



LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

November 2016

Action
Through
Understanding

Public Meeting Invitation

Lower Long Tom River Habitat Improvement Plan

Tues, November 29, 6 - 8 p.m.

Monroe Community Center, 380 N. 5th St.



Photos from left: The lower part of the Long Tom River winds its way through farms and rural communities; looking downstream from Monroe drop structure (photo Becky Brenton); looking downstream from Bundy Road

Topics

- Overview, vision, and purpose of this project
- Key people and organizations involved
- History of managing the Long Tom River over last ~ 120 years
- Development of inundation maps as a tool for future management
- Background on the fish species present and how they use the river
- Next steps for the project, and how the community can become involved and share ideas

Hosted by Shelly Miller, LTWC
board member

Refreshments provided

Free, and open to all

For more info, Rob: 338-7055 or
operations@longtom.org

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

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Nov 29th Public Meeting: Lower Long Tom River Habitat Improvement Plan

By Dana Dedrick & Jed Kaul

November's public meeting will introduce an important project where we plan to enhance the Long Tom River from the Fern Ridge Dam downstream to the Willamette River confluence. We want to write a plan that explores and identifies ways to provide better fish and wildlife habitat in the Long Tom River in a way that incorporates priorities of agriculture, local towns, and recreation. LTWC applied for and received grant funding from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, matched by a private donation and local volunteer effort. We'll use river and floodplain analysis as well as community inputs. The outcome of the project will be a plan that identifies opportunities to increase the river's ability to handle high flows, improve habitat conditions for native fish and wildlife, and improve upstream fish migration for trout and salmon, as well as solution ideas that address community needs and assists landowners in challenges they face. The findings that come from this plan will inform future management actions by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as they are important partners in this effort.

To find the best opportunities we want to learn about the community's ideas about the issues facing the river and possible solutions. We're doing this from the get-go so please come be part of that. It's essential that we identify implications for riverside landowners up front so we can incorporate those. This public meeting will be the first of a series of several upcoming meetings over the next year with opportunities to learn about the project and share ideas, and for us to share what we're learning from a technical standpoint. We're also forming a small stakeholder committee to help guide the process, and we'll be seeking specific participation from local agricultural landowners and scientists over the coming months.

At this first meeting come learn about why LTWC is working on this project, meet the people working on this plan and the partners and advisors helping to guide it, and hear about the history of the river's management over the last century including the development of the Fern Ridge Dam and the drop structure and fish ladder at Monroe.

Speakers



Tony Stroda is a fourth generation farmer in the Monroe area, and an LTWC project landowner and former board member.



Cameron Bishop is a Natural Resource Specialist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Willamette Valley Project.



Chris Smith is a Senior Project Engineer at River Design Group, which is providing technical services for the project.



Denise Hoffert is a local consultant and project manager for developing the outreach and implementation plan.



Jed Kaul (Fish Biologist) and **Dana Dedrick** (Special Projects Lead) are the LTWC staff leads for the project.



Juvenile upper Willamette River spring chinook, collected just below Monroe drop structure



Fluvial life-history coastal cutthroat trout, collected in tributary to lower Long Tom River, photo: LTWC

Meet Clinton, LTWC's new Executive Director, before the meeting!



All our welcome and encouraged to join Clinton Begley for an informal meet and greet prior to our public meeting on November 29th at the Monroe Public Library from 5 - 6 p.m. Clinton is LTWC's new Watershed Coordinator and Executive Director as of October 1, and he would enjoy an opportunity to meet with folks and learn about how he can best serve the watershed community in this new role. Clinton, along with a few members of the Board of Directors, will be on hand between 5 and 6 p.m., for an hour of coffee, refreshments, and casual conversation. There is no need to RSVP – just stop by and say hello if you have the time!

Annual Meeting & Celebration—thank you for making it a success!

