



LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

Watershed news and meeting notice

APRIL 2010

Action
Through
Understanding



April Watershed Council Project Tour & Discussion

Tuesday, April 27, 2010 @ 5:45 p.m.

Laughing Stock Farm

83601 Territorial Rd, Eugene, OR

Free and open to everyone—refreshments served!

This is an outdoor tour in the field. Rain or shine.

Carpool is an option from the Council office at 5:15

Coyote Creek Stream Habitat Enhancement

- ♦ **How to restore a stream to a more natural channel and why**
- ♦ **Replacing a fish passage barrier—the contractor's perspective**
- ♦ **Removing invasive plants; choosing and planting natives**

- Pat McDowell, UO Geography

- Paul Atkinson, landowner

- Dennis Cole, contractor

- Cindy Thieman & Jed Kaul, LTWC

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Volunteer Opportunities!

Newsletter Printing & Mailing

The Long Tom Watershed is looking for volunteers to help print, fold, and mail our newsletter. This “chat time” with staff is a great way to learn about the Council and its activities. Time: 2-4 hours per mailing.

Native Plant Mulching—May 8th & others

Help the Council mulch around native trees and shrubs planted at restoration sites.

Rob: 683-6949 or operations@longtom.org

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) 683-6998

www.longtom.org



PROJECT TOUR BACKGROUND: COYOTE CREEK TRIBUTARY ENHANCEMENT & FISH PASSAGE IMPROVEMENT AT ATKINSON'S

PROJECT BACKGROUND & DESCRIPTION

This project restored 1400 feet of a Coyote Creek tributary on the Atkinson Farm along Territorial Hwy. Project goals were to improve fish passage, restore instream habitat, improve water quality, and enhance riparian vegetation. This seasonal tributary has the potential to provide good spawning and rearing habitat for resident cutthroat trout, sculpin, and other native fish living in this tributary and Coyote Creek.

An undersized culvert at the upstream end of the site created higher velocity stream flows that caused erosion and a barrier to fish passage. In addition, the tributary was straightened around 50 years ago, which led to accelerated stream flow, increased erosion, channel incision, and reduced the amount of stream habitat for fish. Blackberry became established along the stream, which outcompeted native trees and shrubs. Because of the steep, eroding stream banks it was difficult to keep under control with mowing.

This project was funded by the landowner and a grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. In addition, Council volunteers from Lane Community College and the University of Oregon donated many hours of time planting willow stakes, trees and shrubs.

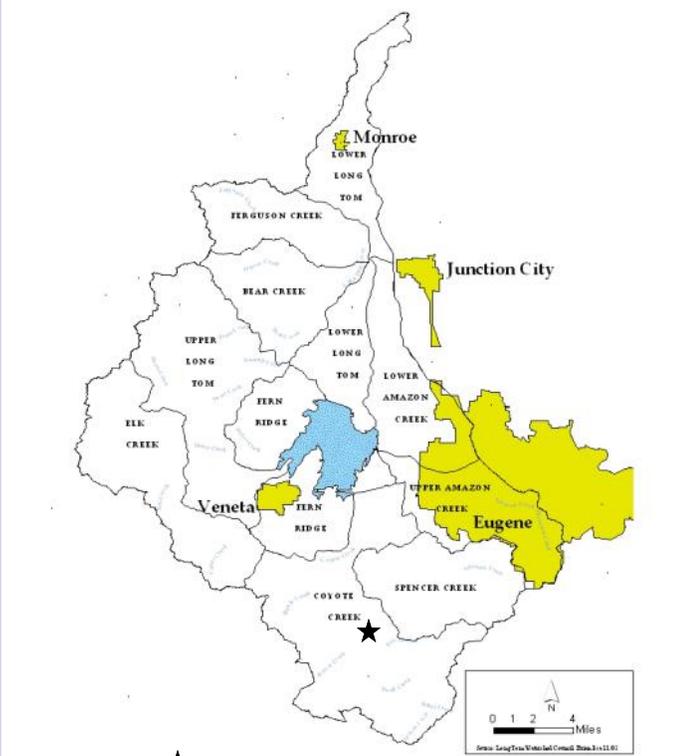


Before the project: The existing channel was deeply incised and lined with non-native Himalayan blackberry.



After the project: The blackberry were removed and replaced with native trees and shrubs. In this section, the channel was reconstructed with stream rock and log weirs. The channel cross-section is wider and shallower, which decreases erosion and improves floodplain connectivity.

Project Location



Project Site: ★



PROJECT TOUR BACKGROUND (CONTINUED)

RESTORATION TECHNIQUES

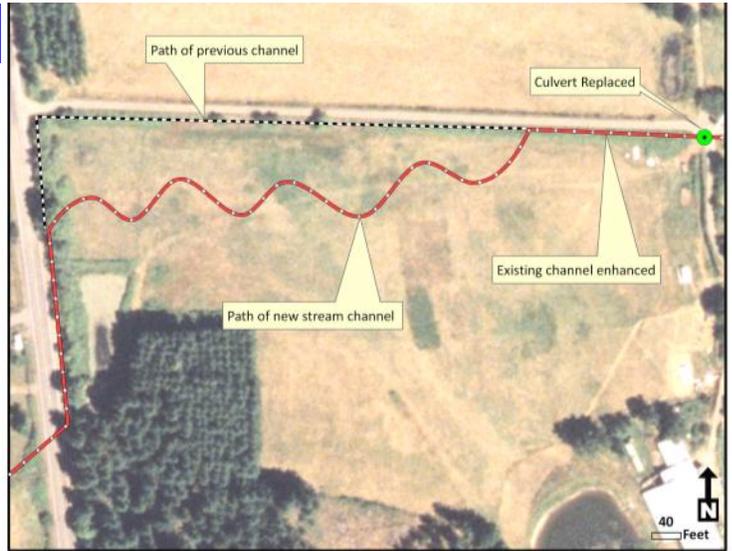
We replaced the original 18" culvert with a 66"x 51" corrugated metal pipe arch. It was filled with two feet of river rock to provide a continual stream bed through the culvert. The first 230' of existing channel downstream of the culvert was raised by adding 95 yd³ of river rock and 10 log weirs. 1,150' of new channel was excavated across the landowner's pasture and the excavated material was placed in the abandoned channel segment along the driveway. Log weirs buried at 25' intervals, erosion control fabric, and grass seeding are currently stabilizing the new channel section. Over time, newly planted native willows, trees, and shrubs will keep the channel from eroding.



Culvert pre-project: The 18" culvert was undersized and its outlet was perched above the stream.



Construction: The new 66" by 51" culvert was stabilized with river rock to decrease erosion and improve fall through spring passage for cutthroat trout.



Site Map: The line shows the path of the tributary. The section leading away from the driveway represents the 1,150' of newly excavated channel.

PROJECT BENEFITS

- ◆ Improved fish passage
- ◆ Return stream channel to a more natural path
- ◆ Improved quality and increased quantity of aquatic and riparian habitat
- ◆ Enhanced water quality through reduced bank and channel erosion



After the Project: Volunteers planted hundreds of native trees and shrubs along the tributary channel. The tubes help project the seedlings and increases moisture levels.

The Long Tom Watershed Council thanks our partners and funders!

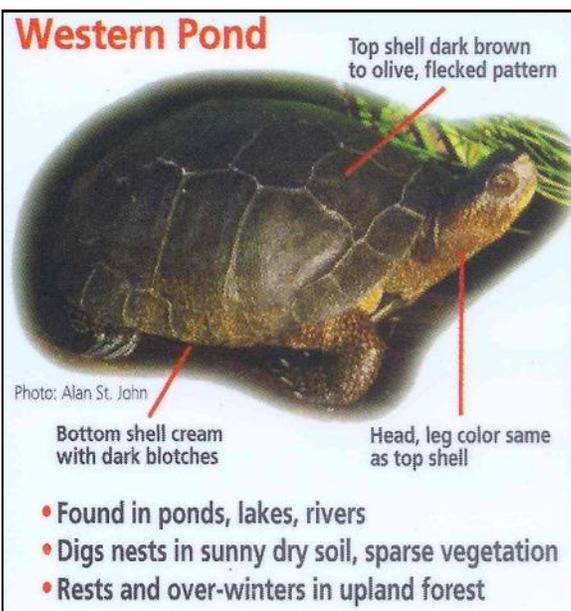
Native turtles of Oregon:

Why they're disappearing and what you can do

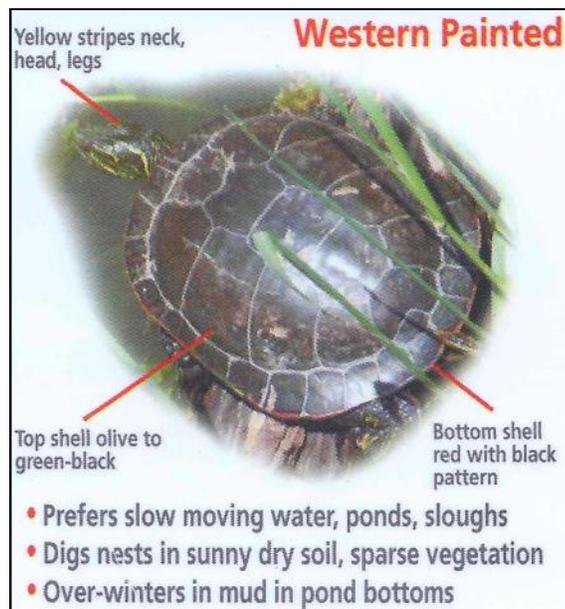
While hiking, fishing, or working along streams and wetlands in the watershed, you may have paused to look at small turtles warming themselves on a log during a summer afternoon. As wetland habitat disappears and non-native turtles and bullfrogs grow in numbers, this sight will become increasingly rare. Both species of native turtles in Oregon, the western pond and the western painted, can be found in the Long Tom Watershed. Their numbers are decreasing due to habitat loss, competition from non-native species, and human disturbance. As a result, both native turtles have been listed on Oregon's sensitive species list. This list has no regulatory ramifications.

The images of the western painted turtle (at right) and the western pond turtle (below) show major features that distinguish them from non-native snapping turtles and red-eared sliders. Both native species are small to medium-sized reptiles growing up to 10 inches long and live in wetland and riparian habitats.

In particular, native turtles are declining from a loss of quality freshwater habitat containing plenty of food and dry, upland habitat with sparse vegetation for nesting. The draining and filling of wetlands, the alteration of streamside vegetation, and the disappearance of native upland vegetation has also decreased the amount of native turtle habitat. Non-native, larger turtles from the eastern United States, such as the red-eared slider and snapping turtle, outcompete native turtles for food, ideal habitat space, and other resources. Introduced bullfrogs, also from the East and Midwest, can be a major predator of young turtles. The illegal collection of turtles for pets also contributes to their decline.



Images courtesy of Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, Oregon Zoo, & Native Turtles of Oregon



If you own land around ponds, streams, or wetlands, here are some of the ways you can improve native turtle habitat.

- **Protect nesting areas:** Turtles nest in dry, sparsely vegetated areas that receive plenty of sun.
- **Remove invasive plants** such as reed canary grass which has thick roots that turtles can't dig through to nest.
- **Plant native riparian and wetland vegetation** which provides important refuge for young turtles.
- **Leave/create basking structures:** Turtles use logs, woody debris, root wads, and boulders to sun themselves and rest.
- **Remove bullfrogs:** But first, make sure you know the difference between bullfrogs and native frogs. (Visit ODFW's website for more information.)

For more information about native turtles, what you can do, and how to report sightings of native turtles, please visit the Native Turtles of Oregon website at ww.oregonturtles.com.

Please support our work!

We're on PAYPAL now! Click the button at www.longtom.org

The Steering Committee is working on a fundraising plan to raise money to support the Council's projects and education programs in the watershed. Please check the website homepage for our new PayPal button—an easy way to make a contribution.



After 12 years, 50 projects and 110 events, and counting, the Long Tom Watershed Council has demonstrated just how committed this community is to improving water quality and fish and wildlife habitat in this local watershed.

- In 2009, LTWC won an international award for the “Science and Practice of Ecology and Society” for the community-based approach to watershed restoration.
- Also in 2009, LTWC become a “model watershed” with funding and support from two private foundations - with a matching challenge to increase the pace, scope, and effectiveness of our work by utilizing and expanding the community participation and commitment that got us here.
- Now over 1,000 families are directly connected to learning about watershed conditions via our newsletter.
- More than 2,500 adults have participated in watershed learning through the Council - these are the people with the power to do projects or actions on their property, or help others to do so.

Please support our work!

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

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

DONATE BY MAIL:

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Check here if you'd like to receive our newsletter via email _____

Send to:

Long Tom Watershed Council

751 S. Danebo Ave.

Eugene, OR 97402

THANK YOU!

Questions?

