

**TO:** ALL SURFACE WATER STAFF  
**FROM:** DON ESSIG, SURFACE WATER PROGRAM MANAGER *De.*  
**SUBJECT:** IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IDAHO MIXING ZONE GUIDANCE  
**DATE:** AUGUST 13, 2018  
**CC:** BARRY BURNELL, WATER QUALITY DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR  
MARY ANNE NELSON, IPDES PROGRAM MANAGER  
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS

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The purpose of this memo is to clarify DEQ's intentions when authorizing Mixing Zones under the 2016 Mixing Zone Guidance. The Guidance is available at:  
<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/media/60179492/mixing-zone-implementation-guidance-1216.pdf>.

When authorizing mixing zones and considering mixing zone size and locations, the guidance should be considered to be a statement of how DEQ intends to operate. Additionally, DEQ staff should use available scientific literature (e.g., MacDonald et al. 2000<sup>1</sup>) to evaluate sediment toxicity and attraction.

The Idaho Mixing Zone Implementation Guidance is DEQ's communication to the public, the regulated community, and other regulatory agencies, of how DEQ intends to implement the Mixing Zone policy. All efforts should be made to adhere to the procedures as described in the guidance.

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<sup>1</sup> MacDonald, DD, CG Ingersoll, and TA Berger. 2000. Development and Evaluation of Consensus-Based Sediment Quality Guidelines for Freshwater Ecosystems. Archives of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology 39:20-31.