



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

RECEIVED

MAR 21 2003

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
STATE WATER QUALITY PROGRAMS

Reply To
Attn Of: OW-134

MAR 19 2003

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

Re: Approval of Sediment TMDL for Challis Creek

Dear Mr. Mabe:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to approve the 1 Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), as listed below, for the Upper Salmon Subbasin, as submitted on January 28, 2003, and received by EPA on January 30, 2003. This approval only includes those waters for which a TMDL was completed and does not constitute approval for de-listing of waters within Hydrologic Unit Code 17060201 from the Idaho 1998 §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. Staff comments on the proposed de-listings will be provided under separate cover.

The TMDL addressed in this letter is as follows:

<u>Waterbody</u>	<u>Segment</u>	<u>Parameter</u>
Challis Creek	Forest Boundary to Salmon River	Sediment

By EPA's approval, this TMDL is now incorporated into the State's Water Quality Management Plan under §303(e) of the Clean Water Act. If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to call me at (206)553-1261, or you may call Tracy Chellis of my staff at (206)553-6326.

Sincerely,

RS Randall F. Smith
Director
Office of Water

cc: Marti Bridges, IDEQ TMDL Program Manager
Jim Johnston, Regional Administrator, Idaho Falls Regional Office
Tom Herron, Idaho Falls Regional Office
Troy Saffle, Idaho Falls Regional Office