



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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

OCT 24 2011

Mr. Roger Lande
Director
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Henry A. Wallace Building
502 East 9th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Mr. Lande:

RE: Approval of TMDL for Duck Creek

This letter responds to the submission from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources originally received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7, on March 23, 2010, for a Total Maximum Daily Load document that contained a TMDL for indicator bacteria, E. coli. Duck Creek was identified on the 2008 Iowa Section 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:

Table with 3 columns: Water Body Name, WBID, Pollutant. Row 1: Duck Creek, IA 01-NEM-0060_1, Bacteria Indicator, E. coli

The EPA has completed its review of the TMDL with supporting documentation and information. By this letter, the EPA approves the submitted TMDL. Enclosed with this letter is the Region 7 TMDL Decision Document which summarizes the rationale for the EPA's approval of the TMDL. The 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 the EPA does not approve the monitoring plan submitted by the state, the EPA acknowledges the state's efforts. The 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.

The 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.



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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Flournoy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "K" and "F".

Karen Flournoy
Acting Division Director
Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Wayne Gieselman, Administrator, Division of Environmental Services, IDNR
Mr. Allen Bonini, Supervisor, Watershed Improvement Program, IDNR
Mr. Mike Coffey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service