Water Quality Checklist

Water Quality Federal Consistency Checklist for Planned Projects

Project Name:

Completed by: **Date completed:**

In determining whether a federal agency has conducted its operations consistent with the Idaho Nonpoint Source Management Program, the specific agency should address the following series of questions. These questions apply to any federal, local, or state agency conducting nonpoint source activities in compliance with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's Idaho Nonpoint Source Management Plan (INSMP) (DEQ 2025).

1. Was the appropriate DEQ regional office informed of the activity and steps to be taken to minimize nonpoint source pollution? Yes ☐ No ☐

   If yes, how was DEQ informed for the activity:

   a. Was a determination made if water quality limited ssessment unit(s) exist within the project area (State of Idaho § 303(d) list)? Use the current Integrated Report Mapper or current Idaho Integrated Report at Monitoring and Assessment. Yes ☐ No ☐

   b. Is there a State of Idaho § 303(d) list Category 5-listed assessment unit(s) in the project area? Yes ☐ No ☐

   If yes, which stream(s) and coordinating assessement unit(s)?

2. Were the beneficial uses for the water bodies in the project area identified? Use the current Integrated Report Mapper or current Idaho Integrated Report at Monitoring and Assessment.
   Yes ☐ No ☐

   What are the appropriate beneficial uses for the water bodies in the project area? (IDAPA 58.01.02.100 – Surface Water Use Designations)

   a. Aquatic Life: Select

   b. Recreation: Select

   c. Water Supply: Select

   d. Wildlife Habitats: Select

   e. Aesthetics: Select

3. Were the water quality standards and criteria to protect the "appropriate beneficial uses" identified? Are they being fully supported? (See Idaho Water Quality Standards and Criteria, IDAPA 58.01.02.200) Yes ☐ No ☐

   If No, are they in Category 4a? Yes ☐ No ☐

4. If the watershed includes a Category 4a water body (indicating a total maximum daily load [TMDL] is in effect), has the TMDL been reviewed for load reduction implications? Refer to the DEQ's EPA-Approved TMDLs Interactive Mapper (Category 4a) - 2024 Cycle.

   Yes ☐ No ☐

5. Have the nonpoint source activities regulated by the Idaho Water Quality Standards been identified? Yes ☐ No ☐

   Which nonpoint source activities regulated by the Idaho Water Quality Standards are within the project area? (IDAPA 58.01.02.70 – Nonpoint Source Activities Definition)

   a. Irrigated and nonirrigated lands used for: Grazing ☐ Crop production ☐ Silviculture ☐
   b. Log storage or rafting ☐
   c. Construction sites ☐
   d. Recreation sites ☐
   e. Septic tank disposal fields ☐
   f. Mining ☐
   g. Runoff from storms or other weather-related events ☐
   h. Other activities not subject to regulation under the federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ☐

6. Were there state-approved BMPs for each nonpoint source activity identified? Yes ☐ No ☐

   Identify the state-approved BMPs for each nonpoint source activity (IDAPA 58.01.02.350,03 – Approved Best Management Practices):

   a. "Rules Pertaining to the Idaho Forest Practices Act" (IDAPA 20.02.01) as adopted by the Board of Land Commissioners ☐
   b. "Solid Waste Management Rules" (IDAPA 58.01.06) Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Rules ☐
   c. "Individual/Subsurface Sewage Disposal Rules" (IDAPA 58.01.03) - Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Rules ☐
   d. "Stream Channel Alteration Rules " (IDAPA 37.03.07) as adopted by the Board of Water Resources ☐
   e. Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer, "Rathdrum Prairie Sewage Disposal Regulation," as adopted by the Panhandle District Health Department Board of Health and approved by the Idaho Board of Environmental Quality ☐
   f. "Rules Governing Exploration and Surface Mining in Idaho" (IDAPA 20.03.02) as adopted by the Board of Land Commissioners ☐
   g. "Dredge and Placer Mining Operations in Idaho" (IDAPA 20.03.01) as adopted by the Board of Land Commissioners ☐
   h. "Rules Governing Dairy Waste" (IDAA 20.04.14) as adopted by the Department of Agriculture. ☐

7. For each nonpoint source activity that does not have approved BMPs, were management practices identified that demonstrate a knowledgeable and reasonable effort to minimize water quality impacts? Yes ☐ No ☐

   a. Are there management activities associated with this project that do not have approved BMPs? Yes ☐ No ☐

   b. What projects do not have approved BMPs?

   c. What management practice efforts were made to minimize water quality impacts?

8. Was a monitoring plan developed? Yes ☐ No ☐

   When implemented, did it provide adequate information to determine the effectiveness of approved or specialized BMPs in protecting beneficial uses? Yes ☐ No ☐

   Additional Information:

9. Was a process (including feedback from water quality monitoring) identified for modifying the approved or specialized BMPs to protect beneficial uses of water identified? Yes ☐ No ☐

   Additional Information:

10. Did preproject planning and design include an analysis of water quality resulting from the implementation of the proposed activity sufficient to predict exceedances of water quality criteria for the beneficial use(s), or in the absence of such criteria, sufficient to predict the potential for beneficial use impairment? Yes ☐ No ☐

    Additional Information: