



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

NOV 6 2013

OFFICE OF  
WATER AND WATERSHEDS

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

Re: EPA approval of the Lower North Fork Clearwater River Temperature Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Addendum

Dear Mr. Burnell:

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality submitted the Lower North Fork Clearwater River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Addendum for temperature to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on May 16, 2013. Following our review, the EPA is pleased to approve 25 TMDLs for the waters and pollutants listed in the table below. All of these waters were included in Idaho's 2010 303(d) list (List) of impaired waters as shown in the table below.

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

<i>Waterbody Name</i>	<i>Assessment Unit</i>	<i>Pollutant</i>
<i>Alder Creek</i>	<i>ID17060308CL005_02</i>	<i>Temperature*</i>
<i>Beaver Creek and tributaries</i>	<i>ID17060308CL009_02e</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
	<i>ID17060308CL009_03</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
	<i>ID17060308CL009_04</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
	<i>ID17060308CL009_02</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
<i>Bingo Creek</i>	<i>ID17060308CL009_02c</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
<i>Breakfast Creek</i>	<i>ID17060308CL025_02</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
	<i>ID17060308CL020_04a</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
<i>Elkberry Creek</i>	<i>ID17060308CL002_02b</i>	<i>Temperature*</i>
<i>Floodwood Creek and tributaries</i>	<i>ID17060308CL021_03</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
	<i>ID17060308CL021_02a</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
	<i>ID17060308CL021_03a</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
	<i>ID17060308CL021_02</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
<i>Gold Creek, Meadow Creek, unnamed tributary</i>	<i>ID17060308CL003_02</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
<i>Isabella Creek - Elmer/Jug Creek to mouth</i>	<i>ID17060308CL010_03</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
<i>Middle Fork Robinson Creek</i>	<i>ID17060308CL002_02c</i>	<i>Temperature*</i>
<i>Reeds Creek - Alder Creek to Gold Creek</i>	<i>ID17060308CL003_03</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
	<i>ID17060308CL004_03</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
	<i>ID17060308CL003_04</i>	<i>Temperature</i>
	<i>ID17060308CL004_02</i>	<i>Temperature</i>

<i>Waterbody Name</i>	<i>Assessment Unit</i>	<i>Pollutant</i>
Stony Creek and tributaries	ID17060308CL020_04	Temperature
	ID17060308CL023_02a	Temperature
	ID17060308CL023_02	Temperature
	ID17060308CL023_03	Temperature
	ID17060308CL020_02	Temperature

\*This water body is currently listed for Combined Biota/Habitat Bio-assessment. Biological impairment in this water body has been linked to temperature impairment. This TMDL addresses temperature impairment.

Our review indicates that allocations in this TMDL have been established at a level that, when fully implemented, will lead to attainment of the water quality standards addressed by these TMDL. Therefore, the IDEQ does not need to include these water on the next 303(d) list of impaired waters for the pollutants covered by these TMDLs.

This approval only includes those waters for which a TMDL was completed and does not constitute an approval for the proposed delisting of waters within Hydrologic Unit Code 17060308 from the Idaho 03(d) list. Any proposed delisting 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 these 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.

By EPA's approval, these TMDL(s) are now incorporated into the State's Water Quality Management Plan under Section 303(e) of the Clean Water Act. We appreciated the opportunity to work with your staff throughout the development of this TMDL, and look forward to continuing to work collaboratively on water quality issues in the Clearwater watershed. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 553-7151, or you may have your staff call Helen Rueda of my staff at (503) 326-3280.

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Opalski, Director  
Office of Water and Watersheds

cc: John Cardwell, IDEQ (e-mail only)  
Marti Bridges, IDEQ (e-mail only)