



LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL
Bimonthly watershed news and meeting notice
JULY 2008

**Action
Through
Understanding**

RESTORATION PROJECT TOUR
**Oak Habitat Management &
Wild Iris Ridge Project Tour**

Tuesday, July 29th, 2008
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
(Carpool Option: 5:30, see below)

Wild Iris Ridge
Upper Amazon Watershed
(directions on back)



Invasive Scotch broom crowding the native prairie and woodland plants at Wild Iris Ridge.

~ AGENDA ~

- 5:30 pm Meet at the Council office if you want to carpool to the site (Tour site parking is limited)
- 6:00 pm Introductions and Welcome
- 6:10 pm Oak Habitat Management and Wild Iris Ridge project tour
Ed Alverson, Stewardship Ecologist,
The Nature Conservancy
Jesse Carry-Hobbs, Natural Resource Specialist
City of Eugene
Cindy Thieman, Project Manager
Long Tom Watershed Council
- 7:20 pm Announcements, Council Meeting Topic Survey & Closing/Meeting Review

Inside:

- Pg 3: Council Meeting info.
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Save-the-date for the
11th Annual Celebration!
Sat., September 20th, 1-4pm

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.

751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene, OR 97402 · Phone: (541) 683-6578 · Fax: (541) 683-6993
www.longtom.org

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Council Meeting Backgrounder

RESTORATION PROJECT TOUR

Tuesday, July 29 @ 6:00 p.m.

Wild Iris Ridge: Upland Prairie and Oak Savanna Restoration

Wild Iris Ridge is a 200-acre parcel purchased by the City of Eugene (City) for habitat preservation and community open space. The site's historic upland prairie and oak savanna habitats, which were common throughout most of the Willamette Valley prior to Euro-American settlement, are becoming increasingly rare. According to a 1995 USGS report, Oregon white oak savanna habitat is among the 21 most endangered ecosystems in the U.S. Less than 1% of this habitat remains in the Willamette Valley from pre-European settlement times, and 98% of this remaining acreage is in private ownership. Situated upstream from the West Eugene Wetlands and The Nature Conservancy's Willow Creek preserve, Wild Iris Ridge provides an important opportunity to improve the ecological integrity of the interconnected prairie and savanna systems in west Eugene.

As many as 200 species have been reported to depend wholly or partially on Willamette Valley oak habitat or upland prairie, including 45 species designated at-risk by USFWS or the State of Oregon. Significantly, two of the largest remaining populations of the endangered Fender's blue butterfly in the Willamette Valley are adjacent to Wild Iris Ridge, which makes it an important location for the potential future recovery of both the butterfly and its larval host plant Kincaid's lupine.

The Long Tom Watershed Council is working with the City to restore these rare communities and Fender's blue butterfly habitat at Wild Iris Ridge. The Council has received two major grants from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to assist in this effort. The City has also contributed many hours of staff time. A crucial first step in the restoration of this site has been to eradicate the invasive plant species that threaten to take over the site and prevent them from spreading to the adjacent, down slope lands owned by The Nature Conservancy and other West Eugene Wetland partners. Past forest management practices led to large areas covered by blackberry and scotch broom. False brome, a non-native and highly invasive grass species is also present at the site. Left alone, these non-native plants would dominate the site, making protection and restoration of prairie and savanna difficult if not impossible. U.S. Bureau of Land Management has also contributed fuels reduction funding to help pay for removal of trees and shrubs at the park. Successional invasion of trees into grasslands such as upland prairies and savannas is a natural pattern that has increased in the last 100 years with absence of historical wildfires. Removing trees and shrubs is a key step to saving these rare prairie and savanna habitats and the species that depend on them.

Future phases of this project will include further weed eradication and control, thinning or removal of dense stands of small pines, and diversifying the prairie plant community.



Pre-project: Blackberry and slash pile invading a prairie area.



Post-project: Blackberry has successfully been eradicated in this prairie.

Giving Thanks

Creek Restoration Volunteers

Our deepest thanks to our hard-working volunteers who braved the hot sun to help restore Coyote Creek by mulching recently planted native trees and shrubs!

Geo Bitgood	Jeremy Mitchell
Sean Courtman	Alex Morales
Louisa Hamachek	Stacy Vynne
Ryan Lutz	Chris Zilka



Volunteers Ryan, Jeremy and Alex distribute mulch around new riparian plants at the Mattson's place on Coyote Creek.

