



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

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OFFICE OF
WATER AND
WATERSHEDS

Mr. Justin Green, Administrator
Water Quality Division
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite
Portland, Oregon 97232-4100

March 12, 2019

Re: Approval of the Upper Klamath and Lost River Subbasins Nutrient Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) Addressing Dissolved Oxygen, pH, Chlorophyll *a*, and Ammonia

Dear Mr. Green:

Following our review and evaluation of the 2019 revision of the Upper Klamath and Lost River Subbasins Nutrient TMDLs developed by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to approve the TMDLs for impaired waters listed in the tables below. This TMDL is a revision to the first revised Upper Klamath and Lost River Subbasins TMDL and WQMP (2017 Klamath nutrient TMDL) submitted to EPA on December 19, 2017, and the original Klamath TMDL (2010 Klamath TMDL) submitted to EPA on December 21, 2010 and approved by EPA on May 20, 2012. This set of second revisions to the TMDLs was submitted on January 16, 2019 and received by EPA on January 29, 2019. The water quality limited segments addressed by this TMDL approval include 19 listings from Oregon's 2012 303(d) list in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Upper Klamath River and Lost River Subbasin segments on Oregon's 2010 303(d) list addressed by the TMDL

Subbasin	Water Body	River Miles	Parameter	Season (Beneficial Use)	Record ID	LLID
Klamath River	Klamath River	231.5 to 253	Ammonia toxicity	Year round	15767	1221913420005
Klamath River	Klamath River	231.5 to 253	Chlorophyll <i>a</i>	Summer	15776	1221913420005
Klamath River	Klamath River	207 to 231.1	Dissolved Oxygen	1/1-5/5 (Spawning)	11587	1221913420005
Klamath River	Klamath River	207 to 231.1	Dissolved Oxygen	Year round (non-spawning)	11982	1221913420005
Klamath River	Klamath River	231.1 to 251	Dissolved Oxygen	Year round (non-spawning)	21093	1221913420005
Klamath River	Klamath River	231.5 to 253	pH	Summer	15785	1221913420005
Klamath River	Klamath River Lake Ewauna	232.7 to 253.7	Ammonia	Year round	15510	1221913420005
Klamath River	Klamath River Lake Ewauna	232.7 to 253.7	Dissolved Oxygen	Year round	21088	1221913420005
Klamath River	Klamath River Lake Ewauna	232.7 to 253.7	pH	Year round	15514/15515	1221913420005 1218317421623

Lost River	Klamath Straits	0 to 9.8	Ammonia toxicity	Year round	21952	1218729420836
Lost River	Klamath Straits	0 to 9.8	Chlorophyll a	Summer	2027	1218729420836
Lost River	Klamath Straits	0 to 9.8	Dissolved Oxygen	Year round (non-spawning)	21949	1218729420836
Lost River	Lost River	4.8 to 65.4	Ammonia toxicity	Year round	14826	1212146420011
Lost River	Lost River	4.8 to 65.4	Chlorophyll a	Summer	2029	1212146420011
Lost River	Lost River	4.8 to 65.4	Dissolved Oxygen	Year round (non-spawning)	21087	1212146420011
Lost River	Lost River DC	0 to 0	Dissolved Oxygen	Year round	24489	1221913420005
Lost River	Lost River Reservoir	25.4 to 27.6	Chlorophyll a	Summer	2032	1212146420011 1216626421524
Lost River	Lost River Reservoir	25.4 to 27.6	Dissolved Oxygen	Summer	2015	1212146420011 1216626421524
Lost River	Lost River Reservoir	25.4 to 27.6	pH	Summer	2097	1212146420011 1216626421524


This approval includes all load allocations (LA) and wasteload allocations (WLAs) established in the TMDL, since all of these allocations are necessary in order to attain applicable water quality criteria throughout the watershed. Our review indicated that these allocations have been established at levels that, when fully implemented, will lead to the attainment of water quality criteria in these segments. Consequently, DEQ should not include these waterbodies on the next 303(d) list of impaired waters for the pollutants covered by this TMDL.

The TMDL submittal included the Upper Klamath and Lost Rivers Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP), which DEQ indicates continues to serve as the implementation mechanism for the TMDL. The EPA has no duty to approve or disapprove implementation plans under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA); therefore, the EPA is taking no action on the WQMP.

By EPA's approval, these TMDLs are now incorporated into Oregon's Water Quality Management Plan under Section 303(e) of the Clean Water Act. We appreciate the opportunity to work with your staff throughout the development of these TMDLs. In particular, Mike Hiatt, DEQ's Klamath Basin Water Quality Coordinator, should be commended for the thoroughness of his analysis in the development of these revised TMDLs.

We look forward to working with you during the implementation of these TMDLs and observing the water quality improvements which will be realized in the Upper Klamath and Lost River Subbasins. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 553-1855 or Alan Henning of my staff at (541) 687-7360.

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Opalski
Director

cc: Jennifer Wigal, DEQ
Gene Foster, DEQ
Eric Nigg, DEQ
Mike Hiatt, DEQ