LTWC would like to express its gratitude to the diversity of neighbors, award recipients, volunteers, partners, funders, and community members (78 people in all!) who came out to support the watershed council on October 20. This meeting was particularly special as we reflected together on some amazing “watershed moments” from over the past 19 years. We would particularly like to thank **Stroda Brothers Farm** for their event sponsorship, and **Ninkasi Brewing Co.**, for donating the use of their amazing space. A special thanks to:

- **Jim Pendergrass and Dana Dedrick** for sharing such inspiring and uplifting stories in the keynote address
- **Ninkasi Brewing Co.** for also donating all proceeds from beer sold at the event (nearly 100 beer tickets sold!)
- **WildCraft Ciderworks** for donating the proceeds of one keg of cider
- **Eugene Barnstormers** for playing lively bluegrass music
- **Board Restaurant** and their staff for providing a delicious assortment of hors d'oeuvres



A Month for Giving Thanks

With much of the calendar year behind us, November has traditionally been a time for taking stock, giving thanks, and showing appreciation for the gifts and successes of the year. This year, the council has a lot to be thankful for, and plenty of appreciation to go around!

On behalf of the watershed community, the Council has planted 90,000 trees and shrubs, improved 340 acres of rare oak, prairie, and wetland habitat, and managed over 9,300 square feet of urban stormwater while building urban habitat for birds and pollinators. Our annual report is chock-full of these and other statistics demonstrating successes this year. But there are other ways to measure success as well.

Our most consistent success each and every of the last 19 years has been the willingness of watershed residents to work together on local issues, toward real and positive impacts in their community. Time and time again, our Long Tom community has demonstrated its support for clean water and healthy habitats through event attendance, project partnerships, volunteer hours, technical expertise, and private donations. This engagement and collaboration is itself a unique success, and we have each of you to thank for your investment and dedication to that process. There are millions of opportunities to make a difference in the world—thank you for making the Long Tom Watershed Council one of yours!"



Photo: Clinton Begley

Recent Gifts: Thank you for your support!

Business League: GloryBee Foods, Huntons' Family Farm

Individual Donors: Dana & Jason Dedrick, Beth Krisko, Deborah Saunders Evans, Marion Sproul & Randy Tittle

Annual Celebration Event Sponsors: Ninkasi Brewing Co., Stroda Brothers Farm

Celebration Supporters (folks who donated with their Annual Meeting tickets): Tom Bauman & Lindsay Reaves, Kea Cannon, Ryan Collay, Matt Dedek, Len Gillette & Pennie Spraggins-Gillette, Gary & Jo Holzbauer, Al & Donna Hrynyshyn, Kurt & Mary Koehler, Jeff Krueger, Laughing Stock Farm, Fraser MacDonald, Rich Margerum, Jim & Chris Pendergrass, Kevin Shanley, David Turner

Meet LTWC's Newest Board Members!

Each year at the Annual Meeting a few board members finish their term, and the Council elects new candidates to serve on LTWC's volunteer Board of Directors. At the October 20 Annual Meeting, the Nominating Committee presented two slates of board candidates. Four new board members (bios below) were elected by the Council membership. A second slate of three board members who have served during the previous term (Cary Hart, Deborah Saunders Evans, and Jim Pendergrass—pictured upper right) have agreed to extend their terms to help recruit new board members and support the strength of the Council through LTWC's leadership transition. We also want to extend our sincere thanks to John Reerslev (pictured at right), who completed his term of board service this year.



Kea Cannon - At Large *(Elected for One-Year Term)*



Kea is a born and raised Oregonian from the McKenzie River Valley. Her parents' passion for the outdoors inspired her to pursue work that benefited a cleaner environment. She graduated from UO in 2008 with a B.A. in International Studies and went on to serve a local nonprofit organization for over five years working on multiple grant programs that work to reduce CO₂ emissions. In 2015, Kea returned to the UO for a double Master's degree in Nonprofit Management and Public Administration through the Planning, Public Policy, and Management department.