The Steering Committee, and

Dana Dedrick, Watershed Coordinator

541-683-6578

DONATE ONLINE

www.longtom.org

On the front page, left sidebar — find the “Donate” button and click to begin PayPal donation or click on the image below



Council News

Welcome Josh Harrison and Rob Hoshaw

Josh joined the Long Tom Watershed Council in January, 2010 as our Stewardship Technician. His main role will be helping the Council with stewardship, and implementation of restoration projects, field monitoring, and GIS.

He has a bachelor's degree in environmental science with minors in biology and mathematics. During his undergraduate education Josh performed research on how deer population levels affect the succession of hardwood-dominated forests. Since graduation, he has worked as an environmental consultant, a backpacking guide, and most recently, here in the Willamette Valley monitoring rare plants and ecosystems.

Josh is obsessed with wilderness activities, particularly climbing mountains. Other hobbies include music, photography, and learning about the natural world.



Rob joined the Long Tom Watershed Council in February to help the Council improve their organizational systems, support programs from an operations standpoint, and increase program-related communication. Rob has always enjoyed the outdoors and wildlife, and many of his fondest memories are of fishing Minnesota's lakes and exploring the beautiful Northwoods. This childhood fascination with nature developed into a passion for conservation, resource management, and using a common sense, inclusive approach to environmental issues. He has a B.S. in Zoology – fisheries and wildlife and a B.A. in English from North Dakota State University. In 2007, he moved to Eugene and completed his master's degree in environmental studies from the University of Oregon.

Rob lives with his wife, Katey, and Scout, their golden retriever. Hobbies include hiking, cooking, painting, and writing stories.

Thank you, Ric Ingham!

The Long Tom Watershed Council would like to express appreciation to Steering Committee member Ric Ingham, who is resigning his post to focus on family and work obligations. Ric has served for the Upper Long Tom area since 2006 and was able to bring the perspective of small cities through his job as a City Administrator for Veneta. The Council will miss his leadership, networking, and critical thinking abilities! Ric plans to stay connected and assist the Council with meetings in his area as well as financial matters.

Thank you, Applegate Elementary students!

On Tuesday, April 13, 21 5th and 6th graders from Applegate Elementary learned about invasive species, helped to remove invasive plants, and also helped to mulch around recently planted native trees and shrubs. The project was coordinated by an Oregon State University Sea Grant Wise Program and landowner Art Johnson. The Long Tom Watershed Council appreciates the help of Robin Chinburg and her students!

Watershed Calendar & Announcements

LTWC Council Meetings & Tours

Project Tour: Tues, April 27

- How to restore a stream to its natural channel and why
- Replacing a fish passage barrier—the contractor’s perspective
- Non-native plant removal and native plantings—choices and methods

Free, with refreshments. 5:45—7:30 p.m.

Location: Laughing Stock Farm, 83601 Territorial Rd, Eugene

Native Plant Mulching Party! Sat., May 8

- Please email or call Jed—
jkaul@longtom.org, 683-6183

Owens Creek at McFadden’s: Tues, May 25

- Riparian enhancement and livestock fencing
- Snorkel surveys for fish
- How a landowner manages a project

Free, with refreshments. 5:45—7:30 p.m.

Location: 25282 High Pass Rd, Junction City

Contact: Dana Dedrick, 683-6578
www.longtom.org

Contacts for volunteer opportunities:

Long Tom Watershed Council: 683-6949
WREN: 683-6494

Nearby Nature: 687-9699

City of Eugene, Parks Volunteers: 682-4845
City of Eugene Stream Team: 682-4850

WREN Wetland Wanders and More

Wetland Wander at Checkermallow Access

Tues, May 11, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Wetland Wanders are casual walks through various West Eugene Wetlands sites each 2nd Tuesday of every month. The Checkermallow site is located on the south side of Royal Ave between Greenhill Rd. and Terry St. Free! WREN will provide binoculars. FMI: call 683-6494 or email info@wewetlands.org

4th Annual Walkin' and Rollin' through the West Eugene Wetlands

Sat, May 29, 10:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Celebrate American Wetlands Month and explore the West Eugene Wetlands by biking or walking the Fern Ridge Bike Path between Bailey Hill and Greenhill Rd. Visit educational displays from local experts and organizations that highlight wetland plants, animals, and restoration projects. Participants also receive a Wetland Passport they can have stamped at each booth for a chance to win prizes in a drawing. FMI: visit www.wewetlands.org or email info@wewetlands.org.

