



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

# **Willamette Basin Mercury TMDL Water Quality Implementation Plan Annual Report**

**Tualatin Project, Oregon  
Columbia-Pacific Northwest Region**



## **Mission Statements**

The U.S. Department of the Interior protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; and honors its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and affiliated Island Communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

# **Willamette Basin Mercury TMDL Water Quality Implementation Plan Annual Report**

**Tualatin Project, Oregon  
Columbia-Pacific Northwest Region**

*Prepared by:*

Cavan Gerrish, Regional Water Quality Coordinator  
**Columbia-Pacific Northwest Regional Office  
Environmental Services**

Cover Photo: Scoggins Dam and Henry Hagg Lake, Oregon (Reclamation photo)

This page intentionally left blank.

# Contents

<b>Executive Summary .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Report .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Area of Reservoir-Adjacent Wetlands .....	2
2024 Monitoring Plan .....	2

## List of Tables

Table 1. Reservoir-adjacent wetlands per the NWI .....	2
--	---

# Acronyms

Acronym or Abbreviation	Definition
DMA	Designated management agency
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
ODEQ	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Reclamation	Bureau of Reclamation
TMDL	Total Daily Maximum Load
WQIP	Water Quality Implementation Plan

# Executive Summary

The Willamette River basin and its numerous tributaries do not currently meet Oregon's Water Quality Standards for mercury. These standards protect designated beneficial uses such as human health, recreation, fish and aquatic life, wildlife, hunting, and fishing (fish consumption and rearing). When water quality standards are not met, the federal Clean Water Act requires a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) to be established. A TMDL determines how much pollution can be added to the river without exceeding water quality standards.

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) received a letter from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) on February 17, 2022, designating Reclamation as a reservoir operator designated management agency (or DMA). Baseline water quality monitoring at Henry Hagg Lake is proposed through the first 5 years of TMDL implementation. Henry Hagg Lake is a feature of the Tualatin Project and is operated to provide irrigation water, recreation, and flood and water quality control under existing environmental compliance commitments. Accordingly, operations are tightly regulated and any changes to operations will require extensive study; water contract review, and compliance with applicable laws including the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Such efforts likely would exceed the 5-year reporting cycle for this Water Quality Implementation Plan (WQIP) and are thus outside the scope and budget of this WQIP.

Reclamation submitted a WQIP in August 2023. ODEQ approved an updated version of the plan in January 2024. The first annual report per the approved WQIP schedule is due April 1, 2024. As the first monitoring season for the WQIP has not yet occurred (August 2024-October 2024), there is no water quality data available to report. Reclamation has completed a review of reservoir adjacent wetlands based on the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI).

# Report

## Area of Reservoir-Adjacent Wetlands

Reservoir adjacent wetlands surveyed via the NWI appears to show 6.58 acres of reservoir-adjacent wetlands (Table 1).

Table 1. Reservoir-adjacent wetlands per the NWI

Wetland Classification	Approximate Location	Area (acres)	Latitude	Longitude
PEM1Ch	Tanner Creek inflow	2.77	45.501	-123.209
PEM1Ch	Tanner Creek inflow	0.91	45.502	-123.209
PSSCh	Wall Creek inflow	0.68	45.502	-123.231
PSSAh	Scoggins Creek inflow	1.74	45.499	-123.227
PSSCh	West Shore near Lee Road	0.48	45.479	-123.222

## 2024 Monitoring Plan

Water quality monitoring is scheduled to occur per the approved WQIP beginning in August 2024.