During this past year, Kea interned with BRING as its RE:think Business Specialist assisting Lane County businesses in their sustainability and waste management efforts. Additionally, Kea completed a brief internship with U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley at his Eugene office. During her personal time, Kea enjoys everything Oregon has to offer: hiking, camping, local beer and wine tasting, and of course her Oregon Ducks!

Ginnie Grilley - At Large *(Elected for Four-Year Term)*



Ginnie is a fifth generation Oregonian raised in a wheat farming family from Eastern Oregon. After gaining her masters degree in Civil Engineering from Oregon State University, she began her career managing public lands in the PNW. Recently retired from the district manager role for the Eugene District Bureau of Land Management, she's an avid volunteer for Oregon State University Extension, SMART (Start Making a Reader Today), and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Shelly Miller - Amazon *(Elected for Three-Year Term)*



Shelly has worked in fish and wildlife conservation and management for over 20 years. During her career, she has worked for fish and wildlife agencies in West Virginia, Virginia, and Oregon. She has also worked for The Nature Conservancy. Currently, Shelly works for the City of Eugene Parks and Open Space Division as the Natural Areas Planning supervisor. She has lived in the Eugene/Springfield area since 2005 and loves it. Shelly and her family enjoy the outdoors, exploring cultural opportunities in the area, and travelling. Shelly started serving mid-year in 2016 in a position vacated mid-year by Therese Walch.

Johnathan Powell - *At Large* (Elected to Four-Year Term)



Jonathan joined the accounting firm Kernutt Stokes in 2010 and currently serves as a manager. He assists clients in the forests products, manufacturing, professional services, non-profit and real estate industries. Outside of his client responsibilities, he is heavily involved in the firm's marketing efforts and currently serves as a member on the firm's marketing, A&A steering, and recruiting committees respectively. Jonathan earned a B.S. in Accounting from OSU, is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Vice Chair of Forests Products Project Committee for the Oregon Society of Certified Public Accountants, and is the treasurer and board member for Forests Today & Forever. Jonathan describes himself as personable, hardworking, and efficient. He attributes watching his father, who is also an accountant, as his inspiration for choosing accounting as his profession. Jonathan grew up and currently resides in Eugene, Oregon with his wife, Elizabeth, and their two children, Micah and Josephine. When away from the office, he enjoys watching sports and staying active by white water kayaking, fishing, and hunting and also enjoys photography and music.

A Note from the Board Chair: “A Best of All Worlds Transition”



The amazing people and inspiring work of the Long Tom Watershed Council are very near and dear to my personal values. I started serving on the Council's Board of Directors in 2010, and having experience with a number of nonprofits, LTWC is one of the most functional and stable organizations I've had the pleasure to work with. This year, Clinton Begley is assuming the role of watershed coordinator and executive director, while Dana Dedrick, our coordinator and E.D. of 19 years, will remain with the Council as our special projects lead. As Chair, I've been engaged in the transition process, and I can say it's one of the most positive leadership transitions I've ever seen, which is strengthened by the organizational continuity in place.

Dana has dedicated her life's work to this organization, and I'm thankful for her immense talent and vision, which has helped shape the growth and direction of the Council. Her passion for bringing diverse stakeholders together has helped facilitate deep and broad community support. A few years ago, Dana and the board had the foresight to understand that the grant landscape was shifting for watershed councils, and we needed to diversify our funding sources and develop a fundraising program. That proactive vision eventually brought Clinton's tremendous talents and energy to the Council when we hired him as our Development & Communications Director last year. My belief is that, more often than not, successful hires come from within a nonprofit, and particularly given the complexity of LTWC's program work, we're fortunate to have promoted an E.D. from within.

Clinton's fresh perspective and eagerness he brings to the position will be an exceptional fit with Dana's continued presence and engagement with the council. His love of the organization and engaging personality will serve us well in developing and sustaining strong relationships with partners and community members watershed-wide. With Dana's new role as special projects lead, we're allowing her to continue in a capacity that both meets her needs and plays to her strengths, which will contribute to providing continuity and a support structure for Clinton that allows us to retain her organizational memory.

