

LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL



June 2004

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, May 25, 2004 5:30-8:30

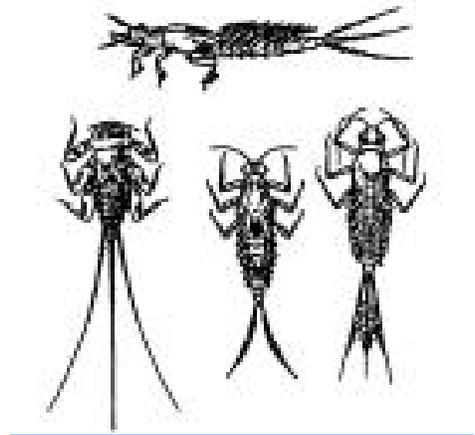
Project Tour: Meet at the Council Office (see map on back cover)

Please bring snacks to share - we'll do the drinks!

AGENDA

NOTE EARLY START TIME

- 5:30** Meet at Council Office to carpool
We have room in the vans for up to 16 people. Parking at the project site is limited
- 6:00** Council Business
Request for letter of support
Scott Duckett, Steering Committee
- 6:15** Project Tour
Spencer Creek fencing and water management project
Rick Mavskey, landowner
Cindy Thieman, Project Coordinator
- 8:00** Adjourn



Volunteers needed to help sample stream invertebrates for our biomonitoring program. Details on page 7.

!!! Inside !!!

Project Tour Background

Watershed Events

Volunteer Opportunities:
Macroinvertebrate Sampling
Steering Committee

Our Mission

The Long Tom Watershed Council serves to improve water quality and watershed condition in the Long Tom River basin through education, coordination, consultation, and cooperation among all interests, using the collective wisdom and voluntary action of our community members.

Watershed News

Thirsty Seedlings, part II

Jim Ekins

Last month, I described an efficient method for watering hundreds of recently planted trees using drip buckets. Today, I'll fill in a few more details.

To convey water to the buckets, I use a 350-gallon water tank on a 2-ton rated flatbed trailer, towed behind a small tractor, or behind my pickup truck. I lashed a portable motorized water pump on the trailer next to the tank. 50 feet of small diameter fire hose is enough to reach the location of buckets and trees. The pump hoses can be reversed to pull water from

a creek or pond into the tank. In researching other designs, I saw a restoration operation that uses an irrigation pump and a hose/valve attachment to fill a similar tank. Yet another restoration project has irrigation pipe extended from a raised stationary tank. An irrigation line supplies garden hose type spigots by gravity feed. The spigots are spaced evenly over the length of the irrigation line, allowing the use of garden hoses to fill the buckets.

Opinions differ as to the timing of watering trees over a single season. I often hear that one should water the trees only as much as is absolutely necessary. This will stress the trees, though those that survive should be

hardened to future dry summers. This philosophy depends on a tolerance for some tree die-off and assumes that you are expecting reduced survival. A rough indirect relation exists between survivorship and the number of times the trees are watered in a given dry season. Though survival rates for restoration plantings vary by species, I generally observe a median 70% survival rate for those trees that are watered about every four weeks.

In my backyard laboratory, I water a subset of my personal plantings (with drip buckets) every week or two. I have about 90% survival rate and they seem to grow big, deep roots with lots of carbohydrate storage for the

Council Meeting Backgrounder

Public Outreach and Involvement Planning for the Ridgeline Area Master Plan

Steering Committee has recommended that the Council approve the writing of a support letter for the City of Eugene's grant application to the National Park Service. Our grant proposal support policy is still in revision so the Steering Committee handled this request directly at their June meeting. The Council Coordinator would write the letter

of support after Council approval this month.

The grant is for planning assistance (no funding) for habitat conservation and recreation on Eugene's south ridgeline. This is the headwaters for Amazon Creek, Willow Creek, and Spencer Creek in the Long Tom Watershed.

The application is for a relatively small project that would provide NPS staff assistance to develop a framework for a Ridgeline master plan focused on habitat conservation, recreation, and management of the urban/wildland fire interface zone.

The outcome of this grant would be a document outlining the

components and steps to completing a Ridgeline master plan. This product would be used to steer future actions toward developing a plan and would be extremely useful for securing additional funds to carry out the planning process and perhaps the implementation of activities associated with the plan.

