

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 LONG BRANCH, 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 a revised or modified other TMDLs for this water segment at any later time.

Long Branch is a 9.9-mile stream located in Johnson County, Missouri, which originates just southwest of Whiteman Air Force Base near Knob Noster and flows predominantly east until its confluence with Muddy Creek in western Pettis County. The lower 5.3-mile segment that stretches to its confluence with Muddy Creek is designated as a perennial stream. The remaining upstream 4.5-mile segment is the impaired segment and is designated as an intermittent stream - identified as MO_0857. The water quality limited segment is included on Missouri's 2008 303(d) List of Impaired Waters due to unknown pollutants and sources that impair its designated use for General Criteria pertaining to Protection of Aquatic Life. Nutrients and sediment are considered to be the primary contributors to impairment of aquatic communities in Long Branch because of elevated levels of total nitrogen, total phosphorus and total suspended solids; and as a result, those are the targets of the draft TMDL in accordance with Section 303(d) of the CWA. This comment period ends on December 3, 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, Long Branch. 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

10/29/10
Date