I believe that the future of the Long Tom Watershed is bright. The Council's broad, strong foundation of volunteers and community members, with the continuity of Board leadership to provide unique stability during this exciting transition. We're also fortunate to have excellent and talented staff, each of them cross-trained in their roles to work as a cohesive team. Moving forward, my hope for the future is that the organization continues to build on that vision of becoming fiscally robust enough to weather any changes in the grant funding landscape. LTWC has been ahead of the curve among watershed councils in leading collaborations and program growth – for example, our expanding Urban Waters & Wildlife Program – and I would also like to see the Council continue to lead the way as a model for watershed partnerships and working successfully with diverse project stakeholders. As part of this process, Clinton will develop and present to the board a “State of the Watershed” assessment, which will create a vision for the future through the lens of new leadership and the current opportunities on the horizon.

So what can you as watershed community members do to help sustain the success of the organization through this transition? I encourage each of you to spread the word about this amazing gem of a watershed council, one that is consistently and quietly one of the most effective in the state. Talk to your friends, neighbors, and colleagues about the great work of the Council, and continue to support its future growth. Our continued success depends on the support of the watershed community. I enjoy my service as a board member immensely, and I encourage those who are interested to be open to board service in the future. We have always had a strong board from diverse backgrounds who are committed to supporting the work of the Council. In this “best of all worlds transition,” I ask you to join my fellow board members and I in welcoming and supporting Clinton as LTWC looks forward to a future of continued growth and success. As a way to introduce Clinton to the watershed community, we'll be holding open house style “meet and greets” before each public meeting this year. I encourage you to stop by, introduce yourself to Clinton, and share what matters to you and your vision for the future of LTWC.

Charles Ruff is an Upper Long Tom board member in his 6th year of board service and 2nd year as Board Chair. He's the former general manager of the Oregon Country Fair and is one of the organizers of the Oregon Truffle Festival.

Special Projects Ahoy! A note from Dana Dedrick

I am so thankful. My greatest wish this year was to keep contributing to the Long Tom Watershed and yet answer the growing needs of my family. I have a newly minted teenager and a pre-teen. That age brings additional chauffeur duties as the kids' interests expand. As well, an essential need for me to have the presence to listen and the energy to guide them during this stage of their development. It's funny how they start talking less as they experience more complexity in life – for me that's “heads up and ask a lot of questions!”

The Board listened. Through planning, hard work and luck we were able to hire the talented and caring Clinton Begley as our new watershed coordinator and executive director. To make sure I could stay and help if I wanted (which I did!), LTWC also created a role for me to focus my service to the watershed and community. We're calling it “special projects” for now and first up is the Long Tom River habitat improvement planning.



I remain deeply committed and available to help in carrying forward the core values of this watershed council. To me this means achieving consistent watershed improvement through good discussion and meaningful actions. Clinton's energy, excitement, and eagerness to learn are now the added leadership element that can keep LTWC fresh and able to meet the new challenges ahead so we can make a positive difference. LTWC is poised to have even greater impact if we can stay strong.

THANK YOU for every thought, comment and action *you* personally and professionally have contributed to 19 years of LTWC success thus far. We are so lucky to have this award-winning watershed council be our own local group. I hope you will each offer your committed support now. In terms of finances, I have read a lot about nonprofit transition moments. Donating to the organization in support of the new director is hugely important to keep the organization solid for those first 2-3 years. This is especially important to show grant funders—that this community puts its dollars on the table and believes in their organization. You can count on my financial donations to LTWC as part of that. Even my youngest daughter is giving her allowance this week again and asked if it would help. “Heck yes!” I told her! Please honor all that's been done and contribute to show the grant funders we can handle a transition; that we have a deep bench and wide community support. Whatever else you are caring about right now, please also give a bit to the local watershed you call home. Each one of your contributions matters so much, and you will personally be able to help go long term in the Long Tom!

