



LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

Watershed news and meeting notice

MAY 2010

Action
Through
Understanding



May Watershed Council Project Tour & Discussion

Tuesday, May 25, 2010 at 5:45 p.m.

Owens Creek at McFadden's

25282 High Pass Rd, Junction City

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 p.m.

Owens Creek

Stream Habitat Enhancement

- ◆ **Riparian enhancement and erosion reduction through native vegetation plantings**
- ◆ **How to fence off livestock from a stream**
- ◆ **How a landowner manages a restoration project**
- ◆ **Snorkel surveys for fish**
 - Joe McFadden, landowner
 - Johann Hogervorst, forest hydrologist
 - Jed Kaul, Long Tom Watershed Council

Before the project (above left): The trees in the left corner presented very a very thin strip of riparian habitat (Owens Creek is just on the other side of the trees).

After the project (above right): Native trees and shrubs were planted to extend the riparian area out to a tributary of Owens Creek. A fence and off-stream water was installed along the tributary to water the cattle while allowing the streamside vegetation to grow.

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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: OWENS CREEK RIPARIAN AND STREAM ENHANCEMENT AT MCFADDEN'S

PROJECT BACKGROUND & DESCRIPTION

Owens Creek, a major tributary in the Bear Creek sub-watershed, is a priority stream for fish passage, water quality and instream habitat improvement. The Bear Creek sub-watershed provides habitat for both resident cutthroat trout and the larger fluvial cutthroat that migrate to and from the Willamette River. Fish passage barriers and poor water quality conditions threaten the local cutthroat trout population. In particular, high summertime water temperatures in streams on the valley floor combined with impassable culverts or dams can limit growth and reproduction. Removing these barriers and improving summer water temperatures are important steps to protecting trout. In addition, preventing livestock manure from reaching streams and improving instream habitat and streamside vegetation has been shown to benefit trout and many other native aquatic species.

The stretch of Owens Creek at McFadden's has never been straightened and had mature native trees and shrubs in about half of the riparian area. These features provided an excellent foundation on which to improve trout habitat by watering cattle away from the stream and its banks, eradicating Himalayan blackberry, planting more native trees and shrubs, and adding large wood to the stream to improve trout habitat.



Before the project: About half of the riparian area was dominated by non-native Himalayan blackberry and in places lacked a canopy to provide shade for the stream.



After the project: Non-native blackberry has been eradicated from the riparian area and native trees and shrubs have been planted in its place. Fencing and off-stream water for cattle will allow vegetation growth.



Project Location

PROJECT FUNDING & SUPPORT

Project Cost:	\$64,104
Streambank Funding:	\$52,553
Landowner Match:	\$11,551

Partners

Joe McFadden, *Landowner*
 Streambank (a program of Freshwater Trust)
 Neighboring landowners and volunteers
 Long Tom Watershed Council



PROJECT TOUR BACKGROUND (CONTINUED)

RESTORATION TECHNIQUES

Riparian enhancement techniques included mowing blackberry in the riparian area with an excavator, spot spraying regrowth with herbicide, planting 2,500 native trees and shrubs along 3,000 feet of stream, and installing 5,800 feet of 5-strand electric fence to water cattle away from the riparian area of Owens Creek and a tributary with two off-channel watering stations to replace former water access to the creek. One of these stations uses a solar-powered pump to draw water from the creek.

Over a dozen species of native trees and shrubs were planted to create a diverse and multi-layered riparian forest, including Oregon ash, ponderosa pine, vine maple, crabapple, red flowering currant, and Oregon grape. Trees and shrubs were tubed to improve growth and protect them from browsing herbivores. Also, the landowner sprayed out the grass around the trees to eliminate competition for moisture. Maintenance for the first two years of plant establishment usually includes mulching, watering, and re-positioning or removing tubes.

Forty large conifer logs, most with rootwads attached, were placed in Owens Creek. Logs were wedged into existing riparian trees or at bends in the stream. Some of these were dead trees from the project site and others were contributed by neighboring landowners.



An excavator places logs with rootwads in Owens Creek to provide habitat for cutthroat trout and other native aquatic species.



Log jams like this will provide cover and create more pool habitat for cutthroat trout.