There would be no financial or staff commitment required for the Long Tom Watershed Council to support this grant request. Participation by Long Tom Watershed Council staff would be entirely optional, but very desirable.

Council Meeting Backgrounder

Spencer Creek Fencing & Water Management Project Completion Report and Tour Background

By Cindy Thieman
Projects and Monitoring Coordinator

Yipee ai ai ay! Summertime means outdoor Council gatherings for the coming months. We will be touring a series of Council restoration and enhancement projects this summer, which will feature fencing and off-channel watering, riparian planting, Himalayan blackberry removal, and western pond turtle habitat enhancement. This month's tour will take place at a property off of Erickson Road in the Spencer Creek watershed. Approximately half of this 31-acre parcel is floodplain forest for Spencer Creek. The other half has a home site, a barn, several outbuildings, and approximately 12 acres of pasture used to graze horses.

About two years ago, landowner Rick Movsky contacted the Long Tom Watershed Council and McKenzie River Trust to explore project or conservation easement possibilities for his property. After considering a number of programs, he pursued an OWEB small grant and signed up for the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) through the Natural Resource Conservation Service. He was awarded both the small grant and EQIP money to implement a variety of best management practices aimed at improving the water quality of Spencer Creek, enhancing streamside vegetation, and improving pasture conditions.

Rick installed a series of fences to exclude livestock from Spencer Creek and its adjacent floodplain forest, a seasonal tributary, and a large drainage ditch that runs from the barn area to Spencer Creek. This winter, he will be planting native shrubs along the drainage ditch to filter out sediment from overland flow and enhance conditions for native species. The project also included the installation of cross-fencing to create three rotational grazing pastures. Rotational grazing combined with planned pasture renovation will protect water quality in the creek by reducing erosion from the pasture during annual flood events. Rick placed off-channel watering stations for the horses in each of the three rotational pastures.

Approximately 1,300 feet of drainage pipe was installed to transport roof runoff from guttered buildings to emitters 200 feet downstream in the fenced-off ditch. This was done to keep roof runoff out of high traffic livestock areas. In addition, these high traffic areas were graveled behind the barns to minimize mud and erosion. Finally, a livestock crossing was created for passage between two separated pastures over the drainage ditch. All of these practices will minimize the amount of manure and mud reaching Spencer Creek.

Our tour will include viewing all of these practices, walking a section of the floodplain forest, and plenty of time for questions and discussion. Rick has put a tremendous amount of work into his place over the past year and a half, and this is a great example of what somebody can do in a short time to improve watershed health. This is also a great example of the OWEB small grants program which still has local funds available and is easy to apply for.

Training Opportunities

Assessing Riparian Condition of Western Oregon Streams PFC Training Session 2004 Workshop Announcement

Session Dates: Junction City, Oregon: July 27 and 28, 2004

Who should attend: Restoration Practitioners including Project Coordinators and Managers, Land managers, Land owners, and others who are involved with or interested in riparian area values and functions, and simple, science-based ways to determine their condition.

What is it? A 2-day training session on how to assess riparian condition, focused on streams in Western Oregon. The session includes one day in the classroom and one day visiting multiple streams in the field.

Benefits to Participants: After attending this workshop, you will have methods for assessing and discussing riparian condition in the field or on your land, and methods for improving conditions according to your goals.

Cost and Registration: Registration is \$180, due by July 16th.

*Space is limited to 30 as we want to facilitate meaningful interaction and allow for discussion
Registration form available at www.longtom.org or by contacting Dana Erickson at 683-6578*

Scholarships: Some scholarships are available, especially for landowners and people without institutional support, or for employees of non-profits.

Contacts:

Training Coordinator – for class or registration questions

Chris Massingill, Westside Riparian Cadre Coordinator, (541) 847-4321
mainstream@99webstreet.com

Workshop host – for mailing registration

Dana Erickson, Long Tom Watershed Council Coordinator,
751 S. Danebo, Eugene, OR 97402. (541) 683-6578 longtom@efn.org

Teaching Team

Chris Massingill - Mainstream Contracting
Dr. Mike Borman - OSU Extension
Dr. Mack Barrington - Oregon Department of Agriculture
Derek Godwin - OSU Extension

Volunteer Opportunities

Do you care about this watershed and have an interest in participating in the guiding body for our watershed council?



