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 553-1855 or you may call Martha Turvey, of my staff, at (206) 553-1354.

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Opalski, Director
Office of Water and Watersheds

cc: Mr. Doug Conde, Attorney General, Idaho
Mr. Mike McIntyre, Surface Water Program Manager, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Ms. Marti Bridges, TMDL Program Manager, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Curt Fransen, Director, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Erik Neher, Idaho Falls Regional Administrator, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Troy Saffle, Idaho Falls Regional Water Quality Manager, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality