



Long Tom Watershed Council

May 2012 newsletter and meeting notice

Action
Through
Understanding

Enhancing rare oak & prairie habitat on a working ranch

Project Tour: Tues, May 29 at 5:30 p.m.

For May's project tour, look at a case where grazing is compatible with improving rare oak and prairie habitat. The Long Tom Watershed Council partnered with the Kimes to enhance about 80 acres of some of the highest quality remaining oak savanna and upland prairie habitat in the Willamette Valley. The Kimes wanted to do the project to benefit wildlife habitat and improve their ranch.

LTWC removed Douglas fir and other trees that were encroaching on larger oaks. This allows the mature oaks to produce more nesting cavities as well as acorns and leaves for wildlife to eat. An open canopy allows more sunlight, benefiting native prairie grasses and wildflowers. Many of these plants are rare and cannot survive the shade of a dense canopy. The Kimes are practicing rotational grazing, which not only improves pasture quality but also reduces regrowth from trees and other woody plants in the prairie.

You're invited to tour this beautiful property southwest of Eugene. Learn why oak and prairie habitat are important to wildlife and how the Kimes are using grazing to maintain quality habitat. See back page for directions.

- * *Tour is open to all*
- * *Free, with light refreshments*
- * *3/4 mile walk to site over some uneven ground*
- * *For more info, Rob: 338-7060 or operations@longtom.org*



LTWC removed invasive plants and thinned encroaching fir trees from oak and prairie habitat at the Kime property.

Speakers

- ◆ Val & Ken Kime, *Landowners*
- ◆ Jarod Jebousek/Steve Smith, *U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*
- ◆ Ed Alverson, *Ecologist*
- ◆ Jason Garland, *R.J. Consulting*

Host: Lindsay Reaves, 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 interests, using the collective wisdom and voluntary action of our community members.

751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene, OR 97402

· Phone: (541) 338-7055 · Fax: (541) 338-7062

www.longtom.org



Only 1 month left in 2012 Inaugural Campaign!

Help us make a difference for people and habitat in your watershed

The familiar violet-blue of camas in the wetlands and the sound of tractors in the fields tells us that spring has arrived. Spring also reminds us how intimately connected our lives, family and community are to the Long Tom Watershed. Please support our important, community-centered work to ensure clean water and healthy habitats for present and future generations. Donate by June 30 to help us meet our campaign goal!



Camas, a native plant, blooms during spring in the wetlands.

How to Give

Donate by credit card: click on the “Give Now” button on our website, www.longtom.org, to use a secure, PayPal server. You can give with or without logging into PayPal.

By check: Mail to:
Long Tom Watershed Council
751 S. Danebo Ave.
Eugene, OR 97042

By calling in: Rob, 541-338-7060

** All gifts are tax-deductible.*



Volunteers from 2010 Walkin’ & Rollin’ booth

Come visit our booth!

Walkin’ & Rollin’ 2012

Saturday, May 26, 10 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

LTWC will have a booth at the 5th Annual “Walkin’ & Rollin’ Through the Wetlands” event on the Fern Ridge/Amazon Creek bike path. Learn what LTWC is doing to improve water quality and habitat in Amazon Creek—an important corridor for wildlife and recreation. Visit educational displays from other organizations along the path and enjoy springtime in the West Eugene Wetlands. *Event organized by the Willamette Resources & Educational Network (WREN).*

Learning about fish in Amazon Creek

Thanks to our Amazon fish sampling volunteers!

Ever wonder what’s swimming in Amazon Creek? LTWC partnered with ODFW to sample fish in upper Amazon, near the Fairgrounds, and near Danebo Ave. Eight volunteers collected data throughout April. Every fish caught was native and most were **reidside shiners and speckled dace (both are “trout food”)**! This data helps us understand what fish species call Amazon home Creek home.



Volunteers collecting fish data in Amazon Creek.

Thanks for your support!

Major Gifts

Mike Brinkley; Scot & Francine Berryman

Campaign Supporters

Dr. Doug Evans, Feline Thyroid clinic; Warren Colvin & Linda Bovard; Gary & Jo Holzbauer; Ric Ingham; Sam & Zola Miller; Symantec Corp. (through volunteer program).

Help us spot this invader!

Old Man's Beard

Key Features: Woody, deciduous climbing vine; grows rapidly. Flowers lack petals and only contain greenish-white sepals and reproductive parts.

Why it's Invasive: Can blanket trees & shrubs and kill them. Spreads along the ground in thick layers. Reduces native food sources for wildlife.

What to Do:

- Report suspected **Old Man's Beard** to <http://oregoninvasiveshotling.org>
- Cut or break roots at least 2 inches below ground.
- Dense canopy cover can limit growth & seed dispersal.



