PORTNEUF RIVER
VISION STUDY

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City of Pocatello
POCATELLO’S LEVEES:
No vegetation for cooling;
No floodplain to dump the sediment onto.
Section 22:
PORTNEUF RIVER VISION STUDY
Collaborative Project

- US Army Corps of Engineers
- City of Pocatello
- Idaho State University
- Vision Study Working Group
Vision Process

Milestones:

**Project Kickoff** – Summer 2015

**Existing conditions Inventory and Stakeholder Assessment** – Fall 2015

**Working Group Meetings Begin** – Fall 2015

**Public Outreach & Engagement** – Winter 2016 through Summer 2016

**Draft Vision Study** – Fall 2016

**Vision Study Completion and Adoption** – Winter 2016
Portneuf River Vision Study

The City of Pocatello seeks to develop a new vision for the Portneuf River as it runs through our valley, from the Gap to the Reservation boundary.

How can we restore the Portneuf River and enhance the tourism, economic development, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, and other quality of life benefits that the Portneuf River provides?

Start Here
Review the vision for the Portneuf River

Comment
Submit your comments on the Portneuf River
PORTNEUF MEANDERS

Panoramic view of Pocatello in the area that is now Raymond Park and Irving MS. The historic floodplain (which the river would flood every couple of years) is evident. The higher part of town was built on top of the Bonneville flood boulders, generally above the river’s floodplain.

c. 1891, Looking east across the Portneuf in Pocatello. St. Joseph’s Catholic Church with walled compound in middle ground (right side of pic).

Maho State University.
River Restoration Examples

Numerous other communities have restored rivers from concrete chutes to community assets.

Hoosic River, MA

One of the poorest towns in Massachusetts has embarked on a project to revitalize their river, which currently runs through town in a US Army Corps of Engineers’ concrete chute.

The Hoosic River Revival began to create a catalyst for the resurgence of the North Adams community. They have now selected a pilot project and completed a detailed concept design.

Recognizing that their concrete chutes are over 60 years old and will need rehabilitation or replacement to maintain current levels of flood protection, the town selected the Hoosic River Revival project as a way to bring the community back together.
FOLLOW THE STEP BELOW TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS.

1. Click on the map to select a location.

2. Enter your comment.

3. How would you classify your comment?
   - River Access

4. What area are you from?
   - Draw a box on map

5. Submit

6. Review all comments from community.
Fri Jan 15 2016 12:58:21 GMT-0700 (Mountain Standard Time)
another good potential access area with room for parking.

Fri Jan 15 2016 13:02:03 GMT-0700 (Mountain Standard Time)
A kayak park in the existing dike would be a good attraction even though flows would limit ability to use much of the year.

Fri Jan 15 2016 13:05:32 GMT-0700 (Mountain Standard Time)
a walking bridge over tracks and return to more natural flows would be great and could be done when south second street is moved. This would make for good access from ross park and university area.

Sun Jan 17 2016 13:36:47 GMT-0700 (Mountain Standard Time)
Water quality is mostly impacted by the massive diversion into the downey irrigation canal...this should not be allowed at least not so much...because just downriver from here the best spawning areas are cut to a trickle leaving the river channel stagnant and moss choked bog...
Public Involvement

- Stakeholder Assessment & Existing Conditions
- Working Group of 26 local landowners, scientists
- Website for sharing existing conditions & soliciting input
- TV/Newspaper ads; door hangers & direct mail
- Presentations to 650+ people
- Surveys filled out by 1,000+
- Open Houses with 150+ attendees
- Outreach fairs/events
Residents’ top priorities:
1. Water Quality & Ecosystem Health
2. Recreation and Access

Significant concerns & constraints
1. Levees and concrete channel are US Army Corps of Engineers projects
2. Historic winter flooding
3. Limited summer water flow
4. Upstream water quality is poor
5. Limited public property along the river
6. Cost of implementation
7. Cost of maintenance
What are your favorite short-term and long-term projects?
Community Design Process

**DESIGN CHARRETTE PROCESS**

1. Review Visual Pref. Survey
2. Generate Ideas
3. List of Elements
4. Develop Rough Sketches incorporating Elements
5. Develop Several Concepts
6. Select Two 9(max) Concepts to carry forward
7. Refine your Design
8. Re-evaluate/Validate Study Goals
9. Report to the WG
10. Critique

**Elements**
- River access
- Football field, tennis courts
- Open play space/turf
- Sidewalks
- Low flow channel
- Parking
- Toilets
- Retain mature trees
- Seating/seat walls
IMAGINE

A HEALTHY AND VIBRANT CENTENNIAL PARK
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The Vision

Our vision is to restore the Portneuf River corridor in order to realize environmental, recreational, and economic opportunities while increasing community pride, connectivity, and quality of life.

The Portneuf River Vision Study describes a shared community vision for the Portneuf River from the Portneuf Gap to the Fort Hall Indian Reservation boundary. Recommendations are strictly voluntary and are non-binding on landowners and land managers.

This is a living plan that will be modified over time in response to evolving scientific understanding and changes in community attitudes and preferences.

View and download the DRAFT Executive Summary (28 pages).

View and download the DRAFT November 17th City Council Resolution
View and download the DRAFT Vision document and attachments
Questions?

http://river.pocatello.us