



LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

June 2017

Action
Through
Understanding

Project Tour Invitation

Willamette River Habitat Corridors for Migratory Songbirds and Native Fish

Tuesday, June 27, 6 - 8 p.m.

Snag Boat Bend unit of Finley Wildlife Refuge (~ 11 miles north of Harrisburg)



Meeting Topics

- Walking tour to view bottomland forest planting and side channel reconnection efforts
- History of public wildlife refuge and goals for managing site
- Learn about migratory songbird biology and why riparian bottomland forest provides essential bird habitat
- How fish utilize side channels and alcoves for habitat in rivers like the Willamette

Photos (from left)

Black-throated Gray Warbler
(Cameron Rognan)

MacGillivray's Warbler (Christopher L. Wood)

Lazuli Bunting (Keith Alderman)

Juvenile Spring Chinook Salmon

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.

www.longtom.org



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Willamette River Habitat Corridors for Migratory Songbirds and Native Fish

June 27 Project Tour

Join us for the council's first public tour at Snag Boat Bend, a unit of the Finley National Wildlife Refuge along the Willamette River. Since 2014, LTWC has been working with the U.S. National Wildlife Service, who manages this public site, to plant thousands of native trees and shrubs, and to remove unused berms and other constructed features to reconnect side channel and alcove waterways with the Willamette mainstem.

The Willamette River and its tributaries provide essential habitat for fish and wildlife, and during this tour, we'll explore how projects like this are helping to create connected corridors of habitat—both for migratory songbirds that rely on riparian floodplain forests and for native fish like salmon and trout that need side channels and alcoves.

Wildlife biologist Joan Hagar of the U.S. Geological Survey will talk about the biology of migratory songbirds and the importance of seasonal habitat connectivity. The riverside forests in areas like Snag Boat Bend provide essential breeding, post-breeding, over-wintering, and migratory stopovers for a variety of songbirds species.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers fish biologist Greg Taylor will talk about the importance of river side channel and alcove habitats for native fish. These slower-moving waterways provide vital refuges from fast moving water and predators, especially during high flows.

You'll also hear about the history of the Snag Boat Bend unit and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's goals in managing the property today from Deputy Project Leader Laila Lienesch. LTWC will continue to partner with the USFWS on this multi-year effort for at least a couple more years, and it is LTWC's largest project in terms of scale. All are welcome, and birders, in particular, won't want to miss LTWC's summer tour!

- *Free and open to all*
- *Walking tour over some uneven ground*
- *Signs will be posted (see back page for directions)*
- *Light refreshments provided*
- *For more info: longtom.org or 541-338-7055*



LTWC fish biologist Jed Kaul describes the work to reconnect side channel habitat at Snag Boat Bend during a tour for the council's Board of Directors.



Thousands of bare root seedlings have been planted in rows at Snag Boat Bend that will grow to extend the riparian forest corridor.

Join us in Connecting 20 Years of Watershed Moments!

This month the council launched its 20th Anniversary Campaign celebrating twenty years of neighbors helping neighbors to get real work accomplished on the ground in the Long Tom Watershed.

This summer, the council is asking the watershed community to give \$60,000, and be the bridge connecting the last twenty years of watershed moments, to the next twenty!

Through the generous contributions of early anonymous donors and our business partners at Armadillo Roofing and the Seneca Family of Companies, the council has already raised nearly \$40,000 toward our goal!

Your gift will help us ensure that LOCAL priorities for habitat and conservation continue to be addressed through our voluntary and collaborative approach. It will help us to build upon our extensive 20 year body of work of over 90 projects with 70+ families and businesses, and continue the spirit of neighbors helping neighbors toward a healthier Long Tom Watershed.

Importantly, your gift will help continue the culture you have built around doing the right thing for the landscapes and livelihoods of this watershed.

Will you be a part of this important milestone for the Long Tom Watershed? You can find out more at longtom.org/watershedmoments

As the first business to support this important campaign, we would like to welcome Armadillo Roofing as our newest “Charitable Chickadee” member to our Business League! Armadillo Roofing is a family owned business located in Eugene. Owners Jason and Teresa care greatly about doing the right thing for the watershed they share, and even included their 14-year-old daughter Peighton in the family decision to give to our important work! Thank you to Armadillo Roofing for your generous investment in clean water and healthy habitat in the watershed!

