

PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL)
FOR SANDY CREEK, IN THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 USC § 1313(d)(1)(C), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) implementing regulation, 40 CFR § 130.7(c)(1), require the establishment of TMDLs for waters identified as not meeting water quality standards (WQS) under authority of Section 303(d)(1)(A) of the CWA. TMDLs are established at a level necessary to implement applicable WQS with seasonal variations and a margin of safety that accounts for lack of knowledge concerning the relationship between pollutant loading and water quality.

EPA is establishing this TMDL to meet the milestones of 2001 Consent Decree, *American Canoe Association, et al. v. EPA*, No. 98-1195-CV-W in consolidation with No. 98-4282-CV-W, February 27, 2001, and in partnership with the state of Missouri. However, Missouri may submit and EPA may approve, revised or modified TMDLs for this water segment at any time.

Originating in Putnam County, Sandy Creek is an 8.1-mile intermittent stream that flows southeast to its confluence with Shoal Creek, a tributary of the Chariton River. The Sandy Creek watershed covers an area of approximately 17.43 square miles. A three mile segment of Sandy Creek (water segment identification number MO_0652) is on Missouri's 2008 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. Sandy Creek's beneficial use for pertaining to the Protection of Aquatic Life is impaired due to unknown pollutants and sources. Data presented in the TMDL show high levels of iron and total suspended solids (TSS), linking them to the impaired beneficial use. The draft TMDL's target is for TSS and is protective of the stream's general uses. The draft TMDL's dissolved iron target is 1,000 micrograms per liter and is based on the Missouri WQS numeric criterion to protect aquatic life, as stated in 10 CSR 20-7.031, Table A, of Missouri's WQS, and is in accordance with Section 303(d) of the CWA. Data and research in the draft TMDL include abandoned mine lands as likely contributors to elevated iron concentrations in the surface water of Sandy Creek. This comment period ends on December 8, 2010.

Persons wishing to comment on this proposed TMDL or offer new data or information regarding the proposed TMDL are invited to send comments to the EPA, Region 7, Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division, 901 North 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101, ATTENTION: Ms. Debby White, Water Quality Management Branch, Sandy Creek. Comments may also be sent to R7TMDL@EPA.GOV or via FAX at 913-551-9886.

A copy of the proposed TMDL can be obtained through the Internet at the following Web address: http://www.epa.gov/region07/water/tmdl_public_notice.htm. Request a copy of the TMDL via email at R7TMDL@EPA.GOV or via FAX at 913-551-9886.

/s/
William A. Spratlin
Director
Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division
EPA, Region 7

11/5/2010
Date