UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF
WATER AND
WATERSHEDS

APR 3 0 2012

Mr. Kelly Susewind
Water Quality Program Manager
Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

Re: Approval of the Little Spokane River Watershed Fecal Coliform Bacteria, Temperature and Turbidity Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

Dear Mr. Susewind:

Following our review of the Little Spokane River Watershed Fecal Coliform Bacteria, Temperature and Turbidity TMDL developed by the Washington Department of Ecology, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is pleased to approve 57 TMDLs for the water quality limited segments in the Little Spokane River watershed, as identified in the enclosed table.

The Little Spokane River Watershed Fecal Coliform Bacteria, Temperature and Turbidity TMDL was submitted to the EPA by Ecology on February 22, 2012. This approval includes all load and wasteload allocations established in the TMDL. By statute and regulation, these allocations, taken cumulatively, are required to be established at a level necessary to attain applicable water quality criteria in the impaired segments of those portions of the Little Spokane River covered by these TMDLs. Our review of the TMDL and the supporting record, including Ecology's response to public comments on the draft TMDL, indicates that this TMDL is approvable under section 303(d) and that allocations have been established at a level that, when fully implemented, will lead to the attainment of the applicable water quality criteria. In addition to the waters identified in Ecology's TMDL submittal, the EPA is approving TMDLs for waters in the Little Spokane watershed that were previously unlisted, but that were determined to be impaired during development of this TMDL. Therefore, Ecology does not need to include the waterbodies identified in the attached table on the next §303(d) list of impaired waters for the pollutants covered by these TMDLs.

On January 6, 1998, the EPA entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Northwest Environmental Advocates (NWEA) and the Northwest Environmental Defense Center (NEDC). A provision of the settlement agreement provides that the EPA will submit progress reports to NEDC and NWEA on meeting the fifteen-year TMDL development schedule. For the purposes of tracking the EPA's compliance with the 1998 settlement agreement, the EPA counts TMDLs based on the waterbody identification system used by Ecology to develop the 1996 303(d) list. The enclosed table identifies 36 waterbodies from the 1996 waterbody identification system covered by the Little Spokane River Watershed Fecal Coliform Bacteria, Temperature and Turbidity TMDLs.

The Little Spokane River Watershed Fecal Coliform Bacteria, Temperature and Turbidity TMDL also includes Ecology's implementation strategy. The EPA is not required by section 303(d) or its

implementing regulations to approve or disapprove implementation strategies submitted with TMDLs. The EPA has reviewed the strategy, and that review has informed the EPA's review and approval of the submitted TMDLs. However, the EPA is taking no action to approve or disapprove the implementation strategy.

By the EPA's approval, these TMDLs may now be incorporated into the State's Water Quality Management Plan under §303(e) of the CWA. We appreciate the opportunity to work with your staff throughout the development of these TMDLs. If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 553-4198, or you may call David Ragsdale of my staff at (360) 407-6589.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Bussell, Director
Office of Water & Watersheds

Enclosure

cc: Helen Bresler, Ecology HQ Office

Enclosure

Table 1: Little Spokane River Watershed Fecal Coliform Bacteria, Temperature and Turbidity TMDLs

Water Body	Township, Range, Section	Parameter	1996 List	1996 Listing ID	1996 Count	2008 List	2008 Count	2008 Listing ID
Bear Creek	28N, 43E, 03	Temperature	N	---	1	Y	1	48337
	28N, 43E, 03	*FC	N	---	1	N	1	
Beaver Creek	30N, 43E, 18	Temperature	N	---	1	Y	1	48362
	30N, 43E, 18	*FC	N	---	1	N	1	
	30N, 43E, 18	*Turbidity	N	---	1	N	1	
Buck Creek	30N, 43E, 06	Temperature	N	---	1	Y	1	48364
	30N, 43E, 06	*Turbidity	N	---	1	N	1	
Deadman Creek	27N, 43E, 33	FC	N	---	1	Y	1	16854
	27N, 43E, 33	*Temperature	N	---	1	N	1	
	27N, 43E, 33	*Turbidity	N	---	1	N	1	
	27N, 44E, 23	FC	N	---	---	Y	1	42539
	27N, 44E, 23	*Temperature	N	---	---	N	1	
	27N, 44E, 33	FC	N	---	---	Y	1	46143
	27N, 44E, 33	*Temperature	N	---	---	N	1	
	27N, 44E, 33	*Turbidity	N	---	---	N	1	
Deer Creek	28N, 43E, 34	FC	N	---	1	Y	1	16855
	28N, 43E, 34	Temperature	N	---	1	Y	1	11365
	28N, 43E, 34	*Turbidity	N	---	1	N	1	
Dragoon Creek	29N, 42E, 08	FC	Y	WA-55-1012	1	Y	1	8442
	28N, 43E, 33	FC	N	---	---	Y	1	45514
	28N, 43E, 33	*Turbidity	N	---	1	N	1	
	28N, 42E, 03	Temperature	N	---	1	Y	1	48357
	28N, 42E, 03	*Turbidity	N	---	---	N	1	
	28N, 42E, 03	*FC	N	---	---	N	1	
	29N, 42E, 34	Temperature	N	---	---	Y	1	48358
West Branch Dragoon Creek	28N, 42E, 21	FC	N	---	1	Y	1	46125
	28N, 42E, 21	Temperature	N	---	1	Y	1	48383
	28N, 42E, 21	*Turbidity	N	---	1	N	1	
Dry Creek	29N, 44E, 30	FC	N	---	1	Y	1	45511
	29N, 44E, 30	*Temperature	N	---	1	N	1	
	29N, 44E, 30	*Turbidity	N	---	1	N	1	
Otter Creek	29N, 43E, 12	FC	N	---	1	Y	1	45512
	29N, 43E, 12	*Temperature	N	---	1	N	1	
Little Deep Creek	27N, 43E, 33	FC	N	---	1	Y	1	45525
	27N, 43E, 33	Temperature	N	---	1	Y	1	48360
	27N, 43E, 33	*Turbidity	N	---	1	N	1	
Moon Creek	30N, 44E, 08	Temperature	N	---	1	Y	1	48332
	30N, 44E, 08	*FC	N	---	1	N	1	
Peone Creek	26N, 44E, 08	Temperature	N	---	1	Y	1	48314
	26N, 44E, 08	*FC	N	---	1	N	1	

	26N, 44E, 08	*Turbidity	N	---	1	N	1	
Little Spokane River	26N, 42E, 05	FC	Y	WA-55-1010	1	Y	1	16861
	27N, 43E, 33	FC	N	---	---	Y	1	46144
	27N, 43E, 33	*Turbidity	N	---	1	N	1	
	26N, 42E, 03	Temperature	Y	---	1	Y	1	48384
	26N, 42E, 03	*Turbidity	N	---	---	N	1	
	27N, 43E, 33	Temperature	N	---	---	Y	1	48385
	26N, 43E, 06	Turbidity	N	---	---	Y	1	15924
	27N,42E, 05	*Turbidity	N	---	---	N	1	
	30N 45E, 08	*Turbidity	N	---	---	N	1	
	29N, 44E, 08	*FC	N	---	---	N	1	
	28N, 43E, 34	*Turbidity	N	---	---	N	1	
	28N, 43E, 34	*FC	N	---	---	N	1	
	27N, 43E, 04	*Turbidity	N	---	---	N	1	
West Branch Little Spokane River	29N, 43E, 15	Temperature	N	---	1	Y	1	48334
	30N, 43E, 32	Temperature	N	---	---	Y	1	48335
	31N, 43E, 34	Temperature	N	---	---	Y	1	48336
Totals					36		57	