# North Fork Payette River Watershed Summit



### Historical Lessons Learned

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## Efforts in the 1990's and early 2000's

- City of McCall
  - Wastewater storage
  - Land application J-Ditch project
- North Lake Sewer and Water District improvements
  - Service area expansions
  - Modern treatment facility
  - Land Application and Filtration basins
- Best Management Practices identified and ranked
  - Conversion to sprinkler irrigation
  - Pump back projects
  - Fencing of riparian areas and buffers
  - Stock water development



# So What Works?

Some principles with a history of success.





2020 Export Timothy Hay North of Gold Fork River

#### Incentive based BMP's

- Prioritize BMP's
- Voluntary participation is vital
- Cost share percentage must motivate participation on private land.
- Access Multiple Funding sources
  - Individuals
  - Cities
  - County
  - State
  - Federal
    - BOR
    - BPA
- Seek Dedicated Funding Source
  - Ongoing
  - Multi year commitment



#### Some Observations:

- Just the way it is:
  - Background levels of Phosphorus
  - Soil characteristics
  - Spring Runoff
- There are things we can do and changes we can make.
- Law of diminishing returns is in play.
- Agriculture and Forest production are beneficial by removing nutrients.
- We must be mindful of balancing the economic needs of various industries and businesses with water quality improvement efforts.

2019 Oats south of Gold Fork River



#### High P Reduction Opportunities

- Stilling basins or Impoundments
  - Large Scale
    - Lake Fork Creek
    - Gold Fork River
    - Payette River
  - Small Scale
    - Private ponds
- Summer run-off pump backs
  - Boulder Creek
  - Mud Creek
  - Willow Creek
- Converting to Sprinkler Irrigation
- Fencing livestock off Lake
  - Develop stock water locations
  - Reasonable setback (Buffer)
- The new 4,828 is causing additional erosion
- Explore alternatives to summertime flow augmentation drawdown

2020 Russet Burbank Seed Potatoes South of Gold Fork River



2019 Organic Oats for human consumption North of Gold Fork River

## Collaboration is Key

- Identify and invite <u>all</u> Stakeholders
  - Private
  - Public
  - Utilities
- Competing interests can work successfully together, if there is a common goal.
- Work towards an attitude of Yes, if...



Thank you for the opportunity to present today.

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