



LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL
Bimonthly watershed news and meeting notice
MARCH 2009

**Action
Through
Understanding**

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

6:00—8:00 pm

**Veneta Community Center
25192 E. Broadway, Veneta**



Fern Ridge Reservoir - Wildlife, Restoration, & Management
Long Tom River vegetation management

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Fern Ridge Reservoir:

Wildlife, Restoration and Management

Guest Speakers

- **Kat Beal**, Environmental Stewardship Supervisor, US Army Corps of Engineers
- **Wes Messinger**, Botanist, US Army Corps of Engineers Willamette Valley Projects

Break, with Refreshments

- **Wayne Morrow**, Wildlife Biologist, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Steering Committee Report

Announcements

Free to the public
Donations much appreciated!

Save the Date:
Next Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 26—project tour!

INSIDE:

- Pg. 3. Meeting backgrounder
- Pg. 4. Call for Volunteers
- Pg. 5. Low Impact Development-
“Stormwater Solutions” Workshops
- Pg. 6. Thank You Tree Planting Volunteers!
- Pg. 7. Forest Field Days
- Pg. 8. BLM Landscape Plan & Comment Period
- Pg. 9. Watershed Calendar and Opportunities
- Pg. 10. Please support the Council

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

Fern Ridge Lake Wildlife, Restoration, & Management

Guest Speakers

- ◆ **Kat Beal, Environmental Stewardship Supervisor,
US Army Corps of Engineers**

Kat Beal is the Environmental Stewardship Supervisor for the Corps of Engineers Willamette Valley Projects. Kat will talk about construction and operation of Fern Ridge dam, the reconstruction done in 2005 and the habitat projects that were accomplished that year. She will briefly describe the plans and approaches to Long Tom River channel maintenance envisioned for the next few years.

- ◆ **Wes Messinger, Botanist, US Army Corp of Engineers**

Wes will talk about recent upland prairie restoration at multiple sites and the Fender's blue butterfly recovery project.

- ◆ **Wayne Morrow and Kevin Roth, Wildlife Biologists, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife staff Wayne Morrow and Kevin Roth will present an overview of Fern Ridge Wildlife Area with a focus on the wildlife area long range management plan process. ODFW is in the process of updating management plans for all wildlife areas in the state including Fern Ridge Wildlife Area.

A copy of the draft plan is available at the ODFW web page by following links to the January 9, 2009 Commission Meeting minutes or by on the web at: http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/09/01_jan/Exhibit%20E_Attachment%204_%20FRWA%20Mgt%20Plan.pdf

Seeking Volunteers for Stream Surveys

Help Assess Fish Passage Barriers in the Long Tom Watershed!

Project Description: With grant funding from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, the Long Tom Watershed Council is working to assess barriers to fish passage in our Watershed. Using information collected through field surveys June through September 2009, the Council will identify priority projects for removing migration barriers and restoring passage for cutthroat trout and other migratory fish in the watershed.

Benefits and Activities for each Volunteer:

1. Learn about problems cutthroat trout and other native aquatic fauna face in the watershed; how culvert design and maintenance affect migratory fish species; and how individual landowners can play a role in helping to restore fish passage and reconnect fish to important habitat areas up- and downstream through culvert improvements.
2. Receive training on field equipment (e.g., GPS, laser level, clinometer) and data collection techniques necessary to gather field data accurately and consistently.
3. Assist in collecting and recording data in the field on culverts or other types of barriers (e.g., barrier width, height, substrate type, gradient, water depth, habitat quality, etc.) at predetermined sites throughout the Long Tom Watershed.

Qualifications:

- Good attitude and ability to work as a team – volunteer stream surveyors will work with other volunteers and Council staff to complete barrier surveys.
- Ability to take measurements in and around streams; help carry equipment.
- Interest in stream restoration, migratory fish, freshwater ecology, water quality or related field.

Timeline and pay: Opportunities are available June-September 2009. This is a volunteer position.



Cutthroat Trout

Time commitment: Ideally volunteers will commit to at least five days during the project period. However, we encourage all interested individuals to contact the Council so we may consider a time commitment that works for you. We will hold a **volunteer training day on Saturday, June 6, 2009** to welcome volunteers and introduce the project in more detail, including data collection, field equipment, and visits to survey sites. Volunteers should plan to attend the training day.