My new email is dana@longtom.org and office phone, 541-654-8965. Please contact me anytime.

Thank you again,
Dana

LTWC and local partnership recognized with award!

LTWC and the broader Rivers to Ridges Partnership, were recognized at the 2016 Oregon Recreation and Parks Association (ORPA) Annual Meeting. The Council is proud to have received the Environmental Fund Award, including a \$200 donation, from ORPA. The award recognizes a nonprofit in Oregon that promotes natural resources stewardship, and the Council was chosen for its effective use of partnerships, broad community support, our work with diverse private landowners and public agencies, and numerous successful program areas that benefit native fish and wildlife in the Long Tom Watershed. The Rivers to Ridges Partnership, with 16 local collaborating public agencies, municipalities, and nonprofits, including LTWC, also received the Environmental Leadership Award. This award recognizes a park and recreation professional or agency that has made an outstanding effort recently to sustain and improve the environment. Thanks to the Oregon Recreation and Park Association for this honor!



Clinton Begley accepts Environmental Fund Award on behalf of LTWC



Members of the Rivers to Ridges Partnership accept the Environmental Leadership Award

Welcome, Trisha Maxfield!



LTWC is pleased to welcome Trisha Maxfield as our part-time Operations & Database Assistant. Through her work experience and eight years of military service with the Oregon Army National Guard, she recognizes the

importance of community and organization solidarity. Trisha joined the LTWC in August, 2016 to assist with office, database tracking, and administrative work. She is a senior at the University of Oregon majoring in Environmental Studies with an emphasis in Planning, Public Policy and Management. Her passion for nature and the environment manifested at a young age, as she was raised in the foothills of the Cascade Mountain Range. Her volunteer/ intern work ranges from reading with elementary school students to working on forest collaboratives. In her spare time, Trisha can be found out adventuring with her pup or crafting.



We'd like to thank Melanie Giangreco, who began in the Operations & Database Assistant role as shared staff with the McKenzie Watershed Council in February. She decided to focus more of her time on her reflexology business and has landed

well with a permanent role at the McKenzie Watershed Council. Thank you for all your hard work, Melanie, and best wishes!

Upcoming LTWC Events

Next Public Meeting

Tues, Jan 28, 6 p.m.

Topic and location TBD. Stay tuned to our website and newsletter for more info!

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 use the following disclaimer, 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 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!

