



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF

WW-16J

FEB 27 2020

James Zellmer
Deputy Division Administrator
Bureau of Water Quality
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster St.
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Dear Mr. Zellmer:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has conducted a complete review of the final Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and supporting documentation for the 83 Total Phosphorus (TP) and 83 Total Suspended Solids (TSS) TMDLs to address fish and aquatic life and recreation uses. Some of the TMDLs may also indirectly improve fish and macroinvertebrate communities. Locations included from the 2014 Integrated Report 303(d) list are in the Upper Fox and Wolf River Basins. The entire watershed covers 5,900 sq. mi. in numerous counties in central Wisconsin.

These TMDLs meet the requirements of Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and EPA's implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 130. Therefore, EPA hereby approves Wisconsin's TMDLs. This approval addresses 83 river segments, tributaries and lakes for TP and TSS for a total of 166 TMDLs. The statutory and regulatory requirements, and EPA's review of Wisconsin's compliance with each requirement, are described in the enclosed decision document. EPA also agrees that the protection measures outlined in the TMDL document for the remaining unimpaired waterbodies are sufficient to maintain the existing water quality. EPA agrees these measures are appropriate for consideration as "protection strategies" as described in "A Long-Term Vision for Assessment, Restoration, and Protection under the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Program".

We wish to acknowledge Wisconsin's effort in submitting these TMDLs and look forward to future TMDL submissions by the State of Wisconsin. If you have any questions, please contact David Werbach at 312-886-4242 or werbach.david@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Short', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Thomas R. Short Jr.
Acting Director, Water Division

Enclosure

cc: Kevin Kirsch, WDNR
Keith Marquardt, WDNR