

STATE OF MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Bob Holden, Governor • Stephen M. Mahfood, Director

www.dnr.state.mo.us

January 30, 2004

Ms. Cheryl Crisler
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency, Region VII
901 North Fifth Street
Kansas City, KS 66101

RE: TMDL for Elk River, Big Sugar Creek, Little Sugar Creek, Buffalo Creek
(Two Segments), Patterson Creek, Indian Creek, Middle Indian Creek (Two
Segments), South Indian Creek and North Indian Creek

Dear Ms. Crisler:

Enclosed please find a copy of the total maximum daily load (TMDL) study for the Elk River basin in McDonald, Barry and Newton counties, Missouri. We have received and reviewed your comments on the draft TMDL document and have edited it in response to those comments. The TMDL was placed on public notice from December 5, 2003 to January 4, 2004. A number of comments were received on the Elk River Basin TMDL during the public comment period. They were reviewed and the document was adjusted where appropriate. The public comments that were received and Missouri Department of Natural Resources' (MoDNR) response letters are on file with MoDNR. We now submit this document as a final TMDL for review and approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 303(d)(2) of the federal Clean Water Act.

Elk River basin TMDL was developed by the MoDNR, Water Protection Program, to address the nutrient impairment of this water, as identified on the 1998 section 303(d) list. This impairment has been determined to come from point and nonpoint sources. The impairment will be addressed by phosphorus effluent limits from point sources and voluntary reductions in agricultural inputs from nonpoint sources.



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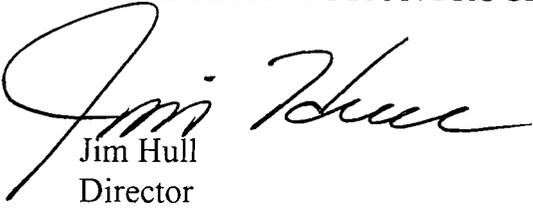


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If you have any questions, please contact Becky Shannon at (573) 751-7428 or by mail at Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program, P. O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176.

Sincerely,

WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM



Jim Hull
Director

JH:gwd

Enclosure

c: William Bryan, AGO