

August 12, 2004

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

SUBJECT: Notification of Approval of Highland Lake TMDL

Dear Mr. Fisk:

Thank you for Maine's submittal of the Highland Lake 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 August 2, 2004 Highland Lake TMDL received by EPA on the same day electronically. 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.

We are very pleased with the quality of your TMDL submittal. Your staff, in collaboration with the Lakes Environmental Association (LEA) and the Maine Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) have done an excellent job of preparing and ground-truthing a comprehensive and informative TMDL report. The extent of local interest, collaboration, and long-term pollution control activity in this watershed is impressive. 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 (electronic):

Jennie Bridge

Steve Silva

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