The council would also like to welcome Seneca Family of Companies as the newest “Legacy Lupine” member to our Business League, and major donor to this year’s 20th Anniversary Celebration! The council’s relationship with Seneca began last year when our Urban Waters & Wildlife Program consulted on facility design and plant selection for a stormwater management redevelopment project at their Eugene sawmill location. The stormwater facility aids in slowing, and cleaning the water leaving their busy mill site, and the council continues to work in partnership with Seneca on consultation for future phases of stormwater facility development. Acting as an industrial leader in the Highway 99 corridor, Seneca has also offered valuable support and guidance for our Amazon Pesticide Stewardship Partnership program. Seneca shares the council’s values to continue improving the quality of water entering Amazon creek, and supports the council’s mission to work across this diverse watershed to get high quality work accomplished on the ground to benefit the Long Tom, and all who live here. Thank you Seneca for your generous donation to our work, and for creating another watershed moment that makes this watershed and this council so special!



Recent Gifts—Thank you for your support!

Business League: Armadillo Roofing, Inc., Seneca Sawmill Co.



Individual Donors: Vicki Blackman, Heron Brae, Dana Dedrick, Stephanie Hampton in memory of Ava June Hampton, Einar and Deb Ingebretsen, Gary Lech, Deb Mailander, Pat & George Miller, Court Smith, Shirlee Taylor in honor of Deborah Saunders Evans

Contribution for Urban Office Rent: Lee and Veronica Davis

Campaign Volunteers—Thank you!

We'd like to recognize the amazing efforts of our campaign volunteer fundraisers, who are generously giving of their time to help the council engage the watershed community during our 20th Anniversary Campaign. A huge thank you to **Sarah Akbari, Michelle Alameda, Brady Cox, McKenna Duffy, Dylan Heirdorn, Hilary Hunt, Gale Orcutt, Paul Reed, and Mikey Tapp**. Gale Orcutt is the council's fundraising intern this spring, and has been instrumental in helping the Resource Development Committee coordinate our campaign efforts. Many thanks to you all!

WildCraft Cider Works Joins our 20th Anniversary Campaign!

Exciting News! Our partners at WildCraft Cider Works have joined our 20th Anniversary Campaign and Celebration!

For the month of June, all proceeds from Wildcraft's serving station at the Lane County Farmers Market will be donated to the Long Tom Watershed Council, and our continued work toward a healthier Long Tom Watershed! **Find the WildCraft booth every Saturday in June and purchase some of the council's co-branded Urban Orchard Apple Cider!**

Also, WildCraft is donating bottles of Urban Orchard Apple Cider as gifts to each of our donors for this exciting campaign! **Every gift of \$50 or more will receive a bottle of the LTWC's co-branded apple cider!**

You can give to this campaign online at: <http://www.longtom.org/watershedmoments/>

We're continually inspired by Wildcraft's owner, Sean Kelly, and his vision for connecting the community through what it grows together – from cider, to a culture around conservation and connection to the watershed we share - the Wildcraft team gets it! We're proud to have them in the community – and for their generous continued support and partnership through this campaign!

Thank you Sean and the Wildcraft team for this incredible watershed moment!

Successful Urban Waters & Wildlife Program Grant!

The Long Tom Watershed Council recently secured funding for a technical assistance grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board that will convene a team of local stakeholders, partners, and scientific experts to help us create a way to prioritize potential urban stormwater projects for interested businesses.

For the past few years, LTWC has been assisting private business owners with implementing stormwater improvement projects on their properties, and the council's Urban Waters & Wildlife Program has already completed over 14 such projects in the Eugene-Springfield metro area. The council works with commercial and industrial businesses on a completely voluntary basis to upgrade their stormwater management in a way that improves habitat and water health, while also creating a multi-functional landscape that's the best fit for the business and their goals. Through this program, the council has successfully generated interest from many other business owners in our service area, and given this high level of interest, we've identified the need to create a system for prioritizing potential projects so that the council can use its resources to most effectively and efficiently to address urban watershed health. We're excited to continue building on this important work and leveraging the high community interest!



Volunteers planting native vegetation in the rain garden at HIV Alliance in May. Photo courtesy of HIV Alliance.

Rio Laja Partners Visit the Willamette Valley

Through the Willamette River Initiative funded by Meyer Memorial Trust, the council is a partner in the Rio Laja Twinning Project between Willamette River basin conservation partners, and partners in the Rio Laja basin in the state of Guanajuato, Mexico. The Twinning project seeks to provide opportunities for peer exchange between the two basins, and create opportunities to learn from one another on the challenges strategies for basin scale conservation efforts. Last week, a group from the Laja visited the Willamette Valley and toured sites throughout the basin hosted by several Willamette River Initiative partners. The goal for the meeting was to support the Laja partners in growing a basin-wide initiative of their own, with a common vision and set of goals for their partners. LTWC's habitat and water quality specialist, Amanda Reinholtz, participated in the process and engaged in conversations and activities throughout their stay! Thanks to the Laja delegation for joining us in the Willamette!



