

# LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

September 2005



**Monthly Meeting:**  
**Outdoor Picnic & Restoration Tour**  
Sunday, September 18 • 4:00 pm  
Little's Property on Poodle Creek  
Tour Rain or Shine!



Bring a blanket or chairs and a picnic to enjoy at this beautiful setting along Poodle Creek. We'll provide the drinks.



*\*\* Please bring a picnic and chairs or a blanket.  
We'll provide the drinks\*\**

## Agenda

4:00 Welcome to the Little's  
*Enjoy picnic along Poodle Creek*

4:45 Begin Meeting. Business.  
*Resource Management Plan Revisions—  
Western Oregon*

*Mark Wilkening or other representative,  
Bureau of Land Management*

5:10 Reports  
*Steering Committee & Staff*

5:15 Project Tour  
*Rick and Patti Little, Landowners*  
**Project Tour will go Rain or Shine**

6:15 Closing

*Please see the Meeting Backgrounder on p. 2*



Volunteer Bob Hager collects a macroinvertebrate sample from Coyote Creek.

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## Our Mission:

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

# Council News

## Farewell to Lori Quillen

By Dana Erickson, Coordinator

For the past 11 months, Lori Quillen has been serving as the Council's Monitoring and Outreach Assistant through the University of Oregon's Resource Assistance to Rural Environments (RARE) Program. Lori has just finished her last month with us and we will miss her!

Lori's commitment and talent really showed in the progress of some significant projects this year:

- ◆ Completing challenging field work for the bio-monitoring programs;
- ◆ Supporting volunteers in their collection of monthly water quality data and conducting some additional sampling;
- ◆ Tackling vigorous and rigorous planting on project sites;
- ◆ Sustaining the Member Involvement Program, recruiting volunteers, and introducing new Council interns to the watershed;
- ◆ Writing a superb newsletter and helping to host council meetings;
- ◆ Conducting research to support the Council and committees in making the decision to become a 501c3 non-profit;
- ◆ Conducting interviews to help Program Committee update the design of Council meetings;
- ◆ Creating a wonderful brochure for the Council.



Lori hails from Tennessee and said that her experience with the Long Tom Watershed Council made her feel very welcome to this community and helped her gain a sense of place. She has put in some serious miles traveling the watershed for field work and meetings! She was surprised at how beautiful the Long Tom Watershed is and feels she now really sees what the Council members are working for. She said she really learned about service – especially from the Steering Committee, project planting helpers and Water Quality Monitors because they're volunteers. She said that watershed councils in Oregon are unique and that she had heard about them in other states so she was very excited for an opportunity to work with one.

Lori will be attending graduate school at the University of Oregon this fall in the Planning, Public Policy, and Management Program. She looks forward to being involved with the Council next year as a bona-fide member and “getting to vote!”. We too look forward to the continued relationship!

*Lori said she has really learned about service from the Council volunteers like those on Steering Committee and the Monitoring teams.*

**Thank you Lori!**

# Meeting Backgrounder—Tour!

## Poodle Creek Phase II: Fencing & Off-channel Water Development

By Cindy Thieman, Projects Coordinator

*Primary funding through a grant from Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board*

We will have a Sunday picnic and tour of Rick and Patty Little's fencing project for this September's meeting. Over the past winter and spring Rick has been driving posts, stringing wire, and setting up stock tanks that draw from nearby Poodle Creek. The fencing provides protection to a short section of Poodle Creek (fencing already existed along most of the Little's Poodle Creek riparian area) and along a tributary to Poodle Creek. Rick also fenced off a seasonal wetland that provides habitat for migrating waterfowl in the winter and native amphibians in the spring. The difference between the vegetation along the tributary between this summer and last summer is dramatic. The tributary is nicely shaded this year and buffered from the effects of cattle in the adjacent pasture. The off-channel watering system is also impressive. Hopefully all the hard work this winter and spring will make Rick's life easier in subsequent summers!



# Meeting Backgrounder—Info Item

## Bureau of Land Management Western Oregon Plan Revisions



At the upcoming Council meeting, a representative from the Bureau of Land Management will be presenting information on the Western Oregon Plan Revisions. The BLM is seeking comments on the planned revisions.

### What's Being Revised?

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is revising the six Resource Management Plans that guide the agency's actions on 2 1/2 million acres in western Oregon.

### Why revise Current Plans?

BLM is looking for more effective ways to meet the intent of the O&C Lands Act of 1937 in harmony with more recent federal acts such as the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act.

### What Lands are Involved?

All lands BLM manages in Western Oregon. This includes 2.1 million acres managed under the O&C Lands Act and 400,000 acres managed under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

### When is the happening?

Summer of 2005 to Spring 2008

### Who's involved in this effort?

BLM is the lead federal agency, Formal Cooperating Agencies are: US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, the State of Oregon, USDA forest Service, 16 western Oregon Counties, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In addition, the citizens, organizations and public agencies are invited to participate.

### How do I get Involved?

Contact the BLM's Western Oregon Plan Revision office at (503)808-6629

E-mail: [orwopr@or.blm.gov](mailto:orwopr@or.blm.gov)

mail to:

P.O. Box 2965

Portland, Oregon 97208

# News & Announcements

## Summary of Notes from Special Council Meeting

**August 11, 2005**

**Council Office**

*Meeting convened at 6:00 pm.*

*Rich Margerum welcomed the attendees.*

*Mike Kesling gave the opening address.*

*Mark Wilkening, guest facilitator, ran the meeting.*

*Lori Quillen recorded main points on flipcharts.*

*18 Members attended.*

### **Comments Regarding The Recommended Decision to become a Non-Profit**

- ◆ No philosophical differences. Many things to consider in the process.
- ◆ Should prioritize the next steps after deciding to become a 501(c)3.
- ◆ (Much discussion ensued and the point was made that most elements of the discussion were related to next steps, and separate from the first decision to become 501(c)3. The comments related to next steps are listed below).
- ◆ Part of Council culture is in decision making – there should be no narrowing of decision making ability of general council. Decisions up through the point of the new organization structure being in place should continue to go through the current council consensus decision-making process.
- ◆ Want deliberative discussions – if this takes longer time, that's okay.

