



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

Reply To
Attn Of: OW-134

JAN 25 2001

David Mabe, Administrator
State Water Quality Programs
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
1410 North Hilton
Boise, Idaho 83706

Dave:
Dear Mr. Mabe:

This letter transmits the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) final additions to Idaho's 1998 Section 303(d) list of water quality limited waterbodies under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. EPA is adding 127 waters to Idaho's 1998 list (Enclosure A).

On May 1, 2000, EPA partially approved and partially disapproved Idaho's final 1998 303(d) list. The partial disapproval primarily related to waters which were not added to the State's list even though data indicated temperature criteria were exceeded. On May 8, 2000, EPA proposed to add 136 waterbodies; 134 for temperature, and two (2) for other pollutants.

During the comment period, we received comments from 10 individuals or organizations, both supporting and raising concern with EPA's proposal. EPA carefully considered the data and other information in these comments, and modified the proposed list accordingly. A listing of commentors and our response to comments is included in Enclosure B.

I would like to personally express my appreciation to your central office and regional staff for their efforts in providing detailed information on these waterbodies. This list cycle has taken much longer to complete than any of us would have preferred, and the patience and perseverance of your staff has been greatly appreciated. As a final step in our action, I will have Leigh Woodruff work with your staff regarding the geo-referencing of these waters.

I look forward to continuing to work cooperatively to improve the quality of Idaho's waters, and on future Section 303(d) list activities. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to call me at (206) 553-1261, or Leigh Woodruff of my staff at (208) 378-5774.

Sincerely,

Randall F. Smith, Director
Office of Water

Enclosures

cc: Michael McIntyre, IDEQ