



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

999 18th STREET - SUITE 500  
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2466

*Bruce*

OCT 16 1996

Ref: 8EPR-EP

Mark Simonich, Director  
Department of Environmental Quality  
Cogswell Building  
Helena, Montana 59620

Re: Approval of Deep Creek TMDL  
(Section 303(d) Clean Water Act)

Dear Mr. Simonich:

We have completed our review of the total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for Deep Creek as submitted by your office. In accordance with Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq.), we approve all aspects of these TMDLs.

Based on our review, we feel the separate elements of the TMDLs adequately address the concerns related to sediment, temperature, and flow taking into consideration seasonal variation and a margin of safety. We feel the State has provided adequate TMDL endpoints for Deep Creek, including TSS load, % substrate fines, temperature, and biological goals. Further, we find that the actual TMDL components including % reduction in erosive banks, % increase in channel length, and minimum flow goals are adequate to achieve the endpoints.

We feel the TMDLs for Deep Creek will provide direction in implementation of nonpoint source projects in the watershed. The methods and approach used in developing the TMDLs employed innovative methods, tailored to the particular issues at hand for Deep Creek.

Thank you for this submittal. If you have any questions concerning this approval, feel free to contact Bruce Zander of my staff at 303/312-6846.

Sincerely,

Max H. Dodson  
Assistant Regional Administrator  
Office of Ecosystems Protection and Remediation

cc: J. Wardell (MOO)



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