



## City of Laramie

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April 16, 2018

Ronald Steg  
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality  
510 Meadowview Drive  
Lander, WY 82520

RE: Public comment: Draft Wyoming 2018 integrated 305(b) and 303(d) report.

Mr. Steg:

The City of Laramie does not feel that the Laramie River below our wastewater treatment plant should be listed as impaired for excess nutrients.

Since the WDEQ completed its Laramie River sampling efforts in 2009-2010, the system has changed in that effluent from the treatment plant no longer has a direct connection to the river via a discharge ditch. Rather it now flows through a constructed wetlands complex prior to release which substantially removes nutrients from the effluent.

Further, the City's own 2017 nutrient testing (attached) does not support the WDEQ results. We feel that it would be premature for WDEQ to list the Laramie River as impaired based on what we believe to be outdated and insufficient data.

The City would also like some assurance that the WDEQ Waste Water and Surface Water divisions are coordinated and working together on this excess nutrient issue.

Hopefully the WDEQ will be able to revisit the Laramie River to conduct additional sampling and evaluation and will find the situation to be much improved from 8-9 years ago. The City stands willing to assist in these efforts in any way that we can.

Sincerely,

Darren Parkin  
Water Resources Administrator  
City of Laramie – City Manager's Office  
(307) 721-5213  
[dparkin@cityoflaramie.org](mailto:dparkin@cityoflaramie.org)

cc: Earl Smith, Public Works Director  
Chris Claymore, Waste Water Treatment Plant Supervisor  
Tony Hoch, Laramie Rivers Conservation District Director

# 2017 QUARTERLY NUTRIENT TESTING

## Laramie River Above City

MONTH	FEB	MAR	JUN	AUG	OCT	NOV	AVG
DATE	2/14/17	3/30/17	6/27/17	8/30/17	10/2/17	11/3/17	
Alkalinity, mg, CaCO <sub>3</sub> /L	143	96.4	154	116	101	111	120
Ammonia, mg/L	0.004	0.018	0.023	0.016	0.013	0.014	0.015
pH	6.61	7.17	7.67	7.64	7.03	7.28	7.22
Temperature, Celsius	2.2	6.2	16	16.2	4	4	8
Total Nitrogen, mg/L	2.52	5.47	0.101	3.82	5.49	0.508	2.98
Total Phosphorus, mg/L	0.123	0.027	1.64	0.060	0.076	0.065	0.332

## Laramie River Below City (below WWTP)

MONTH	FEB	MAR	JUN	AUG	OCT	NOV	AVG
DATE	2/14/17	3/30/17	6/27/17	8/30/17	10/2/17	11/3/17	
Alkalinity, mg, CaCO <sub>3</sub> /L	126	145	175	151	150	155	150
Ammonia, mg/L	0.019	0.067	0.038	0.025	0.014	0.007	0.028
pH	6.97	6.98	7.93	8.28	7.27	8.66	7.68
Temperature, Celsius	2.7	7.3	17	17	3	4	8.50
Total Nitrogen, mg/L	6.07	1.21	0.16	5.21	5.88	0.637	3.19
Total Phosphorus, mg/L	0.113	0.125	2.27	0.110	0.179	0.115	0.485

## WWTP Effluent

MONTH	FEB	MAR	JUN	AUG	OCT	NOV	AVG
DATE	2/16/17	3/30/17	6/27/17	8/30/17	10/2/17	11/3/17	
Alkalinity, mg, CaCO <sub>3</sub> /L	160	167	144	250	145	230	183
Ammonia, mg/L	0.041	0.016	0.025	1.55	0.221	0.286	0.357
pH	7.03	7.09	6.95	7.12	6.92	7.03	7.02
Temperature, Celsius	10.2	11	16.1	18.3	15.9	14.1	14.3
Total Nitrogen, mg/L	26.4	23.6	21	13.2	17.5	7.78	18.2
Total Phosphorus, mg/L	3.85	3	3.58	3.39	3.23	2.63	3.28

### WWTP Influent

MONTH	FEB	MAR	JUN	AUG	OCT	NOV	AVG
DATE	2/16/17	3/30/17	6/27/17	8/30/17	10/2/17	11/3/17	
Alkalinity, mg, CaCO <sub>3</sub> /L	368	347	318	319	284	352	331
Ammonia, mg/L	26.4	23.4	21.8	25.8	26	27.2	25.1
pH	6.25	6.82	7.78	7.81	7.26	13.2	8.19
Temperature, Celsius	7.4	7.7	14.1	16.6	14.7	7.02	11.3
Total Nitrogen, mg/L	32.5	35.9	31.1	35.2	38.3	38.2	35.2
Total Phosphorus, mg/L	4.12	3.56	3.76	4.02	4.13	3.93	3.92

### Storm Sewer

MONTH	FEB	MAR	JUN	AUG	OCT	NOV	AVG
DATE	2/14/17	3/30/17	6/27/17	8/30/17	10/2/17	11/3/17	
Alkalinity, mg, CaCO <sub>3</sub> /L	283	313	271	223	289	276	276
Ammonia, mg/L	0.013	0.013	0.025	0.069	0.016	0.003	0.023
pH	7.14	6.76	7.37	7.67	7.93	7.85	7.45
Temperature, Celsius	4.4	8.6	15	17	10	10	10.8
Total Nitrogen, mg/L	5.99	5.34	6.06	6.28	0.292	4.4	4.73
Total Phosphorus, mg/L	0.015	0.016	0.097	0.056	0.074	0.055	0.052