**South Fork Boise Watershed Collaborative**

**Potential opportunities for improvement identified during partner meetings/interviews. These are just a list of ideas in no particular order. There should be no expectation that any of these are likely to be implemented or are even feasible. Sub-committees are being developed to investigate the feasibility, locations, permitting, compliance, and potential funding options for the below categories.**

* **Habitat** 
  + Mainstem habitat enhancement
    - Riparian planting and/or hydrograph manipulation could increase riparian plant survival.
    - Physical modification/creation of side channel habitat that is wetted at winter flows could improve overwinter survival of fish.
  + Tributary habitat enhancement
    - Beaver dam analogues, riparian plantings, trail sediment mitigation could all improve both tributary and mainstem habitat and water quality.
* **Recreation**
  + Boat ramps- Adding boat ramps and/or hardening user created ramps could allow for use of more sections the river and reduce congestion at highly used ramps while reducing riparian damage and sediment inputs.
  + Bathrooms- Currently most bathrooms are near boat ramps and not concentrations of camping. Adding toilet facilities at popular camping areas could improve user experience and water quality.
  + Campsites- The simplest idea was changing signs at individual campsites from the 14 day stay limited to match the 14 of 28 day limit rule on the sign below the dam. Other ideas include adding fire rings or defining/numbering individual campsite boundaries instead of the larger general camping areas. Some folks think creating at least some paid reservable sites could reduce the number of vacant camps that are left on site to “reserve” their spot for the next weekend.
* **Road/trail sediment mitigation** 
  + The largest opportunity for road sediment mitigation seems to be the Prairie Rd as it exits the canyon. Field surveys and/or a game camera may be needed to monitor potential passage issues.
  + Dust abatement on the road and/or creation of more riparian buffer at campsites/important habitat could improve water quality and user experience.
  + Investigating ways to reduce sediment input from winter plowing.
  + Improving trail/stream crossings could reduce sediment and improve user experience
* **Irrigation and agriculture** 
  + There are many options on both private and public lands. Riparian fencing and off site watering could improve in stream water quality as well as water quality for cows. Beaver dam analogues (covered in the Habitat section) could increase summer base flows and reduce sediment loss during high flows. Any willing land owners could have an on brainstorming site visit from NRCS.
* **Signage and education** 
  + Ideas for additional signage include; increase signage for fishing regulations and no guiding rules, more speed limit signs, official boat ramp signs/maps,
  + Potential educational signage on topics like bull trout, general flow/release patterns etc.
  + Investigating potential education opportunities for visitors prior to arriving. What websites/stores/groups are providing information. Can we ask to add information on stuff like no trash service, no guiding, no bathrooms on the canyon float.
* **User Survey** 
  + A user survey could inform aspects of many of the other categories. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game is looking at conducting a creel survey of fishermen/women. Car counters and game cameras could be used as surrogates for user counts. Occupancy surveys on high use weekends could inform best locations for bathrooms, campsite boundaries etc.