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WaterQuality
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David Peeler
Program Manager
Water Quality Program Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA. 98504-7600

Dear Mr. Peeler:

I am writing to respond to the latest information available for determining classification for sections of Moses Lake and the lake in its entirety. Your most recent correspondence indicates an appreciation for the complexities of the problem within Moses Lake and supports my earlier assertion that we need to examine more fully the sections of the lake, which historically have proven to be sources of phosphorus loading.

In grid #47119B3G3 (Upper Rocky Ford Arm), the sampling is noted on your document as recommended for Category 2 classification or "Water of Concern". This area of the lake has historically been the source of 37% of the phosphorus loading since the 1960's. While other areas, such as Parker and Pelican Horns, have received the benefits of remediation efforts, with mixed results, there has been no attempt to determine the source of the phosphorus loading which enters the lake from Rocky Ford. The fact that this area remains constant at nearly 40% of the loading over the past 44+ years indicates that it remains a major and on-going contributor to the problems of the lake as a whole. It continues to be the single largest source of phosphorus loading of any area of the lake. And yet, on the basis of 4 samples, you recommend a classification of Category 2 and not Category 5. Why? With the historical markings, the data set is much larger and clearly points to a major phosphorus pollution problem originating there.

What is missing in the DOE's assessment, it would seem, is an attempt to determine the source of this phosphorus loading. I would like to recommend that the DOE undertake two data assessment projects prior to the next TMDL scoping session in 2006. These would be aimed at resolving this issue prior to classifying Moses Lake. The first should include regular, intensive sampling on Upper Rocky Ford Arm both above and below the Trout Lodge operation. This should include samplings before and after their release cycles. This should lay to rest any continuing questions concerning their impact on the lake's phosphorus loading. Additionally, data sampling and assessment should occur well north of Rocky Ford and the Trout Lodge operation to determine where additional phosphorus could be coming from: the land, run-off from farms, etc. We cannot begin to treat the problem until we diagnose its source.

Much has been done to explore the introduction of water at this end of the lake from the Quincy Irrigation District, and this should be encouraged to continue. At minimum, the effects of dilution and increased water flow could only have a positive impact on the lake as a whole. However, without determining the source of the phosphorus entering the lake from the north, the lasting effects will be cosmetic at best.

Enclosed you will find photos taken from our lake frontage located south of the Rocky Ford Arm area-one taken per month beginning in May of this year through October. While these don't provide "scientific data" supporting our concern, they provide visual

evidence of the year round need for water quality improvement. Copies of these have been provided to Ed Koch and Dave Knight as well.
I look forward to hearing your comments and working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Terri Jamison

Mrs. Terri Jamison
4527 Rd. 6.5 NE
Moses Lake, WA 98837
(509) 762-2659