We have three Steering members due to rotate off in September, having served the council well. So first, a thank you to those members:

Amazon – Anita Ragan

Lower Long Tom – Dave DeCou

Upper Long Tom – Larry Rhodes

New member search

The Search Committee is charged with putting together a slate of new Steering member volunteers that, combined with current members, provide for a balance of geography and perspective. The Search Committee is comprised of the outgoing members plus Mike Kesling, current Vice-Chair and incoming Chair, and Dana Erickson, Council Coordinator.

The outgoing members currently bring the following perspectives to the table. Potential new members are not limited to these perspectives but these are likely categories of interest.

urban resident

organic farming

woodland ownership

rural resident

organization process and management

business and industry

Nominations Open

If you are interested in serving or know someone who might be, please send a note of nomination to the Search Committee care of longtom@efn.org or the council office. It would be helpful if you can include some information about yourself or the person that would help us understand the perspectives they'd bring to the table, and why you are nominating them. Please provide their contact information (phone and email).

Steering Committee Purpose (from the Charter)

The Long Tom Watershed Council is guided by a standing Steering Committee. The Steering Committee supports and ensures communication among people of the watershed, maintains continuity among Council activities, and monitors progress toward the Council's Mission and Goals. The Steering Committee also gives feedback to the coordinator, makes staffing and operating decisions, oversees any fiscal operations, facilitates team development, and serves to represent the Council. The Steering Committee reports back to the Council on their topics of discussion, recommendations, and decisions at the full Council meetings.

Volunteer/Internship Opportunities

Watershed News Column Editor

Description:

Editing short informative articles about the Long Tom watershed on a monthly basis.

Outline of Activities

Determine range of possible article topics.

Find suitable authors within the Long Tom Watershed or within the greater science or writing community.

Set deadlines and timelines for your writers, review panels, and yourself, using established guidelines for publication.

Edit authors' work and submit to both the Long Tom Watershed Council newsletter review panel, then to the Tri-County News/ East-Lane News staff via e-mail.

Qualifications:

Access to a word processor, Internet access.

Ability to critically edit and write portions of articles within established limits.

Hours and pay: This is a volunteer position requiring approx. 4 hours/month. We prefer a 1 year commitment.

Timeline: Begins with the August or September publication deadline.

Working with: The coordinator and members of the Long Tom Watershed Council.

Rewards: Experience in authorship and editorship in a volunteer position requiring responsible, independent work. Interactions with professionals and other interesting people from around the watershed. You also get a cool native cutthroat trout pin.

Application process: Please *send an e-mail or letter* to Dana Erickson at the Council office briefly showing your interest in this project and related skills.

Contact: Dana Erickson, Coordinator for the Council, 683-6578.

HELP US STAFF THE FAIR BOOTH!

We are still looking for people to help us staff the watersheds booth at this years Lane County Fair. Four hour slots are available from Tuesday **August 17 to Saturday August 21**. A short training is scheduled for **Thursday August 5th**, at 6:00pm. Come help us at the fair booth, its easy, and its fun.

Contact Brian at **683-6949**

Volunteer Opportunities

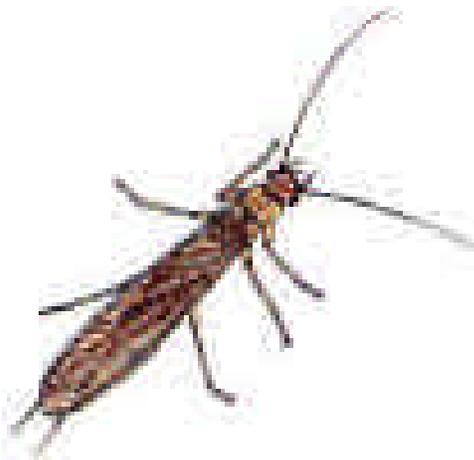
Biomonitoring Program Volunteers Needed

We still need a few people to help us collect macroinvertebrate samples this summer. Volunteers will be paired in teams and use GPS units to navigate to sites around the watershed where they will gather and preserve aquatic bug samples and habitat information to help us get a clearer picture of habitat conditions in our watershed.

