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Dear Member of the Pomme de Terre Citizens Advisory Committee;

We hope you are having a wonderful summer and bountiful growing season! The Pomme de Terre River Association (PDTRA) has been hard at work deliberating the many water quality and quantity concerns brought forth by the members our Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), the public, and other local, state, and federal partners.

To date we've completed 11 Planning Committee meetings, 2 public meetings, and 4 Citizen Advisory Committee meetings (2 each for the Northern and Southern regions). PDTRA would like to thank you for all the input that has helped to steer discussion and decision making.

Originally, our final CAC meeting was scheduled to be held this summer, but with so much to prepare we have decided to push these meeting until late Summer/early Fall.

To keep the group engaged we are sending this simple planning update to let you know where we are and where we are going! The summarized issue statements discussed in this letter are still considered drafts but will be key components in our future CAC meetings! Note that only the issue statements have been determined, our next steps will include drafting goals and activities to address these issues over the next 10 years!

Enclosed with this letter contains information regarding our most recent drafts of the priority areas and issues within the Pomme de Terre Watershed. More information can be found by visiting <https://www.pdtriver.org/projects/one-watershed-one-plan/>. Also enclosed is an invitation to a Soil Health Field day being held outside of Barrett Lake by the Grant County Soil and Water Conservation District – see inserted flyer for more information!

Thank you for your participation and please keep an eye out for upcoming meetings.

Stephanie Adams

PDTRA Project Coordinator

Joint Powers Board:

Keith Swanson - Jeanne Ennen – Keith England - Joe Fox - John Lindquist – Dan Morill - Paul Barsness - Paul Groneberg - Dave Longergan - Clint Schuerman- Rod Wenstrom – Jay Becker

Technical Advisory Committee:

Brad Mergens - Andy Rice - Joe Montonye - Greg Lillemon - Matt Solemsaas - Beau Peterson - Darren Wilke - Bill Kleindl - Andrew Albertsen – Chris LeClair

| Concern | Summarized Issue | Priority Area | |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| Hydrology | Altered Hydrology – Altered waterways and bodies can lead to a loss of water storage and soil health, Increased surface runoff and magnitude of river flows | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed-Wide | |
| Groundwater | Drinking Water Protection - While nitrate levels are currently not high, they could become a greater concern for drinking water if land use isn't managed properly. unsealed abandoned wells could contribute to contamination. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities with high or moderate pollution vulnerabilities (based on soil type) Private well owners in areas of moderate or high pollution sensitivity | |
| | Surface Water-Groundwater Interactions – There is a lack of evaluation of the quantity and quality of groundwater and surface water information available in the watershed. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed-wide | |
| Lakes | Impaired Lakes – High nutrients that cause unsightly algae blooms and can make swimming undesirable or unsafe, and lakes that lack the conditions that support native fish and native aquatic plant communities. | <u>Northern:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Turtle Pelican Barrett Pomme de Terre | <u>Southern:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N. Pomme de Terre Perkins Artichoke |
| | Protection Lakes - lakes currently supporting recreation and have high biological diversity. There is a desire to protect them from future degradation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> S. Turtle Stalker Eagle | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spitzer Clear Elk |
| | Shoreline Development Impacts on Water Quality and Habitat - Increased development activities decrease groundwater filtration and quality habitat along lakeshore, increase shoreline erosion and run-off through loss of deep rooted vegetation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Lakes Area Christina-Pelican Lakes Area | |
| | Protect/Restore Shallow Basins - Sustained high water and dense populations of undesirable fish are associated with shifts toward high turbidity and habitat deterioration. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drywood Creek Lakes Area. Christina-Pelican Lakes Area | |
| River/Streams | Excess Pollutants - Excess phosphorus and sediment in streams can result in the loss of habitat in addition to direct harm to aquatic life. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drywood Creek Subwatershed | |
| | Poor in-stream habitat - runoff, bank de-vegetation, and erosion that have resulted in a loss of riparian habitat and floodplain connections along the river corridor. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pomme de Terre River Corridor | |
| Ecosystem Health | Aquatic Invasive Species - There is a need to protect lakes and streams at risk for spread of invasive species from other infested water bodies. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed-Wide | |
| Socioeconomic factors | Education & outreach - In some areas of the watershed, there is a lack of interest / acceptance of management practices that help protect and improve water health. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed-Wide | |