Photo: Tara Davis

Thank you, Jim Pendergrass!



We'd like to thank outgoing board member Jim Pendergrass for continuing to serve for several more months through May to lend his guidance during the council's leadership transition. Jim has been a valued member of the watershed council and the LTWC Board of Directors for over 10 years. Jim is retired, with a 33-year career in the banking industry. He and his wife, Chris, currently spend much of their of the time in Manzanita where he is also a Board member of the Lower Nehalem Community Trust. Both are long-time private pilots, active scuba divers, and hikers. The council has sincerely appreciated his tremendous knowledge, support, and dedication to the watershed community and this organization. Thank you, Jim!

Board Member Kea Cannon Recognized for Service

Board Member Kea Cannon was honored this month at the University of Oregon's Scholars on Board Symposium, along with Executive Director Clinton Begley, on behalf of the council as a host organization for her board service!

As a PPPM (Planning & Public Policy Management) master's student, Kea has been integral in chairing our Resource Development Committee and connecting the council with PPPM program volunteers such as Hilary Hunt, fundraising intern Gale Orcutt, board development consultation with Elena Fraccia of Pacific Continental Bank, and others! Kea graduates this month, but will be sticking around to complete her board service through September. Congratulations to Kea on her upcoming graduation from this great program that continues to grow the nonprofit expertise and capacity in our community!



From left: Hilary Hunt, Clinton Begley, Gale Orcutt, Kea Cannon, and Elena Fraccia.



*We had another great turnout on June 8 in Monroe for our third public meeting on the Lower Long Tom River Enhancement Plan. There were excellent questions from the community, and OSU fisheries biologist Stan Gregory was our keynote speaker and talked about the importance of tributaries like the Long Tom to the native fish of the Willamette River system. **Thanks to Stan and all our attendees!***

Nominations open for Board of Directors—due July 14

Might you, a colleague, or a friend be interested in helping to guide the watershed council for a term of 3-4 years? If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please **send a letter of nomination** to the **Nominating Committee** at the LTWC address (**751 S. Danebo Ave, Eugene, OR 97402**) or email to **coordinator@longtom.org** by **Friday, July 14**. The letter should include at a minimum your **name, contact information**, including **phone number**, and a **statement of interest**. The nominee will be sent a Board Interest Packet with a brief application form. The Nominating Committee will present a slate of candidates on the website prior to the Annual Meeting, with information provided at the meeting. New board members will be elected at the September Annual Meeting. Please contact Executive Director Clinton Begley for more information: 541-654-8965 / coordinator@longtom.org.



About a dozen community members came out to the June 3 Oak Habitat Workshop. LTWC partnered with OSU Extension Forestry & Natural Resources to host an event to help folks understand the considerations and approaches to oak stewardship. **Thank you to all our attendees and presenters!**

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
David Turner

Upper Long Tom

Cary Hart
Lindsay Reaves
Charles Ruff, *Chair*

At Large

Mike Brinkley, *Secretary*
Kea Cannon
Ginnie Grilley
Jonathan Powell, *Treasurer*

Amazon

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



Council Staff Contacts

- Clinton Begley, 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

Save the Date! 20th Annual Meeting & Celebration

Thursday evening, Sept. 14th at Bennett Vineyards and Wine Company

Join the watershed community in celebrating 20 years of accomplishments through voluntary community action and support! This family-friendly, end of summer watershed celebration will feature dinner in the country, watershed awards, a fantastic speaker, board member elections, and a project tour. Most of all, there will be ample time to connect with neighbors and fellow community members. This is our biggest event of the year, so don't miss it! More details and registration info coming soon at longtom.org and our Facebook page.



Photo courtesy of Bennett Vineyards & Wine Company, located about 2 miles west of Cheshire off Highway 36 along Bear Creek.



Several of our amazing volunteers being recognized at the 2015 Annual Celebration at Deck Family Farm.

June 27 Project Tour, 6 - 8 p.m.

Snag Boat Bend

Directions: Approximately 11 miles north of Harrisburg. Wooden sign for Snag Boat Bend is on west side of Peoria Road. Meet in large parking area. Portable restroom also available.