Old Man's Beard. Photos by Tom Forney, ODA

For More Information:

- Oregon Dept. of Agriculture Plant Division
- Western Invasives Network

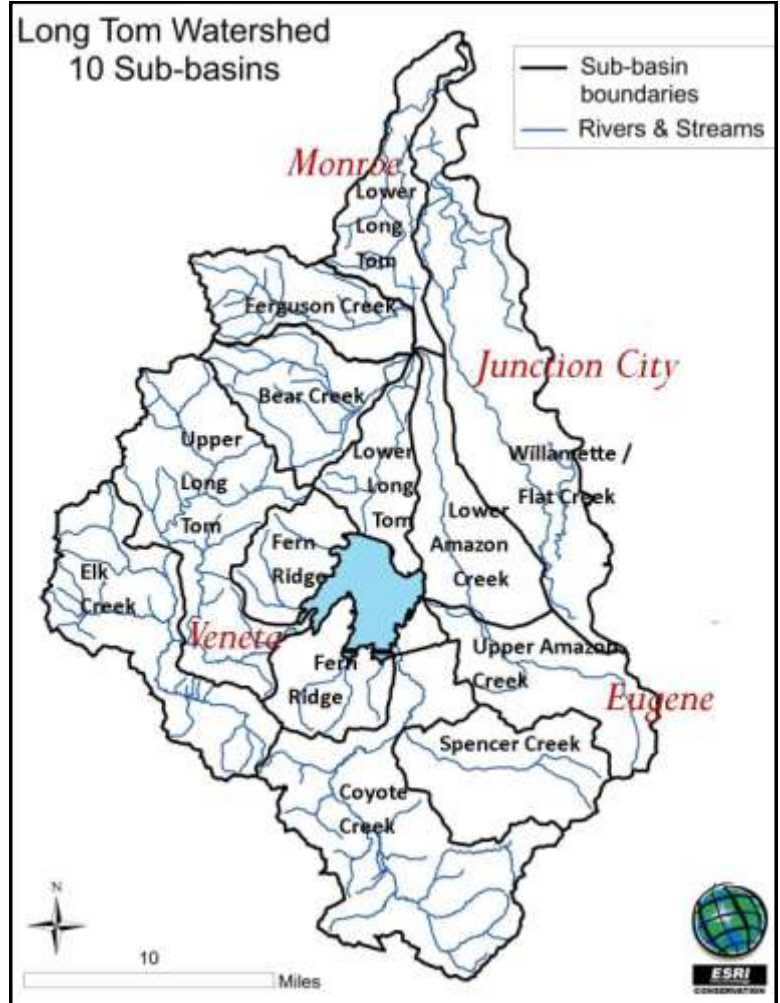
The Long Tom Watershed Council, a local nonprofit, counts on participation from many people and organizations. The local office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) donates postage for our mailings. They have a requirement to include the following disclaimer, which is now standard procedure for all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

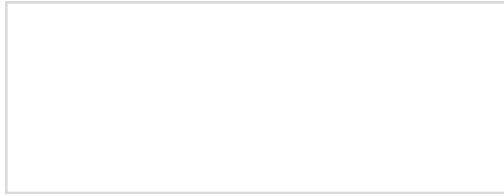
LTWC Board of Directors

| | |
|---|--|
| Lower Long Tom Jason Hunton Jim Pendergrass, <i>Past Chair</i> Chad Stroda, <i>Vice Chair</i> | Upper Long Tom Sue Kacskos, <i>Co-Treasurer</i> Lindsay Reaves Charles Ruff |
| At Large Mike Brinkley, <i>Co-Treasurer</i> Steve Cole Beth Krisko Deborah Saunders Evans, <i>Vice Chair</i> David Turner, <i>Secretary</i> | Amazon Max Nielsen-Pincus, <i>Chair</i> David Ponder Therese Walch |



Council Staff Contacts

- Dana Dedrick, *Watershed Coordinator/Executive Director*: 338-7055
- Cindy Thieman, *Restoration Program Director*: 338-7033
- Jed Kaul, *Aquatic Projects Manger*: 338-7058
- Jason Schmidt, *Urban Watershed Restoration Specialist*: 338-7042
- Rob Hoshaw, *Operations Manager*: 338-7060
- Amanda Wilson, *Fiscal Manager*: 338-7042



Long Tom Watershed Council
 751 S. Danebo Ave.
 Eugene, OR 97402
 Phone: 338-7055
 e-mail: coordinator@longtom.org
 www.longtom.org



Directions to May 29 Outdoor Tour:
 86801 Dukhobar Rd, Eugene
 From West 11th Ave/Hwy 126 turn south onto Greenhill Rd.
 Keep right at the Y and continue on Crow Rd for 2 miles
 Turn left on Dukhobar Rd. Continue for 0.5 miles.
 Project tour will be on the left. Park at the barn just after the driveway.

Nominations open for Board of Directors

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

Might you, a colleague, or a friend be interested in helping to guide the watershed council for a term of 3-4 years? A few **positions on the Council's Board of Directors will come open** this Fall. 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 at the Council address (751 S. Danebo Ave, Eugene, OR 97402) or email to coordinator@longtom.org by

Friday, July 20. The letter should include at a minimum your name, contact information, including phone number, and a statement of interest. The nominee will be sent an application packet.

All those who apply will be included on the ballot for the Board of Directors which is published in the Council newsletter prior to the Annual Meeting. New Board members will be elected at the Annual Meeting. Please contact Dana Dedrick for more information: (541) 338-7055.

May 29 Project Tour, 5:30 p.m.

- * *Goals & approach to oak and prairie enhancement*
- * *Rotational grazing on restored upland prairie*
- * *How grazing can coexist with protecting sensitive species and improve oak and prairie habitat*
- * *Why oak and prairie is important for local wildlife*