ENVIRONMENTAL & ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- ◆ Riparian plantings will increase shade in the long-term, leading to cooler water temperature. These trees & shrubs also provide better bank stability than blackberry, and create forage and cover for native birds, mammals and amphibians.
- ◆ Watering livestock off-stream protect the new trees and shrubs, improve bank stability, and prevent *E.coli* from contaminating the creek.
- ◆ Logs placed in the stream will create cover and scour pools for trout. As the logs decompose they provide food for aquatic insects, which are the primary food source for trout.
- ◆ Contractors from the surrounding area were used for all phases of the project which contributed to the local economy.

EFFECTIVENESS MONITORING

- ◆ Annual snorkel & stream surveys to gauge response of fish populations and stream geomorphology to large wood placement
- ◆ Large wood count to determine fate of placed wood and recruitment of new wood
- ◆ Annual vegetation plot surveys to determine percent cover of non-native blackberry and survival of native trees and shrubs.

The Long Tom Watershed Council thanks our partners and funders!

Invasive Species: The Importance of Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR)

Nearly all of the Council's 50 projects have involved the removal of non-native plants such as Himalayan blackberry, reed canary grass, Scotch broom, purple loosestrife, and others. Invasive pests often need to be managed before a project even starts, and managing invasives is typically an ongoing commitment.

May 16 – 22 is the 6th annual Oregon Invasive Weed Awareness Week. Invasive plants possess characteristics that allow them to outcompete native vegetation for resources such as sunlight, nutrients, or water. Those traits typically include the ability to grow and reproduce quickly so they can spread before many native plants have had a chance to grow or release their seeds. Invasive plants also take advantage of favorable environmental conditions and a lack of natural predators to push native species out.

While people plant some invasive species inadvertently, and many nurseries sell them as “good ground cover”, many invasives manage to sneakily hitch a ride. Any of us can inadvertently carry the seeds of a non-native plant on the soles of our shoes, the wheels of our car, or the trailers of our boats, so we need to be careful to inspect these areas for unwanted hitchhikers. Invasive species can reduce the diversity of native plants, negatively impact ecosystems and agriculture, and are costly to remove. As many who have tried to eradicate invasive plants know, they are not easy to get rid of and often come back. That is why early detection and rapid response (EDRR) is such an important tool in combating invasives. The major concept behind EDRR is detecting non-native plants before significant establishment occurs. When non-native species are detected and dealt with before they've had a chance to gain a firm foothold on a site, management containment and eradication may be possible.

The first step in EDRR is being able to identify non-native plants, something we can all learn to do. A great place to start is the “The Silent Invasion” by Oregon Public Broadcasting, www.opb.org/programs/invasives/guide.php. The site features detailed color photos, short descriptions, and information on where to look for the most common invasive species, and it is also searchable by region. The Western Invasives Network has more information on EDRR and lists the most recent invasive arrivals. Newer arrivals to our watershed, such as false brome and garlic mustard, are pictured on this page. For links to these sites and many more resources visit the Oregon Invasives Hotline at <http://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/pages/learn>.

Recognizing and reporting non-native species requires a collective effort. It is often easiest to begin looking closely in areas familiar to you—a garden, a nearby stream, a field, or a city park. Good places to look for invasive species are along roadsides or paths where people walk, on streambanks, ditches, and disturbed areas.

You can report invasive plants you see to the Oregon Invasive Species Hotline at 1-866-INVADER or <http://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/>.

The Long Tom Watershed Council recently supported the concept of an Early Detection and Rapid Response Implementation Planning Assistance Grant through the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). We'll keep you posted!



Two newer invasive plants: false brome (above), courtesy of University of CA, Berkeley, and garlic mustard (below) courtesy of Oregon Public Broadcasting.



Please support our work!

A message From Deborah Saunders Evans, RDC Committee Chair:

As a local nonprofit organization, the Long Tom Watershed Council (LTWC) relies on the participation and continued support of members throughout the Long Tom Watershed community. The majority of the funding we have obtained over the last 13 years has come from successful grant applications to public and private sources, and donations from local organizations and individuals that we use to show community investments and make our grant applications competitive.



In an effort to ensure the long term financial stability of our organization, the Steering Committee has established a Resources Development Committee (RDC). The RDC is a standing committee with Steering and Council members, as well as staff support. It is charged with identifying new revenue and in-kind resources, including the development of a private donor program and fundraising strategies. If you are interested in serving on the RDC, please contact Dana for more information at 541-683-6578 or coordinator@longtom.org.