Application process: Please contact Jed Kaul (jkaul@longtom.org, 541-683-2983) to discuss your interest in the project, related skills, and available time commitment. **Thanks for your interest!**

Do you have a dam or culvert on your property that we could survey? There are NO ramifications for any landowner that has a culvert or dam that blocks fish passage. You would have an opportunity to let us work alongside you to address it, bringing in grant funding and technical expertise. We can provide many references of satisfied landowners we have partnered with.

Stormwater Solutions Workshops

Capitalize on your natural assets. Attend a Stormwater Solutions workshop. Leading experts will address common questions about low-impact site development practices, such as costs and benefits, maintaining green stormwater facilities and local governments encouraging innovation.

Who should attend? Builders, developers, designers, stormwater engineers, elected officials, jurisdictional staff and other professionals from around the region.

What do the workshops include? Leading experts and practitioners in the fields of building, site planning, engineering and economics:

- local case studies, real-life experiences and lessons learned
- educational materials
- technical guidance
- networking opportunities
- codes explained

Lane County Workshops

Friday, April 3

Sustainable stormwater solutions for the Willamette Valley

EWEB
500 East 4th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Larry Coffman

Panel discussion with local builders, designers and planners

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Optional tour of demonstration sites.

Pre-registration required. \$35.

Thursday, April 30

Making Low Impact Development a reality in your community

Lane Community College Center for Meeting and Learning
4000 East 30th Ave, Building 19
Eugene, OR 97405

8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Maria Cahill

Barry Beyeler

Case study: Veneta

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Optional tour of demonstration sites.

Pre-registration required. \$35.

For More Information and to Pre-register, visit:

<http://www.oeconline.org/our-work/rivers/stormwater/low-impact-development/lid-workshops>

Thank you tree planting volunteers!

We would like to thank the following groups or individuals who volunteered their time to help us plant native trees and shrubs at 4 restoration sites in the Long Tom Watershed:

- Boy Scout Troop 54 from Veneta
- Oregon State University environmental conservation students
- University of Oregon Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity members
- Lane Community College water resources students
- University of Oregon environmental planners & policy makers student group
- University of Oregon sigma alpha epsilon fraternity members
- Individuals: MacKenzie Lee, Kara Zwickey, Tyler Fields, Yoshiaki Akamatsu, Maiko Ando, & David Wade



With your help we were able to plant over 7,000 native trees and shrubs in riparian areas to help improve water quality and provide habitat for wildlife!

Forest Field Days Needs Volunteers

Beginning at the end of April, nearly 1,250 middle school students from 16 Lane and Linn county schools will descend upon a local family tree farm to learn the basics of forest management.

To provide this opportunity, close to 100 volunteers are needed annually, so we at Forests Today & Forever are turning to you — the forestry professionals, the small woodlands owners, the teaching community and the many dedicated, forest-loving volunteers — to help us produce these worthy events for our area youth. For some of our students, it is their only opportunity to explore a part of their state's heritage and its future — an Oregon forest.

As always, resource leaders are needed for all four learning stations — Forestry, Soils & Water, Recreation and Wildlife. Resource Leader Guides are provided early to allow time to review, and arrangements may be made to visit the site ahead of time if desired. The field days run from about 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The events will begin on April 28 at the Bauman family tree farm near Crow, move to the Udell Happy Valley Tree Farm in mid-May and culminate in Florence at the end of May on the Huntington family property up the Siuslaw river. A detailed schedule is listed below.

If you can commit a day or two to this natural resource education opportunity, we would love to hear from you! Please call or email Program Coordinator LaRae Ash at (541)998-6438 or you may email her: coordinator@foreststodayandforever.org.

Spring Forest Field Days

Bauman Family Tree Farm (near Lorane):

April 28: Crow & Mapleton Middle Schools

April 29: Cascade Middle School

May 1: Meadowview Middle School; Prairie Mountain Middle School

May 5: Jefferson Arts & Technology

May 7: Shasta Middle School

May 8: Oaklea Middle School

For more information visit: http://www.foreststodayandforever.org/pages/field_day.html

DONATION RECOGNITION

Our Gratitude To

Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation

For supporting the Council this year!