Biomonitoring requires a 4-day commitment. One day of training on **Sunday July 18**. The 3 field days can be scheduled anytime from **Mid-July to the end of August**.

To Volunteer: Call Projects and Monitoring Coordinator Cindy Thieman at 683-2983 or Brian Issa at 683-6949

Note: Sampling work may require hiking in steep or rugged terrain, ability to wade streams, and long periods of standing.



Come Stencil July 10th!

We will be stenciling all storm drains in Westmoreland student housing with a logo similar to the one pictured above, and distributing educational materials throughout the complex. That's a lot of drains, **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

If you would like to volunteer, please call Brian at **683-6949** or **543-4137**. All materials and a short training will be provided by the City of Eugene Stream Team and the Long Tom Watershed Council.

We start work at 10:00 am on **Saturday July 10th** at the complex community center at 2065 West 16th Way. We will be working until around noon.

Many people don't realize that storm drains in Eugene do not feed into the city sewer treatment system. Most stormwater runoff, and the pollutants it carries, flows directly into Amazon Creek, and into the Long Tom and Willamette rivers beyond.

The city of Eugene stream team will provide all materials necessary to stencil storm drains with a logo similar to the "No Dumping" logo above. If you would like to organize a stenciling project, give Brian a call at 683-6949, or contact Lorna Baldwin at the City of Eugene Stream Team at 682-4850.

Watershed Events

Calendar of Events

(Details on following pages)

Saturday, June 26th, 8:30pm

Watersheds Special on T.V.

Details on facing page.

Saturday July 10th

Stream Stenciling Work Party

Help us stencil storm drains in Eugene.

Details on page 7.

Saturday and Sunday, July 10th and 11th

Willametter River Canoe Float

Join Willametter River Keepers for two leisurely floats.

Tuesday and Thursday, July 13th and 15th

Forest Tours

Details on facing page.

Thursday, July 15th

Bats of the West Eugene Wetlands

Join local experts for a bat walk in the wetlands. Details on facing page.

Saturday, July 17th

Dragonfly Walk

Go buggin' with local experts. Details on facing page.

Sunday, July 18th

Macroinvertebrate Training

See details on page 7.

Tuesday and Wednesday July 27th and 28th

Riparian Assessment Training

Details on page 4.

Saturday, August 7th and 14th

Salmon Watch Training

Become a Salmon Watch volunteer.

Details on facing page.

After the Storm: Watersheds Special to Air on The Weather Channel This Saturday

EPA is pleased to announce that the new ½ hour television special about watersheds, co-produced by the Environmental Protection Agency and The Weather Channel, will air again on The Weather Channel on Saturday, **June 26**, at 8:30 PM and 11:30 PM EST. After the Storm premiered in February. Additional showings are scheduled for Saturday, **September 18** at 8 PM and 11:00 PM EST.

VHS copies of the After the Storm program are now available. Order a free copy by contacting the National Service Center for Environmental Publications (NSCEP) at 513-489-8190 or 800-490-9198 or send an email to ncepimal@one.net. Please request After the Storm (VHS) and refer to document number, EPA 840-V-04-001.

Forest Tours

LEARN ABOUT THE FORESTS ENCOUNTERED BY LEWIS & CLARK

Join us for a full-day tour along the lower Columbia River and northern Oregon coast. We'll learn how the forest looked then and how it compares to what you see today. How can the lessons from history help guide future forestry decisions? Come along and find out. This free tour is offered on **July 13th**, and again on **July 15th**.

To register, email your name, contact information and the date you wish to attend to:

info@ofri.com or call Phone: 503-229-5823

For address and directions to our starting point (The Northwest Regional Education Service District) visit <http://www.nwresd.k12.or.us/>

Watershed Events continued...

July Programs in the West Eugene Wetlands

To register or for more information call Holly McRae at 683-6494 or email at
west_eugene_wetlands@hotmail.com.

Bats of the West Eugene Wetlands

Thursday, July 15th

As evening descends in the West Eugene Wetlands, a tiny, furry mammal flies just above the land, snatching up insects. The wetlands provide critical feeding grounds and roosting areas for bats. These fascinating mammals are often misunderstood and feared, but in reality they are an important part of the web of life. Join local bat expert, Stuart Perlmeter for an informative talk, followed by an evening walk in the wetlands to look for bats and learn about their ecological role. Meet at the BLM Wetland Yurt at 6:30pm. Bring a flashlight or headlamp. Space is limited to 25 people. Free.