LTWC Board of Directors

Lower Long Tom

Steve Horning
Jim Pendergrass
David Turner

Upper Long Tom

Cary Hart
Lindsay Reaves
Charles Ruff, *Chair*

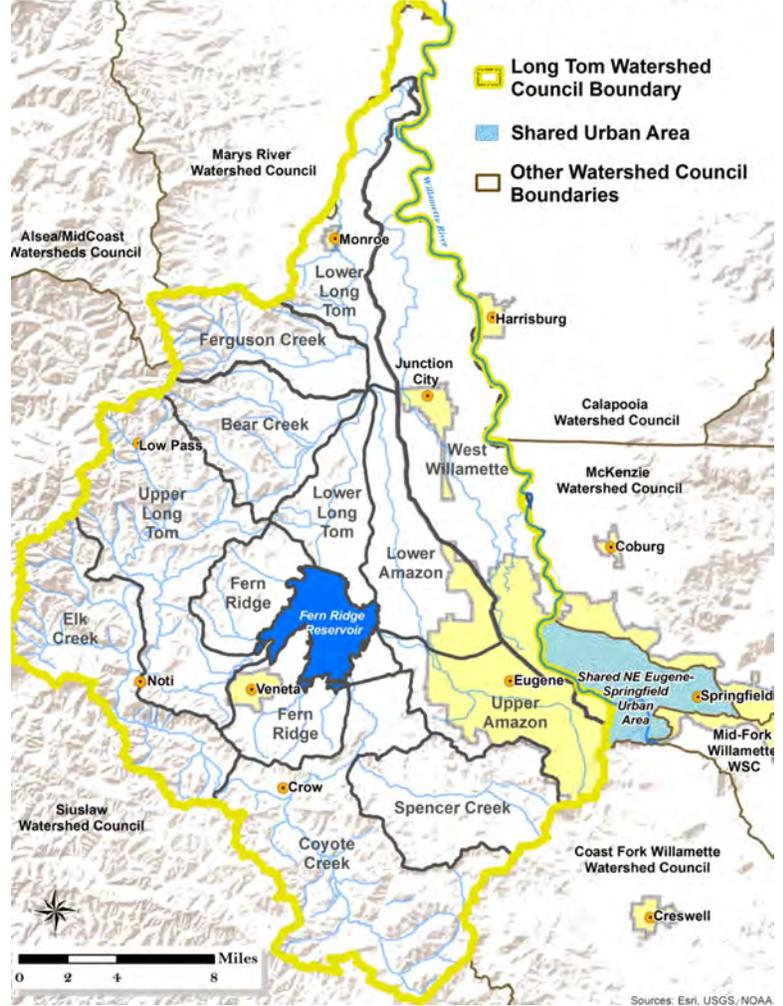
At Large

Mike Brinkley, *Secretary*
Kea Cannon
Ginnie Grilley
Jonathan Power, *Vice Chair*

Amazon

Alan Dickman, *Vice Chair*
Shelly Miller, *Vice Chair*
Deborah Saunders Evans

Long Tom Watershed Sub-basins & Area of Work



Council Staff Contacts

- Clinton Belgey, *Watershed Coordinator/E.D.:* 541-654-8965
- Rob Hoshaw, *Operations Director:* 338-7055
- Dana Dedrick, *Special Projects Lead:* 654-8965
- Jed Kaul, *Fish Biologist:* 338-7058
- Katie MacKendrick, *Ecologist:* 338-7033
- Sarah Whitney, *Urban Habitat & Stormwater:* 654-8965
- Amanda Reinholtz, *Habitat & Water Quality Spc:* 338-7060
- Heidi Heisler, *Fiscal Manager:* 338-7042
- Trisha Maxfield, *Ops & Database Assistant:* 338-7055

Spurge Laurel: Help us spot this invader!

Key Features: Spurge laurel (*Daphne laureola*) is an upright, shrub that grows to about 5 feet high. The long, evergreen leaves are dark green and shiny on top and lighter underneath. Leaves are also arranged in a spiral cluster around the shoot tip. Bell-shaped, yellow-green flowers bloom between March and May. Commonly found along roadsides and woodland near urban areas, it's identifiable year-round.

Why it's Invasive: Planted as an ornamental, spurge laurel populations have escaped throughout Oregon and the Northwest, including here in the watershed in Eugene's south hills. It rapidly forms thick patches that out-compete native vegetation for light, water, and nutrients, and it decreases native biodiversity. This plant is especially detrimental to rare oak woodland habitats. Most parts of spurge laurel are toxic to people and pets, though birds will eat, and the berries and disperse seeds.

What to Do: Prevention and early detection is the best way to limit the spread of spurge laurel and other invasives. Avoid planting invasive ornamentals by instead choosing to plant native trees and shrubs in your garden or landscape. Spurge laurel can be removed by hand if the entire root system is dug up. Caution! Wear gloves and long sleeves to avoid its toxins. Report suspected spurge laurel and other invasive plants to <http://oregoninvasiveshotline.org>



Photos: © 2004 Dr. Amadej Trnkoczy



Long Tom Watershed Council

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Nov 29 Public Meeting

Tues, Nov 29, 6 - 8 p.m.

**Join us from 5 - 6 p.m. for an hour of conversation and refreshments with new Executive Director, Clinton Begley!*

**Monroe Community Library, 380 N. 5th St.,
Monroe**

Located across the street from the Monroe High School on main street through town