Contacts for volunteer opportunities:

Long Tom Watershed Council: 683-6949

WREN: 683-6494

Nearby Nature: 687-9699

City of Eugene, Volunteers in Parks: 682-4845

City of Eugene, Stream Team: 682-4850

What habitats do you have and could you enhance them?

What can you do about the health of your stream and riparian area?

Call our Restoration Team—Cindy at 683-2983 or Jed—at 683-6949 to discuss project possibilities

The Long Tom Watershed Landscape Plan

The Siuslaw Resource Area of the Bureau of Land Management Eugene District Office is considering the preparation of an environmental document that addresses the objectives of our commercial thinning program located in the Long Tom 5th Field Watershed.

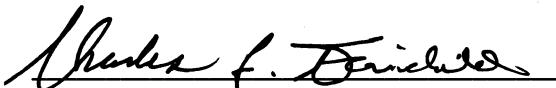
The planning area would include the Timber Management Area (TMA) and Riparian Management Area (RMA) land use allocations within the Long Tom watershed. This timber harvest program would be in compliance with the 2008 Resource Management Plan (RMP). Management objectives within TMAs are to manage forests to achieve continuous timber production that could be sustained through a balance of growth and harvest. Commercial thinning would be applied to recover anticipated mortality; to adjust stand composition or dominance; to reduce stand susceptibility to disturbances such as fire, windstorm, disease, or insect infestation; and to improve merchantability and value (2008 RMP page 41). Commercial thinning would also maintain stand densities at levels above that needed to occupy the site, but below densities that would result in loss of stand vigor and health (2008 RMP page 41). Management objectives within RMAs would be applied to speed the development of large trees to provide an eventual source of large woody debris to stream channels (2008 RMP page 33).

I am sending you this letter to inform you of the project and to receive written comments about this thinning program. The BLM manages approximately 8% of the watershed and several thousand acres would be available for thinning. We are now identifying issues and concerns in order to develop alternatives which would then be analyzed in an environmental document. I would like to hear from you regarding any concerns you may have about timber harvest in this area so that we can consider them in the decision-making process. I am particularly interested in hearing your views on topics such as:

- important resources that may be present;
- important uses that are occurring in the planning area;
- impacts which you feel may result from thinning activities.

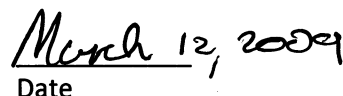
Your comments will help us determine what we should address in the environmental document. We expect that the environmental document will be available for public review in November, 2009. If you would like to receive a copy, please let me know and one will be sent to you when it becomes available.

I look forward to hearing from you. Please provide any concerns or comments you may have in writing by April 20, 2009. If you have any questions, please contact Sharmila Premdas, Siuslaw Resource Area Landscape Planner, at 541-683-6794.



William Hatton, Field Manager,
Siuslaw Resource Area,
Bureau of Land Management

ACTING



Date

Watershed Calendar & Opportunities

Council Events

Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 9, 2009; 6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.
Contact: Dana Erickson, 683-6578
Coordinator @ longtom.org

Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 31, 2009
Veneta Community Center
25192 E. Broadway, Veneta
Contact: Dana Erickson 683-6578;
Coordinator @ longtom.org

Free Well Water Testing for Nitrate Daffodil Festival, March 21st and 22nd

March 21 and 22, Long Tom Grange, Junction City
Nitrate can be a hidden problem in well water, and in the Southern Willamette Valley, there are areas known to have levels of nitrate in the groundwater that are too high for to provide safe drinking water. That's why the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), working with Oregon State University Extension and community partners, has been offering free testing for nitrate to those with wells. The next testing is at the Daffodil Festival in Junction City.
Contact: Audrey Eldridge, Water Quality, Medford, 877-823-3216, ext. 223

Public Comment Period on BLM Landscape Plan for Long Tom Watershed

The letter on page 8 is from the BLM Eugene District Office. The public comment period is through April 20, 2009 for plan concepts prior to developing alternatives and the EA this summer and fall. Contact Sharmila Premdas at 541-683-6794, or submit written comments to: PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97440

WREN Wetland Wanders and More

Sun, March 22 -- The "**Tale of Two Rivers**"

Geologist Janet Brown will discuss the important role that the Deschutes and the Willamette rivers have had on Oregon's history and culture. Eugene Downtown Library, 2:00 p.m. Free.