Many thanks to landowners Deborah and Allan Mattson for providing a delicious lunch (including homemade cookies) for mulching volunteers!



Volunteers break for picture at the mulching event at Deborah and Allan Mattson's place on Coyote Creek.

“Down by the Riverside” Cleanup Event

Twenty volunteers pulled invasive plants and picked up trash along Amazon Creek. Volunteers also mulched and watered existing native plants from a previous volunteer project. A total of 600 lbs of invasive plant material, and 250 lbs of trash were removed. The project was conducted with SOLV, WREN, the Eugene Stream Team, and the City of Eugene.

THANK YOU!

Mary Minniti	Holly McRae	Dawn Cook
Eben Futral	Andy Gilmore	Molly Myers
David Donahue	Jake Thompson	Laura Duvall
Amanda Atkins	Adam DeHeer	Kurt Koivu
Bill Almquist	Mike Shippey	Rick Ahrens
Roman Lunsford	David Ainkley	Becca West
Britney Duvall	Jules Abbott	

DONOR RECOGNITION

Our Gratitude To

**Bureau of Land Management —
Eugene District**

For supporting the Council this year!

Special thanks to Bill Hatton and Chuck Fairchild for their work in partnering with the Council

**Would you like a presentation about the watershed and our Council?
Would your agency or organization like to talk about ideas for collaboration?**

Please call Dana Erickson at 683-6578

Council News

Nominations Open for Steering Committee

Please consider how you or someone you know could help guide the Council

Four positions on the Council's Steering Committee will be open in September. Terms are 3 years. The nominating committee has formed and is charged with putting together a slate of new committee members that, along with current members, will provide for a diversity of geographic representation and expertise to guide the Council. Please contact Peg Boulay, Committee Chair, or Dana Erickson, Executive Director for more information: 683-6578.

If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please send a letter of nomination to the nominating committee to the Council address by **July 31st**. The letter should include at a minimum your name, contact information, a statement of interest, and geographic affiliation. Geographic affiliation is defined by the main sub-watershed in which you live or work- Upper Long Tom, Lower Long Tom, or Amazon. Geographic diversity of the Steering Committee is maintained by having one-quarter of Committee members be from each of these main sub-watersheds, with the remaining quarter serving at large.

All those nominated will be included on the ballot for the Steering Committee and given an opportunity to have their statement published in the Council newsletter prior to the Annual Meeting. New Steering Committee members will be elected at the Annual Meeting September 20th.

Staff Transitions

Jenna Garmon finished up a couple great years with the Long Tom Watershed Council by co-coordinating the Amazon Creek Clean-up in late May. During her tenure she was instrumental in Council outreach, setting up the fish barrier assessment for next year, and getting members and community volunteers actively involved in tree plantings and mulchings. Jenna's friendly manner and analytical mind contributed much to the work and daily effectiveness of the Council and her penchant for making sure chocolate was present at meetings will be sorely missed. Jenna is now the Green Building Analyst for the City of Eugene. This position is a great move for her career as it will allow her to expand her professional opportunities and pursue her interest in climate change. She has been a fantastic addition to the Long Tom Watershed Council and we wish her the very best in this undertaking.



Jenna and Cindy working with volunteers to plant trees and shrubs along Coyote Creek.

This year we welcomed Amanda Wilson on board as our fiscal manager, and are working with Christy Yost on a temporary basis for outreach and administrative work. Amanda is also the fiscal and administrative contact for McKenzie Watershed Council and we were thrilled to collaborate with our neighbor council on this staffing opportunity, and to help retain and support talent like Amanda's. Christy is helping the Steering Committee and the Stroda Family host the Annual Celebration, among other work. Please watch future newsletters for profiles.

**What habitats do you have and could you enhance them?
What can you do about the health of your stream and riparian area?**

Call Cindy at 683-2983 to discuss project possibilities

Support the Council

Support the work of the Long Tom Watershed Council!

The watershed council model is based on building a shared community approach to solving natural resource issues. The success of this approach depends on community involvement and support. We hope this will include your help. There are many ways to support the Council's work - volunteering, attending meetings and tours, and equally as crucial- donating funds.

