



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 7  
901 NORTH 5TH STREET  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

JAN 2 2009

Mr. Richard Leopold, Director  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Henry A. Wallace Building  
502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Re: Approval of TMDL for East Fork Des Moines River

Dear Mr. Leopold:

This letter responds to the submission from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) originally received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 on May 30, 2008, for a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) document which contained a TMDL for *E. coli*. The East Fork Des Moines River was identified on the 2006 Iowa §303(d) list as impaired. This submission fulfills the Clean Water Act statutory requirement to develop TMDLs for impairments listed on a state's §303(d) list. The specific impairment (water body segment and pollutant) is:

<u>Water Body Name</u>	<u>WBID</u>	<u>Pollutant(s)</u>
East Fork Des Moines River	IA 04-EDM-0010-1	<i>E. coli</i>

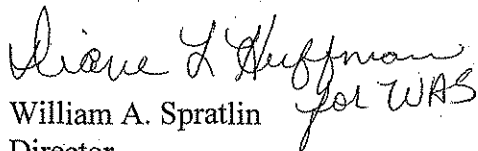
EPA has completed its review of the TMDL with supporting documentation and information. By this letter, EPA approves the submitted TMDL. Enclosed with this letter is the Region 7 TMDL Decision Document which summarizes the rationale for EPA's approval of the TMDL. EPA believes the separate elements of the TMDL described in the enclosed form adequately address the pollutant of concern, taking into consideration seasonal variation and a margin of safety. Although EPA does not approve the monitoring plan submitted by the state, EPA acknowledges the state's efforts. EPA understands that the state may use the monitoring plan to gauge the effectiveness of the TMDL and determine if future revisions are necessary or appropriate to meet applicable water quality standards.

EPA is currently in consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding this TMDL document. While we are approving this TMDL at the present time, we may decide that changes to the TMDL are warranted based upon the results of the consultation when it is completed.



EPA appreciates the thoughtful effort that IDNR has put into this TMDL. We will continue to cooperate with and assist, as appropriate, in future efforts by IDNR to develop remaining TMDLs.

Sincerely,

  
William A. Spratlin  
Director  
Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division

Enclosure

cc: Allen Bonini  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

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