



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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

OCT 13 2006

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WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

Galbraith, Ed
Water Protection Program, Director
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Jefferson Building, 9th Floor
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Dear Mr. Galbraith:

Re: Establishing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) for
Big Creek, Waterbody Identification MO_1250
Big Muddy Creek, Waterbody Identification MO_436
Little Tarkio Creek, Waterbody Identification MO_248
Little Medicine Creek, Waterbody Identification MO_623

On behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), I am hereby transmitting EPA's TMDLs for Big Otter, Honey and Monegaw Creeks in Missouri, established October 13, 2006. EPA is establishing these TMDLs pursuant to EPA commitments under a 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). EPA is establishing these TMDLs to meet the December 31, 2006, consent decree deadline.

Table with 4 columns: Waterbody, Waterbody ID, Listed Pollutant, TMDL Pollutant. Rows include Big Creek, Big Muddy Creek, Little Tarkio Creek, and Little Medicine Creek, all with sediment as the listed and TMDL pollutant.

These TMDLs are being established in accordance with Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, because the State of Missouri determined on the 1998 and 2002 303(d) lists of impaired waters that the water quality standards were exceeded. EPA public noticed these documents from August 25, 2006, to September 25, 2006. There was one comment letter received for all four sites. Please refer to the Summary of Response to Comments document which is enclosed with this letter for more information regarding EPA's responses to those comment letters.

I want to thank the staff of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for their assistance in preparing these TMDLs. Federal regulation, 40 CFR 130.6(c)(1), requires the state

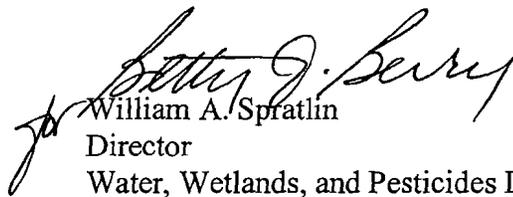


to incorporate these TMDLs, along with appropriate implementation measures, into Water Quality Management Plan. To assist in planning implementation and follow-up monitoring efforts, the TMDL documents include monitoring recommendations. These recommendations are not part of the TMDL decisions being made by EPA at this time and we understand that the state is responsible for developing implementation plans necessary to attain TMDLs.

If the State of Missouri considers adoption of new TMDLs for these waterbodies, the state may adopt the TMDLs identified in this decision or further assess the pollutants and adopt different TMDLs if warranted. If the state adopts and EPA approves TMDLs which are different from the TMDLs established today, the state adopted TMDLs would supersede the EPA established TMDLs.

If you have any questions regarding these TMDL, please call Jack Generaux, of my staff, at (913)551-7690.

Sincerely,


William A. Spratlin
Director
Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division

Enclosures

cc: Anne Peery
TMDL Coordinator, Jefferson City, MO

Phil Schroeder
Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, MO

Scott Dye
Sierra Club, Columbia, MO