The Council has a 10-year history working with watershed residents improve water quality and habitat through learning and action. We just hit a milestone of 30 completed restoration projects. Since most of the land in our watershed is privately owned, much of this education and restoration work involves developing relationships with private landowners and supporting their efforts to be stewards of their land. In addition to the watershed benefits, this work also contributes to our local economy - over 90% of the restoration grant dollars that the Council brings in are spent in this county - on local contractors, suppliers, businesses, and employees.

The Council does more than restoration – we are the only entity that monitors water quality and stream health throughout the basin, and we share watershed information with the community. Council meetings, tours, and discussions stimulate learning and problem-solving. We also partner with local agencies and organizations to address the crucial, big picture issues in our watershed that no one entity can tackle alone.

With your support, we can continue to enhance and restore the ecology of our watershed that sustain our quality of life and create partnerships that cross all boundaries.



Yes, I'd love to help with a tax-deductible donation to the Long Tom Watershed Council to improve water quality and the watershed in my community!

Your name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

*Phone: _____ *Email: _____

Note: The Council will not release your personal information to other organizations.

Check here if you'd like to receive our newsletter and other announcements via email

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make your donation check payable to **Long Tom Watershed Council**. Send completed form and tax-deductible donation to:

Long Tom Watershed Council
751 S. Danebo Ave.
Eugene, OR 97402

THANK YOU!

Questions?
Dana Erickson
Executive Director
683-6578



Opportunities & Calendar

Council Events

Council Restoration Project Tour

Oak Habitat Management & the latest on the Wild Iris Ridge restoration project

Tuesday, July 29: 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Wild Iris Ridge (directions on back)

Contact: Christy Yost, 683-6949 or
cyost at longtom.org

2008 Annual Meeting & Celebration

Saturday, September 20 : 1:00 p.m. –4:00 p.m.

Stroda Brothers' Farm, on the Long Tom River in Monroe

Contact: Christy Yost, 683-6949 or

cyost at longtom.org

*RSVP Required

Other Events

BLM Oregon Vegetation Treatments EIS Public Meeting

Thursday, July 17 6:30p.m. –8:30p.m.

The BLM will be holding a public scoping meeting in Eugene for this project at Harris Hall at 125 E 8th Ave.. The primary purpose of these meetings is to share information and solicit ideas for issues and alternatives to consider in the EIS.

Comments are due to BLM July 29. More Info:683-6600.

WEEDIN Workshop

Saturday, July 19: 9a.m. -1p.m.

Ever wondered if the strange new plant you notice on a hike or on your property is actually a new invasive species? The West Eugene Early Detection of Invasives Network (WEEDIN), a brand new educational and volunteer program, is out to reduce the spread of invasive species by educating people on how to identify, report, and control new invaders in our wetlands and watersheds. Concerned citizens and property owners are invited to an introductory workshop Sat. July 19 to learn how to identify and prevent new invasive species from becoming the next English Ivy. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Watershed Council Office, 751 S. Danebo Ave. There will be live and preserved invasive species specimens to study and experts on hand to answer questions. Afterwards, naturalists from the Willamette Resources and Educational Network (WREN) will lead short outdoor tour of an invaded natural area. Snacks will be provided. Please RSVP to Tania Siemens: tsiemens@tnc.org or 541-914-0701.

Job Posting

Long Tom Watershed Council

Position Description: Restoration Technician

General Description

The Restoration Technician develops and implements riparian restoration projects, including developing grant proposals, managing project budgets, monitoring, and reporting.

Background

The Long Tom Watershed Council is a nonprofit organization serving the Long Tom River Watershed area in Lane and Benton Counties.

Qualifications

Bachelors degree in environmental science or biology
Experience with tree planting and maintenance
Experience with environmental monitoring
Experience with environmental data management and analysis.

Demonstrated proficiency with Microsoft Office, Excel, and PowerPoint

Ability to work effectively and efficiently on a multidisciplinary team

Good written and verbal communication skills, time management, and organizational abilities.

Job Environment

Work will take place at the Council office in Eugene and throughout the watershed. Duties combine both indoor and outdoor tasks and require the ability to work long hours in the field, use hand tools, and lift up to 60 lbs. Some weekend and evening work required.