The ongoing effort to secure funding for the LTWC is essential to our ability to bring grant dollars into this community, and to do water quality and habitat projects throughout the watershed. That is, work that the people who live, work, and enjoy our beautiful and unique Long Tom River watershed decide is important. The key to our success has been, and always will be, contingent on our ability to work together. The generosity and engagement of the Long Tom Watershed community is reflected in the countless hours of time, expertise, and resources that Council members have donated over the past 14 years.

The LTWC has always gratefully accepted individual donations of money and resources in support of the Council. Your donation is tax deductible. We hope that you will support the LTWC and invite you to try out the PayPal button on our website front page. Whatever contribution your individual budget allows is very much appreciated and will remain confidential unless you direct otherwise.

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 (shown below) and click to begin PayPal donation.**



Council News

Save the Date!

Long Tom Watershed Council's
13th Annual Meeting and Celebration
"Long-Term in the Long Tom"

Tuesday, October 19, 2010
5:00—8:00 p.m.

"The Inn" at the elegant Diamond Woods Golf Course,
96040 Territorial Hwy, Monroe

Enjoy great food, fun, and splendid views of the surrounding valley and golf course!
Help us make this year's Annual Celebration a success! We're looking for help with ticket sales, publicity, music, awards, and more. If you'd like to help volunteer or sponsor the event, please contact Rob Hoshaw at operations@longtom.org or 683-6949.

Thanks OSU and UO!

The Long Tom Watershed Council would like to thank the students from Steve Cook's "Sustainability for the Common Good" class at Oregon State University as well as the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity at the University of Oregon for their great work spreading mulch to protect recently planted native trees at a project site on the Long Tom River Saturday, May 8. Thank you!

Nominations Open for Steering Committee

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

Might you, a colleague, or friend be interested in helping to guide the watershed council for a term of 4 years? A few positions on the Council's Steering Committee will come open in October. The Nominating Committee 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.

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 August 15. The letter should include at a minimum your name, contact information, including phone number, and a statement of interest.

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 on October 19.

Please contact Dana Dedrick for more information: (541) 683-6578.

Watershed Calendar & Announcements

LTWC Council Meetings & Tours

Owens Creek at McFadden's: Tues, May 25

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

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

Location: 25282 High Pass Rd, Junction City

Save the Date! 13th Annual Meeting & Celebration

Tues, Oct 19, 5:00—8:00 p.m.

*Diamond Woods Golf Course,
96040 Territorial Hwy, Monroe*

Come Visit our Booth!

Saturday, May 29, 10:00 a.m— 2 p.m.

LTWC will have a booth set up on the Amazon Bike Path for the 4th Annual Walkin' & Rollin' through the West Eugene Wetlands. Come see us and learn more about your local watershed!

Contact: Rob Hoshaw, 683-6949

email: operations@longtom.org

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

WREN Wetland Wanders and More

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

LTWC Volunteer Opportunities!

Ongoing Field Restoration Opportunities!

Enjoy working outside? The Council will need occasional assistance this summer with watering of planted vegetation, native plant removal, and staking willows to diversify habitat and reduce erosion.

Josh: 683-6183 or stewardship@longtom.org

Newsletter Printing & Mailing

The Council 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.

Rob: 683-6949 or operations@longtom.org

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

751 S. Danebo
Eugene, OR 97402
Fax. 683.6998
www.longtom.org

Long Tom Watershed Ten Major Subbasins



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

TUESDAY, May 25, 5:45 p.m. Owens Creek at McFadden's
Upcoming Meeting: How to enhance riparian habitat and
water livestock away from a stream



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

MAY WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING: PROJECT TOUR
Tuesday, May 25, 5:45 p.m. — Owens Creek at McFadden's

Directions to McFadden's

25282 High Pass Rd, Junction City (Bear Creek Sub-watershed)

From Veneta, head north from on Territorial Rd for almost 10 miles. Turn right onto Hwy 36 and travel 1.5 miles to Cheshire. Turn left onto Territorial Rd, and go almost 2 miles. Turn left onto High Pass Rd. Head about 4 miles. 25282 High Pass Rd will be on the left. Continue about 1/4 mile west of driveway with street address to parking. Signs will be posted.

From Eugene, head north on Hwy 99 to Hwy 36 and turn left. Continue on Hwy 36 for about 4 miles until you reach Cheshire. Turn right onto Territorial Rd and proceed about 2 miles. Head left onto High Pass Rd. 25282 High Pass Rd will be about 4 miles on the left. Continue about 1/4 mile west of driveway with street address to parking. Signs will be posted.

Carpool option will leave the Council office (751 S. Danebo Ave) at 5:15 p.m.