Sat, Mar 28 -- **Wetlands & Weaving for Wee Ones**

Children of all ages can participate in this one day educational premier about gathering and weaving of Native American Baskets from native wetland plants. Donation. Session 1 – 9:30 a.m.-noon; Session 2 – 1-3:30 p.m. Registration is required.

Sun, March 22 -- **Ash & Sweet Grass Basket**

Learn how to construct a small Ash & Sweetgrass basket traditionally made by the Abenacki people of Quebec. All materials and tools provided. No experience necessary, although some hand dexterity is helpful. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration required. \$65.00, limit 12.

Sat, April 4 -- **Eggs & Nests Family Program**

Discover the beauty and wonder of wetland bird nests and eggs! During the program, participants have the opportunity to paint an egg to take home. 10-11:30 a.m. Donation.

Tues, April 14 -- **Wetland Wander, 9-10 a.m.**

For this spring Wetland Wander, meet at the head of the Tsanchiifin Trail where South Danebo Ave crosses Amazon Creek. Wetland Wanders are casual walks through various West Eugene Wetlands sites each 2nd Tuesday of every month. WREN will provide binoculars. Free.

Tues, May 12 -- **Wetland Wander, 9-10 a.m.**

Meet at the Stewart Pond overlook off of Stewart Road for this wander. Free.

*All events will be held, unless otherwise noted, at the West Eugene Wetlands Yurt, 751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene.
For more info and to register contact Holly McRae at 683-6494 or email hmcrac@wewetlands.org*

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

Please call Dana Erickson at 683-6578

Please 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



Our Watershed & Council



**Action
Through
Understanding**



**Steering
Committee**

Lower Long Tom

Jim Pendergrass,
Treasurer
Eric Freepons
Tony Stroda

Upper Long Tom

Ric Ingham
Carl Harrison
Patti Little,
Secretary

Amazon

Peg Boulay
Brad Taylor,
Co-Vice Chair
Eric Wold

At Large

Kat Beal
Kim Carson
Rich Reeves,
Co-Vice Chair



Contact Us:

751 S. Danebo Ave.
Eugene, OR 97402

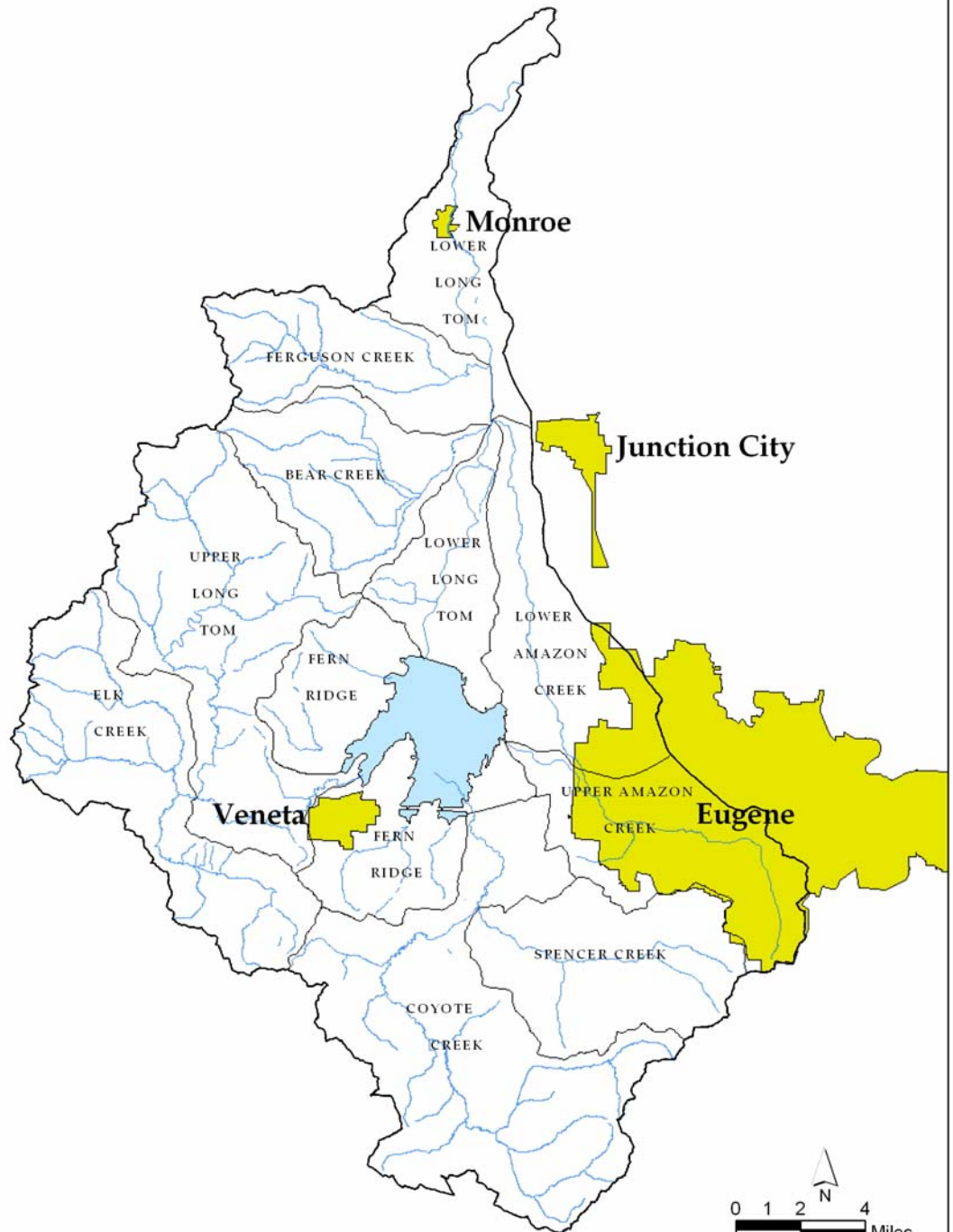
Phone: (541) 683-6578

Fax: (541) 683-6998

Web:

www.longtom.org

Long Tom Watershed Ten Major Subbasins



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

STAFF

Executive Director
Dana Erickson
683-6578

Projects & Monitoring
Cindy T. or Jed K.
683-2983

Fiscal Manager
Amanda Wilson
683-6949

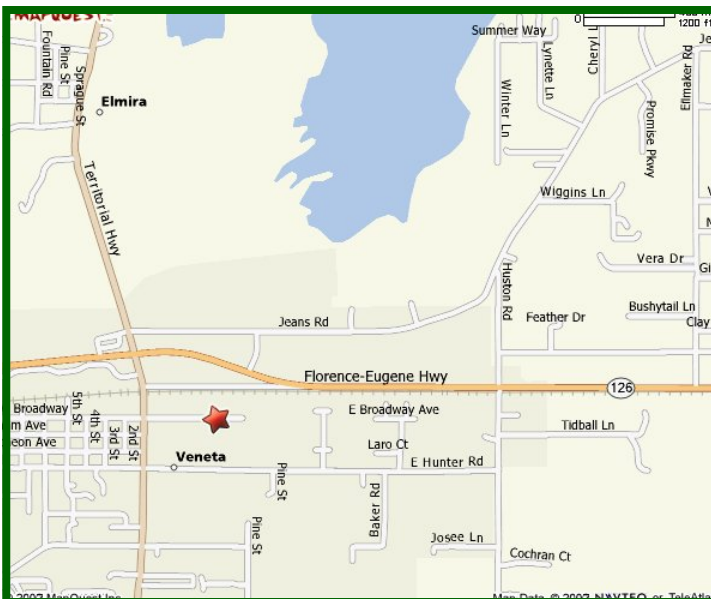
Stewardship
Susan Oldland
683-6949

*Council Meeting Tuesday, March 31, 2009 at the Veneta Community Center
Fern Ridge Reservoir: Wildlife, Restoration, and Management*
Please help get the word out—invite a neighbor, colleague, or friend to attend!



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

March Council Meeting — Veneta Community Center, Tuesday, March 31, 2009 6:00 p.m.



Veneta Community Center 25192 E. Broadway, Veneta

Directions (from Eugene):

Head west on W. 11th Ave., turns into Hwy 126, to Veneta.

Turn south onto Territorial Hwy.

Turn left onto East Broadway Ave.

Turn right into parking lot (just before you'd enter the park at the end of the road). Across the parking lot is the Community Center, 25192 E. Broadway Ave.