



Long Tom Watershed Council

July 2012 newsletter and meeting notice

Action
Through
Understanding

Making a stream accessible for cutthroat trout at Polyrock Ranch

For July's project tour, we will look at a riparian enhancement project and a fish passage project that opened up 4 miles of cold water refuge and spawning habitat on Jordan Creek. Five barriers hindered trout migration on Jordan Creek at Polyrock Ranch. Four of these barriers were undersized culverts that were perched above the water's surface, and the fifth barrier was an irrigation dam.

Upper Jordan Creek offers excellent cold-water habitat for cutthroat trout to spawn and for young fish to mature. LTWC prioritized this area for enhancing fish passage as a result of data from our 2009 fish barrier inventory. LTWC also collected stream temperature data in 2007 that shows that Coyote Creek is often too warm in the summer for cutthroat trout. This highlights the need for trout to reach headwater areas where water is cooler. In addition to fish passage improvement, removal of the irrigation dam and re-vegetating the riparian area is helping to reduce downstream temperatures in Jordan and Coyote Creeks.

We invite you to tour this inspiring project and learn why Jordan Creek and other streams in the area are vital to the local cutthroat trout population. Also hear how improving fish habitat coexists with the goals of a working ranch.

- * **Tour is open to all**
- * **Free, with light refreshments**
- * **For more info, Rob: 338-7060 or operations@longtom.org**



Before & After: The top photo shows an undersized culvert perched too high above the stream's surface to allow fish passage. It was replaced with a larger culvert that allows trout to access cooler water and spawning habitat.

Speakers

- ◆ Deborah Mattson, Landowner
- ◆ Karen Hans, ODFW
- ◆ Cindy Thieman, LTWC

Host: Mike Brinkley, LTWC Board member

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

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Conclusion of 2011-12 Inaugural Fundraising Campaign

Thank you for your support!

We are over the \$11,000 mark! Congratulations to all. We've exceeded our original goal of \$10,000, set at the beginning of the campaign to raise **over \$11,300!** Your gifts support LTWC's community-centered work to ensure clean water and healthy habitats for present and future generations.

Thank you to everyone who has given in support of the important work of the Long Tom Watershed Council.

Invest, Restore, Inspire!



Thank you to our recent donors!

Lead Gifts

- **Redtail Fund of Oregon Community Foundation**

Campaign Supporters

- Bradshaw Vineyards ● Martin & Ellen Burke ● Bruce Campbell ● Jill Davidson ● Eugene Skin Divers Supply
- David Funk, Roger & Karen Hamilton ● Cliff & Rod Herbert ● Jill Hoyenga ● Jenna Garmon ● Niall & Ali Gartlan
- Laughing Stock Farm ● Adam Novick ● Keli M. Osborn ● Pacific Ag Systems, Inc. ● Tenold & Karin Peterson

Farewell Long Tom Watershed!

Dear Friends & Colleagues,

In August, my family and I will be moving to Hood River for a new chapter in life! The move will allow my husband and I to spend more time with our two young children, Sam and Juliet. I'm looking forward to spending a little more time being a mom and also exploring restoration work in the Columbia Gorge!

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone I have had the privilege to work with over the past 14 years. This has been a phenomenal organization to work for and the experience has quite literally changed my life. (Dana and I were practically kids when we started this organization together!) I want to especially thank the private landowners I have worked with. Your integrity, willingness to take risks, and contribution to your watershed have fundamentally inspired me. I will also miss the Council's wonderful and talented staff, our Board, and partner organizations. It will be hard to find people with as much talent and dedication!

In October, I will be helping my replacement become familiar with the watershed as well as our partners and landowners, so I may see some of you then. If not, come to the July 31 tour this month!



Cindy Thieman

Help us spot this invader!

Purple Loosestrife

Key Features: Erect, bushy plant that grows in wetlands and along stream banks and other bodies of water. Showy magenta flowers bloom in mid-summer. Forms uniform stands up to 7-9 feet tall.

Why it's Invasive: Crowds out native wetland and riparian vegetation that's essential for wildlife such as amphibians, songbirds, and waterfowl. Can produce up to 2 million seeds per season and can even reproduce from broken pieces of plant.

What to Do:

- Extremely difficult to remove.
- Prevent spreading by cleaning shoes, boots, equipment, and clothing after working outside.
- Report suspected Purple Loosestrife to <http://oregoninvasiveshotling.org>

For More Information:

- ODA Plant Division



Purple Loosestrife. Top photo by Bonnie Rasmussen, ODA; Bottom photo by Eric Coombs, ODA.