Remuneration

This is a salaried, full-time position. Full-time is considered 40 hours per week. Compensation ranges from \$27,040 – \$31,200/year (DOE) and includes health, retirement, and paid time off benefits.

Additional Information

To apply please submit resume, letter of interest, and three references to: Long Tom Watershed Council, Attn: Cindy Thieman, 751 Danebo Ave., Eugene, OR 97402. Applications must be received by August 8, 2008. For more information contact Cindy Thieman at 541-683-2983 or see the complete posting and job description at www.longtom.org.

Contacts for volunteer opportunities:

Nearby Nature: 687-9699

WREN: 683-6494

City of Eugene, Volunteers in Parks: 682-4845

City of Eugene, Stream Team: 682-4850

Our Watershed & Council



**Action
Through
Understanding**



**Steering
Committee**

Lower Long Tom

Jim Pendergrass,
Chair
Eric Freepons,
Recording Secretary
Tony Stroda

Upper Long Tom

Ric Ingham,
Co-Vice Chair
Tina Fenley,
Treasurer
Patti Little

Amazon

Peg Boulay,
Co-Vice Chair
Brad Taylor
Eric Wold

At Large

Kat Beal
Will Bondioli
Ryan Collay
Rich Reeves
Corey Johnson



Contact Us:

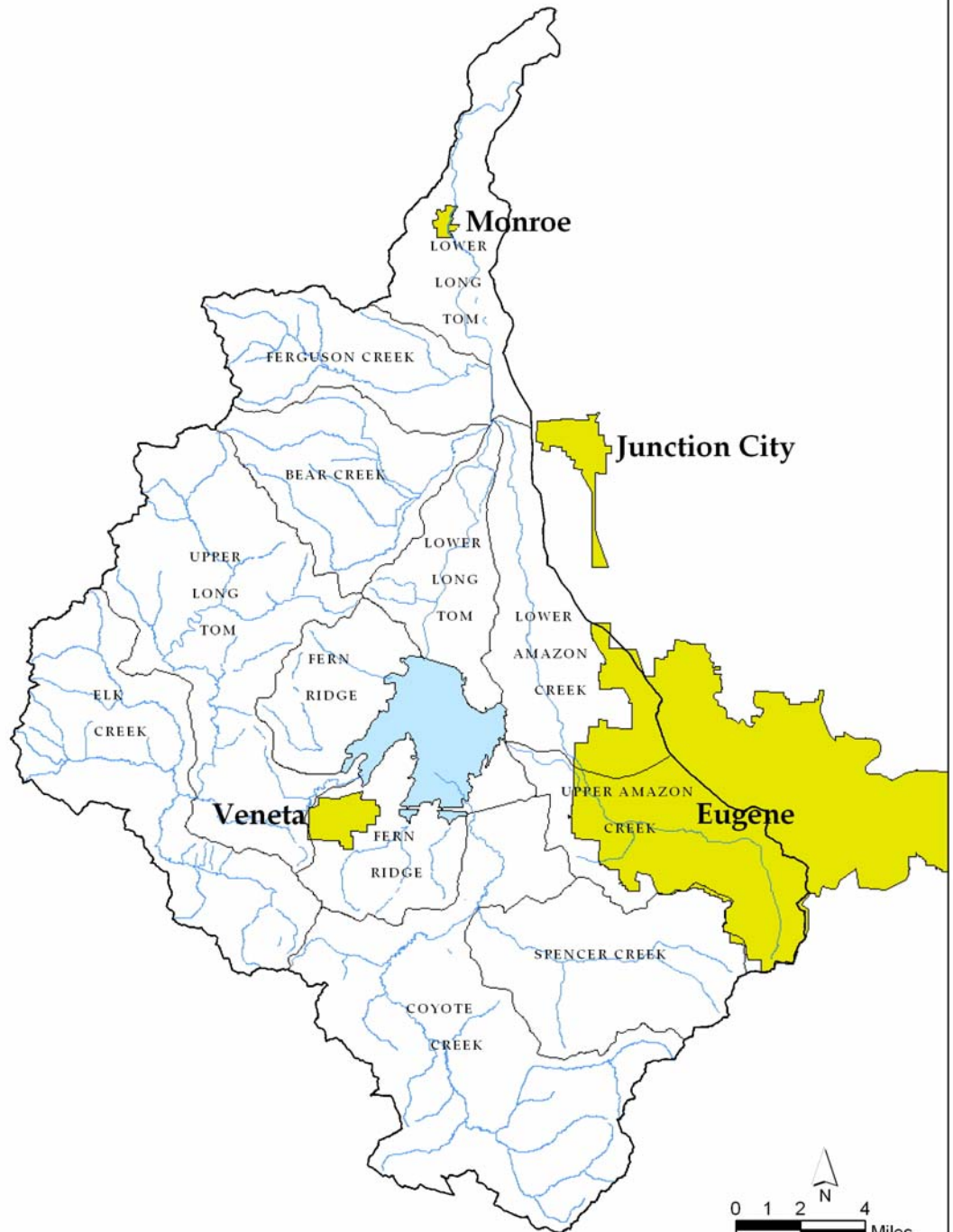
751 S. Danebo Ave.
Eugene, OR 97402

Phone: (541) 683-6578

Fax: (541) 683-6998

Web:
www.longtom.org

Long Tom Watershed Ten Major Subbasins



