

May 20, 2004

Andrew Fisk
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
#17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017

SUBJECT: Notification of Approval of Pleasant (Mud) Pond TMDL

Dear Mr. Fisk:

Thank you for Maine's submittal of the Pleasant (Mud) Pond Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for total phosphorus. This waterbody is included on Maine's 2002 303(d) list and was moved up as a priority for TMDL development from past listings due to the high level of stakeholder interest in this particular lake. The purpose of the TMDL is to address algae blooms due to excessive nutrient loading from nonpoint source pollution.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby approves Maine's May 10, 2004 Pleasant (Mud) Pond TMDL received by EPA on May 10, 2004 (electronically) and May 12, 2004 (signed hard copy). EPA has determined that this TMDL meets the requirements of §303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), and of EPA's implementing regulations (40 CFR Part 130). Attached is a copy of our approval documentation.

Cobbossee Stream is also listed on Maine's 2002 303(d) list of impaired waters, due primarily to pollutants from Pleasant Pond. We concur that the TMDL for Pleasant Pond was developed with consideration of downstream water quality standards, and that the in-lake target set for Pleasant Pond is stringent enough to provide for the attainment of water quality standards in Cobbossee Stream as well as in Pleasant Pond. It is our understanding that, based on this TMDL approval for Pleasant Pond, ME DEP intends to propose an off-ramp from Maine's 303(d) list for both Pleasant Pond and Cobbossee Stream to category 4A in Maine's 2006 integrated 305(b)/303(d) list.

My staff and I look forward to continued cooperation with the ME DEP in exercising our shared responsibility of implementing the requirements under Section 303(d) of the CWA.

Sincerely,

Linda M. Murphy, Director
Office of Ecosystem Protection

cc (electronic):
David Courtemanch, ME DEP
David Halliwell, ME DEP

In-house distribution:

Jennie Bridge
Mel Cote
Ann Williams
Steve Silva

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