



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality
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September 19, 2019

Dan Opalski, Director
Water Division
USEPA Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, OWW-135
Seattle, WA 98101

Re: Submittal of the Upper Klamath and Lost Subbasins TMDL & WQMP

Dear Mr. Opalski:

Enclosed please find a copy of the final Upper Klamath and Lost Subbasins Temperature Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) document and the companion Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). This TMDL was issued as an order by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on September 19, 2019. The TMDL was developed under §303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and is being submitted via this transmittal to the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for review and approval. The temperature component was part of an overall TMDL issued in May of 2012, but was withdrawn by DEQ as a result of the federal court decision on Oregon's natural conditions criteria that was part of the temperature water quality standard. DEQ, EPA and EPA's watershed contractor TetraTech worked to complete this TMDL ahead of the federal court ordered deadline of September 30, 2019.

The document includes allocations that address impairments of temperature on the main stem Klamath River, the Lost River, and the tributaries to each of these waterbodies. The document includes allocations for the four point sources and nonpoint sources, as well as temperature targets for some Designated Management Agencies (DMAs) and responsible persons. The allocations on the Upper Klamath River meet Oregon temperature water quality standards and the California temperature water quality standards at the Oregon-California state line.

The area covered by this TMDL document lies within the Oregon portion of the Klamath Basin (3rd field Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 180102 and includes the Upper Klamath Subbasin (HUC 18010206), the Lost Subbasin (HUC 18010204). The following table outlines the impairments in the 2012 Integrated Report covered by the Upper Klamath and Lost Subbasins Temperature TMDL:

Waterbody Name	River Mile	Parameter	Period
Klamath River	231.1 to 253	Temperature	Summer
Klamath River	207 to 231.1	Temperature	Summer
Beaver Creek	0 to 5.5	Temperature	Year around
Grizzly Creek	0 to 3	Temperature	Summer
Hoxie Creek	0.8 to 4.4	Temperature	Summer

Waterbody Name	River Mile	Parameter	Period
Jenny Creek	0 to 17.8	Temperature	Summer
Johnson Creek	0 to 9.4	Temperature	Summer
Keene Creek	0 to 7.2	Temperature	Summer
Keene Creek	7.5 to 9.7	Temperature	Summer
Mill Creek	0 to 3.9	Temperature	Summer
South Fork Keene Creek	0 to 3.1	Temperature	Summer
Spencer Creek	0 to 18.9	Temperature	Year around
Unnamed Creek (Horse Canyon Creek) LLID 1212355422566	0 to 2.2	Temperature	Year around
Antelope Creek	2 to 3	Temperature	Year around
Antelope Creek	0 to 14.1	Temperature	Year around
Barnes Valley Creek	0 to 14	Temperature	Year around
Ben Hall Creek	0 to 8.7	Temperature	Year around
Buck Creek	0 to 12.8	Temperature	Year around
East Branch Lost River	0 to 2.4	Temperature	Year around
Lapham Creek	0 to 4	Temperature	Year around
Long Branch Creek	0 to 4.6	Temperature	Year around
Miller Creek	0 to 9.6	Temperature	Year around
North Fork Willow Creek	0 to 2.3	Temperature	Year around
Rock Creek	0 to 4.3	Temperature	Year around
Lost River	4.8 to 65.4	Temperature	Year around
Lost River Diversion Channel	0 to 7.9	Temperature	Year around
Klamath Straits Drain	0 to 9.8	Temperature	Year around

The public comment period for the draft Upper Klamath and Lost Subbasins Temperature TMDL document was open from May 15, 2019 through July 16, 2019. Copies of the draft TMDL documents were made available online and by hard copy upon request. DEQ held a public meeting on June 26, 2019 that included an informational session and a public hearing. The public comment period was open for 60 days.

DEQ has summarized the comments received, prepared responses and made revisions to the TMDL.

Comments were received from:

- Bureau of Reclamation (11 pages)
- City of Klamath Falls (8 pages)
- EPA (8 pages)
- Karuk Tribe (13 pages)
- Klamath County Economic Development (1 page)
- Klamath Drainage District (4 pages)
- Klamath Water Users Association (27 pages)
- Langell Valley Irrigation District / Horsefly Irrigation District (14 pages)
- Oregon Department of Agriculture (7 pages)

- Oregon Department of Agriculture (7 pages)
- Oregon Farm Bureau (4 pages)
- Oregon Stream Protection Coalition (2 pages)
- PacifiCorp (52 pages)
- Quartz Valley Indian Reservation (12 pages)
- Yurok Tribe (30 pages plus 7 attachments)

The Response to Comments document and the TMDL and WQMP revised based on comments are included with this submittal.

Any questions or concerns regarding this TMDL should be directed to the DEQ Klamath Basin Coordinator, Mike Hiatt at 541-273-7002.

We look forward to your approval of this TMDL.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Whitman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "W".

Richard Whitman
Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Cc: Dave Croxton, USEPA Region 10
Claire Schary, USEPA Region 10
Allan Henning, USEPA Region 10
Jennifer Wigal, DEQ WQ

Attachments: TMDL, WQMP, Response to Comments, Order Memo