Source: Long Tom Watershed Council, Brian Issa 9/03

STAFF

Projects & Monitoring
Cindy Thieman
683-2983

Coordinator/E.D.
Dana Erickson
683-6578

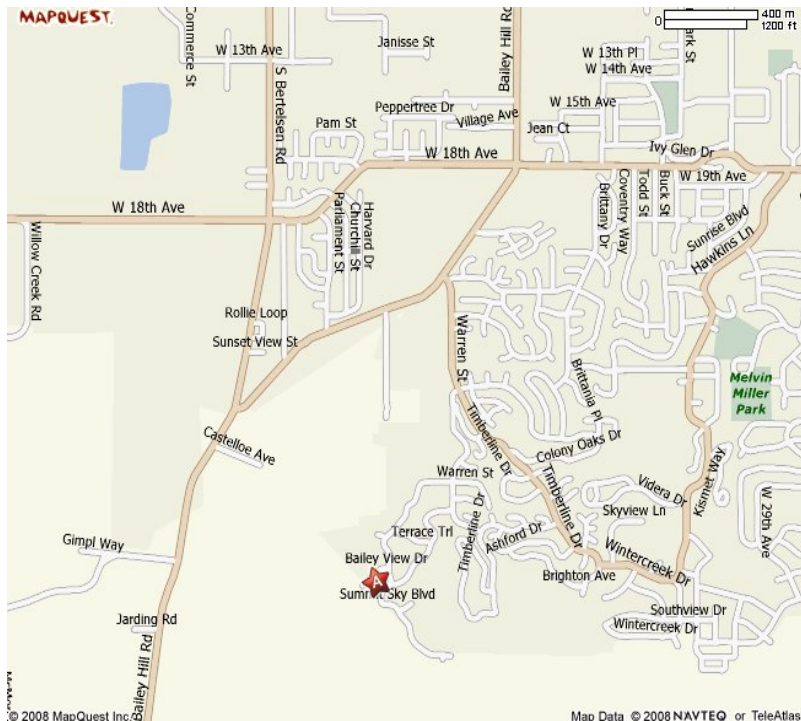
Outreach & Admin
Christy Yost
683-6949

Fiscal Manager
Amanda Wilson
683-6949

**Restoration Project Tour Tuesday, July 29th at 6:00 p.m. in Eugene:
Wild Iris Ridge restoration project**



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



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**Restoration Project Tour
Tuesday, July 29th, 6:00 p.m.
Wild Iris Ridge**

Directions to project site:
From 18th and Bailey Hill go 1/3 mile south on Bailey Hill Rd.; Turn left at Warren St. and go 1/3 mile; Turn right to stay on Warren St.; Right on Summit Terrace; Right on Bailey View. Park along this street and walk to end where we will gather to begin the tour. Be prepared to walk a one mile loop on site. Poison Oak is prevalent - we recommend long pants and sturdy walking shoes. Rain or shine.

To carpool, meet at the Council office @5:30 p.m.

Directions to Council Office from Eugene:
Follow W. 11th west toward Florence. One signal past Beltline Rd. is Danebo Ave. Turn right, the first driveway on your right after the Hertz dealership is the West Eugene Wetlands Project Office (white sign) and leads up a small hill to a red ranch house (Council office).