Wetland Wander at Willow Creek Preserve

Tues, June 8, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Wetland Wanders are casual walks through various West Eugene Wetlands sites each 2nd Tuesday of every month. Parking turnouts along West 18th are available for this wander through The Nature Conservancy preserve near the corner of 18th and Bertelson Rd. WREN will provide binoculars. FMI: call 683-6494 or email info@wewetlands.org

4th Annual Veneta Earth Day & Arbor Day Joint Celebration

Saturday, April 24, 10 a.m. — 2 p.m.

• Green Ideas & Demonstrations • Story Telling • Games & Raffles • Local Food • Tree Planting • Park Clean-up • Recycling & Composting

Free Tree & Free BBQ for Volunteers!

Location: Bolton Hill Sports Complex (TSP Fields)



The Long Tom Watershed Council, a local nonprofit, counts on participation from many people and organizations. The local office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) donates postage for our mailings. They have a new requirement to include the following disclaimer, which is now standard procedure for all BLM partnerships.

BLM Disclaimer: "The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the U.S. Government. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the U.S. Government."

The Long Tom Watershed Council is still a local nonprofit (since 1998) with no government affiliation or authority. We partner with local people, businesses, and agencies in the interest of finding local solutions and bringing grant funding from private and public sources to do restoration, education and monitoring work in the Long Tom River basin. We're thankful for the donation of postage expenses!

Watershed Announcement

Your assistance needed to continue grants

Currently, 15% of state lottery proceeds go toward parks, beaches, and wildlife—7.5% of that to salmon and watersheds. A portion of that is available for competitive grants like the ones we apply for to support the watershed council and to conduct assessment, monitoring, education, and restoration activities. There is a “Water Parks and Wildlife” ballot initiative that would continue allocating the 15% to water, parks and wildlife habitat indefinitely (current legislation ends in 2014). Currently, supporters are gathering signatures for the June 30, 2010 deadline for placement on the November 2010 ballot. The campaign organizers are people from The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, and other conservation groups. The original 1998 measure was broadly supported by environmental and industry groups as a locally-based, non-tax approach to Oregon natural resource issues. For more information, please contact (503) 206-8933.

Signature Gatherers & Donations Needed

Oregonians for Water, Parks and Wildlife

a project of The Conservation Campaign

1125 SE Madison St #102, Portland, OR 97214 ♦ (503) 206-8933 campaign@waterparkswildlife.org ♦

www.waterparkswildlife.org

YES! I WANT TO HELP!

- I can help collect signatures at events and stores.
- Please send a starter packet so I can gather signatures from friends.

I'll help the campaign with a contribution of:

\$250 \$100 \$50 \$35 \$25 Other _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

For Donations Only:

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Name on card _____ Signature _____