Dragonfly Walk

Saturday, July 17th

What can streak like a fighter plane, hover like a helicopter, dive like a falcon and eat its lunch on the fly? It's not a bird, it's not a plane, it's a dragonfly! The dragonfly has for centuries captivated human imaginations with its daredevil flying maneuvers and vibrant colors. Join dragonfly experts Steve Gordon and Cary Kerst for a walk to learn about the biology, ecology and behavior of these ancient insects. Meet at 9:30am at 5th and Wallis. Wear old shoes that can get muddy & wet. Space is limited to 15 participants. Free.

Become a Salmon Watch Volunteer

Help teach Eugene-area youth about salmon and watersheds with Oregon Trout's Salmon Watch™ program, an award-winning education program that centers on streamside field trips to view spawning Chinook salmon. In 2003, more than 4,500 students in 151 Oregon classrooms participated in the Salmon Watch program, including over 930 students in the Eugene/Springfield area.

Adult volunteers are invited to attend a free training workshop in August to learn more about water quality, aquatic insects, riparian zones, and working with kids. Then, in the fall, they'll become "o-fish-ial" volunteer instructors, giving them the chance to share their knowledge with middle and high school students on a weekday field trip. Field trips usually begin around 9 AM and conclude between 1 and 2 PM. Travel time to field trip sites averages 1¼ hours.

Volunteer Training Workshops:

Salem/Corvallis Area:

Delbert Hunter Arboretum, Dallas, OR

Date: **August 7th**

Time: 8:15 – 12:15 PM

Eugene: Alton Baker Park

Date: **August 14th**

Time: 8:15 – 12:15 PM

Field Season will be Mid-September through Mid-November. Trained volunteers are expected to sign up for at least one field trip.

For more information about this unique opportunity or to register for the training session, contact Tom Tattam: 541-753-4280 or tom.tattam@ortrout.org.

Watershed Events continued...

An invitation to float the Willamette River with Willamette Riverkeepers

As you know, the Long Tom River is a main tributary to the Willamette. Juvenile spring Chinook use the confluence area for rearing, and the Long Tom River's flow contributes to overall Willamette River water quality. These free float trips start north of our confluence and offer a moving picture of what the big picture in our basin looks like. A host of Willamette organizations are offering free, leisurely canoe floats along one of the great rivers of the West — the Willamette – July 10th and 11th.

July 10: Independence to Salem (begin around 9:30 a.m.)

July 11: Corvallis to Albany (begin around 12:30 p.m.)

Go from river town to river town, and see beautiful landscapes and wildlife along the way. Learn about the environment and history of the Willamette River and watershed, and sample some of the wonders of what will soon be the Willamette River Water Trail. Floats last roughly 3 hours.

Bring your own canoe or borrow one from the sponsors*. (And don't worry if you haven't paddled before; we'll make sure you know the basics and have a good time.)

To register or get more information on Willamette River Weekend, contact:

- Willamette Riverkeeper: Call **503.223.6418**,
- www.willamette-riverkeeper.org, (click on Alerts and scroll down to the Willamette Weekend Paddle announcement)
- Rick Bastasch, 503.375.5718.

THANKS!

A big thank you to volunteer **Tina Fenley** of Veneta, and accountant at Zirkle, Long & Trigueiro, LLC, for deftly reconciling our petty cash account each quarter!

THANKS!

To **Jim Ekins** for tackling the watershed news column for us over the last year. We wish him all the best in his move to the East Coast, and will miss his dedication and spirit here at the Long Tom.

THANKS!

To Len Gillette, who has volunteered to do water quality monitoring for us. Len and the rest of our volunteers do a great job every month and their work greatly contributes to our understanding of conditions in the Long Tom Watershed.

Watershed Map



INSIDE: Project Tour, Volunteer Opportunities, Riparian Training, and MORE!!

Long Tom Watershed Council
Phone: 683-6578 e-mail: longtom@efn.org
www.longtom.org
751 S. Danebo Avenue
Eugene, OR 97402

Council/Wetlands office. 751 S. Danebo, Eugene **5:30 p.m. Tuesday**

