



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155
Seattle, WA 98101

WATER
DIVISION

May 17, 2021

Mr. Randy Bates
Director
Division of Water
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
P.O. Box 111800
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Re: Approval of Alaska's 2020 Section 303(d) List

Dear Mr. Bates:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has conducted a review of Alaska's 2020 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report (Integrated Report), including the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list, supporting documentation and information. EPA received Alaska's final 2020 303(d) list on April 19, 2021 through the Assessment, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Tracking and Implementation System (ATTAINS), which is EPA's electronic system to accept and track 303(d) submittals and Agency actions. Specifically, Alaska's 2020 Category 5 data in ATTAINS represents Alaska's 303(d) list of impaired waters. In taking today's action, EPA considered the information in the submittal record, including but not limited to, Alaska's 2020 Category 5 data in ATTAINS and the narrative supporting documents provided by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC).

Based on our review of the submittal, EPA has determined that Alaska's 2020 list of water body segment/pollutant pairs meets the requirements of Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and the Agency's implementing regulations. Although the Alaska Integrated Report describes the status of all of Alaska's waters, EPA is only acting on the waters listed in Category 5, which constitutes the 303(d) list applicable to the waters within the jurisdiction of the State of Alaska. Therefore, EPA approves Alaska's 2020 303(d) list. The statutory and regulatory requirements, and a summary of EPA's review of Alaska's compliance with each requirement, are described in the enclosure to this letter.

We would like to acknowledge the hard work of Terri Lomax, Chandra McGee, Amber Bethe and all the ADEC staff in developing the final 2020 Section 303(d) list.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 553-1855, or have your staff contact Jill Fullagar, EPA Assessment Program Coordinator, at (206) 553-2582; or Hanh Shaw, the Standards and Assessment Section Manager, at (206) 553-0171.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Opalski
Director

Enclosure: EPA Decision Rationale

cc (e-Copy): Ms. Terri Lomax, Statewide Program Manager, ADEC
Ms. Chandra McGee, Section Manager, ADEC
Ms. Amber Bethe, Environmental Program Specialist, ADE