*Occupation _____

*Employer's Name, City, State _____

** Information required for contributions by state law*

Our Watershed & Council



Action Through Understanding

Steering Committee

Lower Long Tom

Jason Hunton

Jim Pendergrass, *Treasurer*

Chad Stroda

Upper Long Tom

Patti Little

Carl Harrison

Amazon

Peg Boulay

Eric Wold, *Vice-Chair*

Brad Taylor, *Chair*

At Large

Kat Beal, *Secretary*

Kim Carson

Steve Cole

Rich Reeves

Deborah Saunders-Evans,

Vice-Chair

Tony Stroda, *Past Chair*

Executive Director

Dana Dedrick

(541) 683-6578

Restoration & Monitoring

Cindy Thieman

(541) 683-2983

Jed Kaul & Josh Harrison

(541) 683-6183

Fiscal/Operations

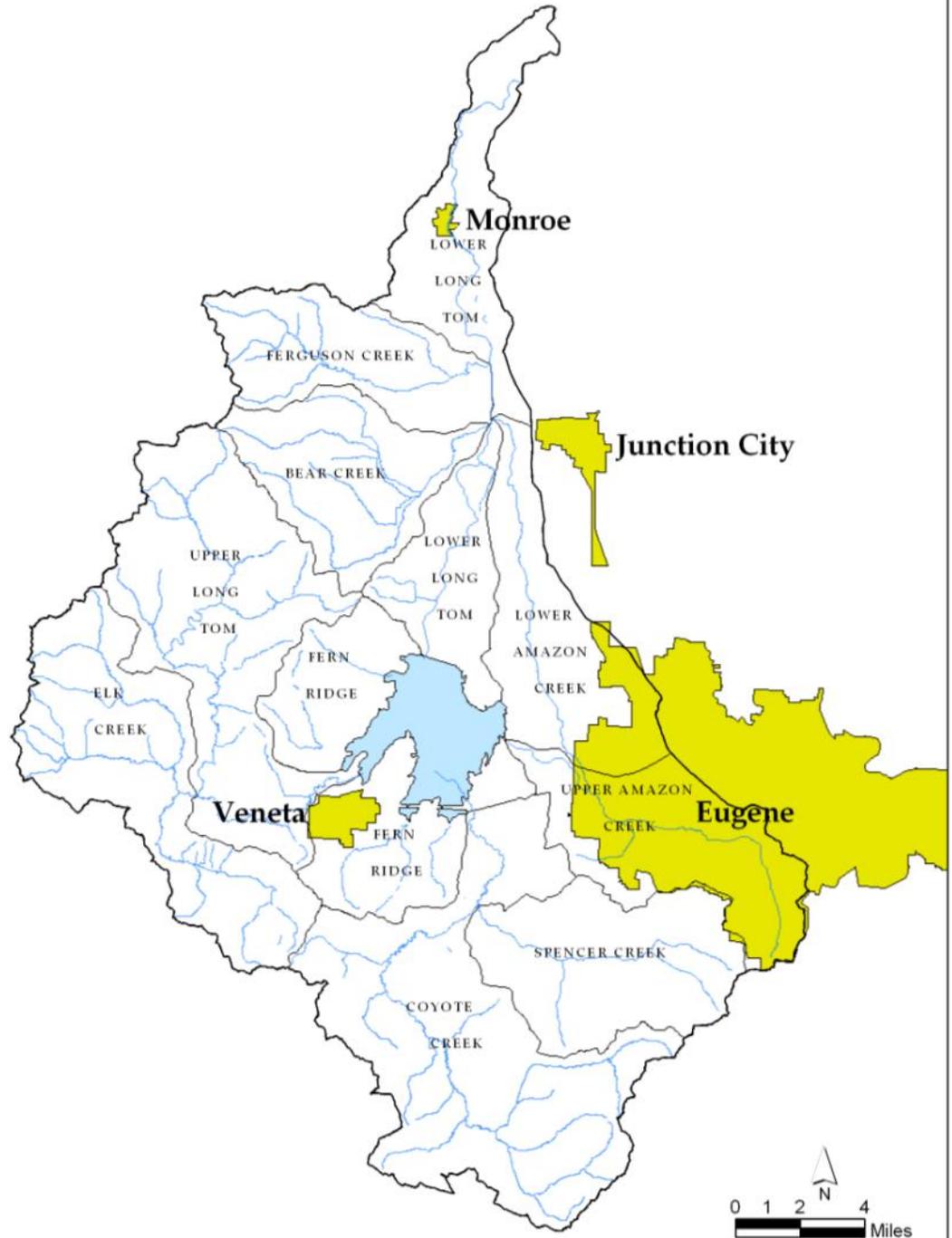
Amanda Wilson &

Rob Hoshaw

(541) 683-6949

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Eugene, OR 97402
Fax: 683.6998
www.longtom.org

Long Tom Watershed Ten Major Subbasins



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

STAFF

Watershed Coordinator / Executive Director: Dana Dedrick 683-6578

Restoration & Monitoring: Cindy Thieman 683-2983; Jed Kaul & Josh Harrison 683-6183

Fiscal Manager: Amanda Wilson 683-6949

Operations Manager: Rob Hoshaw 683-6949

**Upcoming Meeting: How to restore a stream to its natural channel
and enhance riparian habitat
TUESDAY, April 27, 5:45 p.m. — Laughing Stock Farm, Coyote Creek**



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

**April WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING: PROJECT TOUR
Tuesday, April 27, 5:45 p.m. — Laughing Stock Farm**

**Directions to Laughing Stock Farm
83601 Territorial Rd, Eugene (Coyote Creek)**

From Veneta, head **south** from Veneta on **Territorial Rd**

Laughing Stock Farm will be about 11 miles on the **left**, 83601 Territorial Rd.

From Eugene, head west on **West 11th** and turn **left** on **Bailey Hill Rd**.

Go for about 3 miles on Bailey Hill Rd and then continue **straight** on **Lorane Hwy**.

Head just over 8 miles on Lorane Hwy and turn **right** on **Territorial Rd**.

Laughing Stock Farm will be on the **right** after about 1 mile, 83601 Territorial Rd.

We will have a sign posted at the end of the driveway.