### **Comments regarding Things to Consider during non-profit formation:**

- ◆ Workman's comp – will have to calculate money for that into budget
- ◆ Unemployment – if grant is not renewed, employer will be liable for 26 weeks insurance for each employee
- ◆ Who will have the responsibility for Grants – will it be employees?
- ◆ If employee terminates employment who will assume responsibility for grant writing?
- ◆ Labor burden – generally costs an additional 11% of salary – employer is responsible for social security, workman's comp, plus an amount for benefits – need to calculate cost of benefits
- ◆ Legal expenses – 501(c)3 will not get donated legal expenses (note: those with budget less than \$300K can)
- ◆ Bookkeeping Expenses – not as simple – more precise reporting is required – requires equipment for bookkeeping
- ◆ Liability insurance – has cost been calculated into budget? Currently Contractors cover own insurance
- ◆ Travel expenses and reimbursement expenses
- ◆ Who is going to direct and supervise staff?
- ◆ Business plan and budget
- ◆ Some concerns are employee related, some are organization related.
- ◆ Should maintain grassroots culture & consensus – nothing should be established that diminishes the council culture built over the last 6 years
- ◆ For working group: How to meet IRS requirements and still maintain culture?
- ◆ This council is top-rank situation in OWEB funding b/c of Contractors – if that slacked off b/c of loss of contractors, could be in tough financial situation
- ◆ Will contractor or employee status be more attractive to get and retain the best people to suit the Council? What are incentives? Employees may not have as much drive as contractors?

### **Non-Profit Working Group Formation:**

Interest in committee working group: Jude Hobbs, Rich Margerum, Ryan Collay, Tina Fenley, Rick Hayes, Marion Esty

#### **DECISION**

The Council reached consensus to support the recommendation of Steering Committee to begin forming a 501(c)3 organization.

# News & Announcements, cont'd

## Steering Committee Follow Up

Following the Special Council Meeting, Steering Committee discussed the next steps involved in forming a non-profit. The Steering Committee formed a Non-Profit Working Group, the purpose and workplan as follows here.

### **Purpose**

Interim Committee Purpose –

Outline the steps the Council needs to take to apply for non-profit 501c3 status and present those to Steering Committee.

### **Work Plan**

- ◆ Outline and differentiate things that must be done to apply versus things that are a good idea but aren't necessary.
- ◆ Outline the process and time requirements.
- ◆ Outline the big decision points and in what order they will occur (at least for the first series)
- ◆ Recommend points for feedback from Steering Committee and Council.
- ◆ Propose what next formation of this working group looks like (one committee or separate working groups, etc),
- ◆ list members and potential members, outline purpose of each group, note required staffing time and skills.
- ◆ Note other resources required (funds, materials, etc).

**If you have an interest in serving on the Non-Profit Working Group, please contact:**

**Ryan Collay, Chair**

collay@smile.oregonstate.edu, (541)737-3553

Or

**Dana Erickson, Council Coordinator**

coordinator@longtom.org, (541)683-6578

# Calendar

# Volunteer!

## September

SUNDAY

18

**Long Tom  
Watershed Council  
Monthly Meeting**  
4:00 - 6:15 p.m.

**Outdoor Picnic &  
Restoration Tour at the  
Little's Property  
on Poodle Creek**

*See p. 2 for Backgrounder  
See back page for map &  
directions to meeting*

MONDAY

19

**W.R.E.N. Volunteer Orientation**  
6:00—8:00 p.m.  
West Eugene Wetlands BLM Office  
(see details at right)



## OCTOBER



THURSDAY

13

**Long Tom Watershed Council  
Steering Committee Meeting**  
*For more details call 683-6578*

TUESDAY

25

**Long Tom  
Watershed Council  
Annual Meeting**  
*Project Slideshow, Awards,  
Accomplishments Highlights,  
& yummy refreshments!*  
6:30 pm • Location TBA

*See October Newsletter  
for details*

## Biomonitoring Program Volunteers Needed

The Long Tom Watershed Council is looking for volunteers 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 in order to help us get a clearer picture of habitat conditions in our watershed.

Sampling work may require hiking in steep or rugged terrain and wading in streams.



**For more information contact:**  
*Cindy Thieman, 683-2983*

## WILLAMETTE RESOURCES & EDUCATION NETWORK Volunteer Orientation

Monday, September 19 • 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.



**West Eugene Wetlands BLM  
Office**

**(The Red House)**

Learn to lead educational field trips  
in the West Eugene Wetlands.

**For more information, contact  
Liz Myers 683-6483.**

# Watershed Map



## Inside: Project Tour & Picnic, Biomonitoring, Non-Profit Decision

**Long Tom Watershed Council**  
 Phone: 683-6578 e-mail: [coordinator@longtom.org](mailto:coordinator@longtom.org)  
[www.longtom.org](http://www.longtom.org)  
 751 S. Danebo Avenue  
 Eugene, OR 97402

### Directions to the September Council Meeting

#### **From Eugene:**

Take 126 West. Just past Noti, turn right on Poodle Creek Rd. Travel about 2.4 miles Poodle Creek, then turn left onto Allison Rd. Remain on Allison Rd until it dead ends (about 1.3 miles) at the Little's House, 21877 Allison Rd.

