



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION I
ONE CONGRESS STREET SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

September 28, 2006

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

SUBJECT: Notification of Approval of Cross Lake TMDL

Dear Mr. Fisk:

Thank you for Maine's submittal of the Cross Lake Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for total phosphorus. This waterbody is included on Maine's 2004 303(d) list and was prioritized for TMDL development. The purpose of the TMDL is to address impaired primary contact recreational use from algae blooms due to excessive nutrient loading from nonpoint source pollution, primarily due to runoff from surrounding agricultural land in the watershed.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby approves Maine's September 25, 2006 Cross Lake TMDL received by EPA 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.

Daigle and Dickey Brooks, two major tributaries of Cross Lake, are also listed on Maine's 2004 303(d) list of impaired waters due to low dissolved oxygen related to primary productivity caused by excessive nutrients from the brooks' direct watersheds within the Cross Lake drainage system. We also note that Daigle Pond (addressed in a separate TMDL report) also contributes nutrients to Daigle Brook. We concur that the TMDL for Cross Lake was developed with consideration of these upstream water quality problems, and that the in-lake target and recommended reductions of total phosphorus loading in the Cross Lake watershed will address improvements to water quality within Daigle and Dickey Brooks as well. It is our understanding that, based on EPA's approval of the TMDLs for both Cross Lake and Daigle Pond, ME DEP intends to propose a re-listing from Maine's 2004 303(d) list for Daigle and Dickey Brooks 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

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