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 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 authority. We partner with local people, businesses, and agencies in the interest of finding local solutions and

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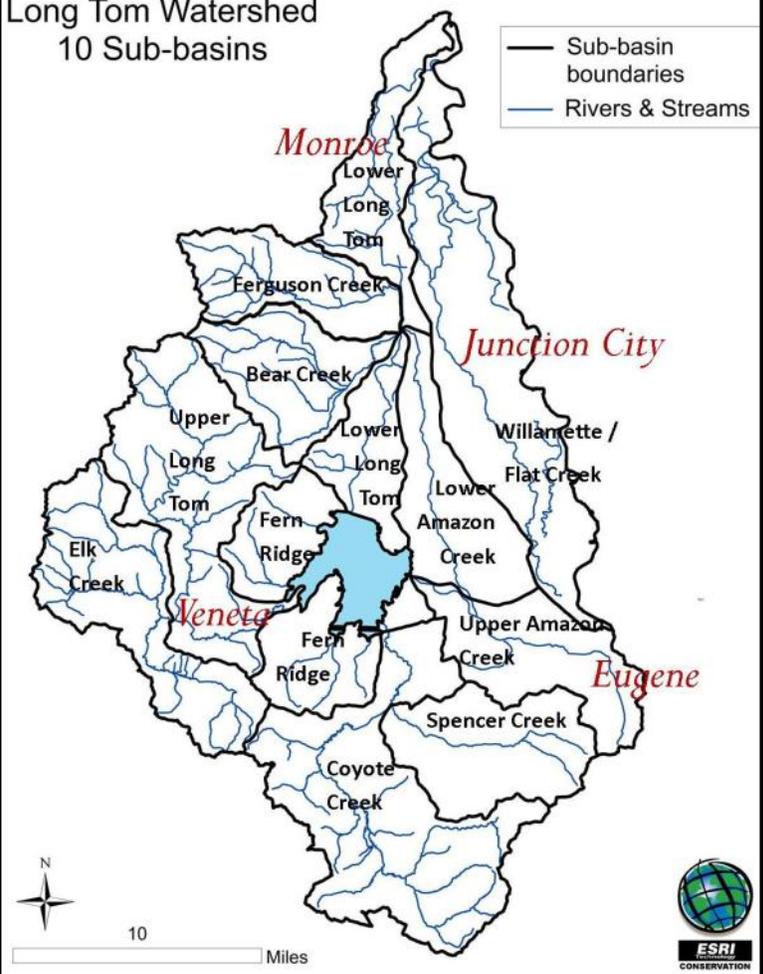
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Long Tom Watershed 10 Sub-basins



Council Staff Contacts

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Jed Kaul, Aquatic Projects Manger: 338-7058

Jason Schmidt, Urban Watershed Restoration Specialist:
338-7042

Rob Hoshaw, Operations Manager: 338-7060

Directions to July 31 Outdoor Tour:

84402 Territorial Rd, Eugene

From Veneta, follow Territorial Rd. Project site is ~ 1 mile past Doane Rd on the right.

From Eugene, take Bailey Hill Rd south. Turn right onto Spencer Creek Rd & then a left on Briggs Hill Rd. Follow Briggs Hill to T at Territorial Rd and turn right. Site is 0.2 miles on left.

Directional signs will be posted.

Long Tom Watershed Council

751 S. Danebo Ave.

Eugene, OR 97402

Phone: 338-7055



Celebrating volunteer efforts to track cutthroat trout

LTWC held a celebratory barbeque June 15 for Cutthroat Trout Migration Study volunteers and landowners who hosted fish traps. Gary & Jo Holzbauer graciously hosted the event at their home. Several area landowners, including Andy & Maryrae Thomson, Jim & Maria Bradshaw, and Deck Family Farm donated locally-raised meat, and guests also enjoyed wine donated from Brigadoon, High Pass, and Pfeiffer wineries.

This year, more than 30 volunteers tagged over 140 new trout. Without their efforts, we wouldn't be able to collect all of the data on fish movements in the watershed. Thank you for your awesome contributions!



July 31 Project Tour, 5:30 p.m.

- * **Landowners' goals & approach to the project.**
- * **How improving fish habitat coexists with the goals of a working ranch.**
- * **Why Jordan Creek offers great cutthroat trout habitat, and why trout need access to cooler water.**

