



REGION 10
SEATTLE, WA 98101

March 30, 2026

Dr. Mary Anne Nelson
Administrator
Surface and Wastewater Division
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
1410 N Hilton Street
Boise, Idaho 86706-1255

Dear Dr. Nelson:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has completed its Clean Water Act review of the Mercury Total Maximum Daily Load for the Jordan Creek Subbasin, submitted by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality on November 13, 2025. IDEQ's submittal includes new TMDLs to address five impairments in the Jordan Creek Subbasin for mercury (Table 1).

The EPA is approving the TMDLs addressing mercury impairments in five assessment units within the Jordan Creek Subbasin. The submitted documentation for the mercury TMDLs for the Jordan Creek Subbasin meets the statutory and regulatory requirements found in section 303(d) of the CWA and the EPA's implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R Part 130. The EPA's review indicates that the allocations have been established at levels that, when fully implemented, will lead to attainment of applicable water quality standards. As such, IDEQ does not need to include these waters on the next 303(d) list of impaired waters for mercury.

Table 1. Newly Developed TMDLs for Impaired Waters

Name of Creek/Water Segment	Assessment Unit #	Pollutant
Jordan Creek—Williams Creek to State Line	ID17050108 SW001_05	Mercury
Jordan Creek, Upper—1st and 2nd order tributaries	ID17050108 SW004_02	Mercury
Jordan Creek—Jacobs Gulch to Louse Creek	ID17050108 SW004_03	Mercury
Jordan Creek—Louse Creek to Big Boulder Creek	ID17050108 SW004_04	Mercury
Jordan Creek—Big Boulder Creek to Williams Creek	ID17050108 SW004_05	Mercury

IDEQ's submittal also includes an implementation strategy for the TMDL project. As you know, the EPA has no duty to approve or disapprove implementation strategies or implementation plans under section 303(d) of the CWA; therefore, the EPA is taking no action on the implementation strategy. Implementation is the critical next step to improve water quality, and the EPA encourages IDEQ to continue its work with responsible parties to implement the TMDL.

The EPA appreciates the work of Melissa Wigton-Hill and Julia Achabal in developing and completing the Jordan Creek TMDL project for mercury. The EPA also appreciates the continued cooperation by IDEQ as we work towards the common goal of addressing impaired waters in the state of Idaho.

If you have any comments or questions on this agency action, please feel free to contact me at shaw.hanh@epa.gov or have your staff contact Kati Carberry at (208) 378-5771 or by email at carberry.kathryn@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Hanh Shaw, Manager
Standards, Assessment and Watershed
Management Branch

cc: Julia Achabal, IDEQ mail to: (julia.achabal@deg.idaho.gov)
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