



LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

Sept/Oct 2017

Action
Through
Understanding

20th Annual Meeting & Celebration

Thursday, September 14, 2017, 5:45 - 8:00 p.m.

“Sharing 20 Years of Watershed Moments”

Bennett Vineyards & Wine Co., 25974 Highway 36, Cheshire (directions on back)

If you only come to one meeting this year, this is it!



Listen to watershed stories and history from the last 20 years



Share your own watershed stories with friendly neighbors



Show appreciation for outstanding volunteers and partners

Sponsored by:

Ninkasi Brewing Co. and Stroda Brothers Farm!

Register by Sept 6!

Tickets: \$25/person, \$15/children 5 & over, \$60/family of 3+

Your registration payment helps us cover the costs to put on this event, including catering for an amazing meal prepared by locally-owned Carte Blanche Caterers.

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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.

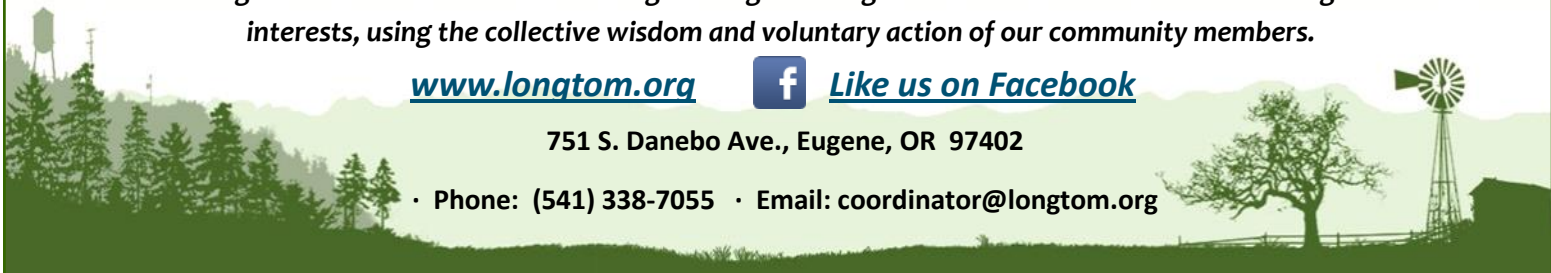
www.longtom.org



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751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene, OR 97402

• Phone: (541) 338-7055 • Email: coordinator@longtom.org





“Sharing 20 Years of Watershed Moments”

September 14th Annual Meeting & Celebration

Join us for LTWC’s biggest event of the year! At this year’s Annual Meeting and Celebration, the council is commemorating two decades of accomplishments through community support and the voluntary efforts of diverse stakeholders to improve the health of our watershed. We have a fantastic program featuring a series of short stories about the council from a panel of community leaders and council partners who have been connected to the watershed through the council over the last 20 years. They’ll also connect us to the next 20 years by looking forward with thoughts of excitement and optimism! This panel of speakers includes our former Restoration Program Director of 17 years, Cindy Thieman, founding Steering Committee member Ryan Collay, historian Doug Card, local farmer and project landowner Jason Hunton, and outgoing board chair Charles Ruff. Don’t miss our 20th anniversary celebration!

Event Highlights:

- Delicious dinner buffet prepared by Carte Blanche Caterers
- Lovely setting along Bear Creek at Bennett Vineyard’s Fantastic wine as well as an non-alcoholic beverages
- Music from Eugene City Barnstormers!
- Watershed awards – Join us in appreciating this year’s outstanding volunteers and community partners
- Elect a slate of volunteer board members
- Check out project to improve fish passage at Bennett Vineyards
- Talk with neighbors, community members, and LTWC board and staff!
- The very best watershed community!

Questions: Rob Hoshaw at 541-338-7055 / operations@longtom.org

Register online at www.longtom.org or use the form inside this newsletter



Speaker panel (from top left): Doug Card, Ryan Collay, Jason Hunton (center), Charles Ruff, and Cindy Thieman

Thank you to our sponsors for helping to make this event possible!

Ninkasi Brewing Co.

Stroda Brothers Farm



Photo courtesy of Bennett Vineyards & Wine Co.

Hosted by Bennett Vineyards and Wine Co. who is also generously donating proceeds of wine sold at the event to LTWC!

20th Anniversary Campaign

In just a few short weeks, **the council will celebrate 20 years of neighbors helping neighbors to enhance land and water in your community at our 20th Annual Celebration!**

As part of this 20th anniversary celebration and ongoing fundraising campaign, important voices from the watershed have shared their stories through video about what makes this watershed so special.



Jason Hunton of Hunton Family Farms shared: *"...it's through little works, up and down the valley, with the Long Tom Watershed (Council) providing some habitat, and some advice on how to create an area for these animals to exist with us right now."* **Board member David Turner reflected,** *"...I think this little part of Oregon is so well cared for that I feel like I'm a proud resident, a proud landowner, who is doing just a little part, to help take care of all this great land here."*

What these perspectives have in common is a recognition of the power of a shared duty to "do the right thing" and be a part of this vision for a healthy Long Tom watershed. No matter how big, or small the level of support, when we cooperate together as a community and invest in our home, what we can accomplish together for land and water can be monumental! In the words of **Jodi Sommers of Essex Construction,** *"...it relies on all of us coming together for our shared values...we all love this place."*

Through the generous contributions of numerous private donors, and our business partners at Armadillo Roofing, Seneca Family of Companies, and WildCraft Cider Works, the council has raised **\$43,642 toward our \$60,000 goal for this 20th Anniversary Campaign!** We are **almost 3/4 of the way there with just over \$16,000 to go!** We are thrilled at the level of community support for our work, and for what a healthier Long Tom Watershed might look like in the next 20 years!

Please give generously today to this important work in your watershed. Your gift will help us ensure that LOCAL priorities for habitat and conservation are addressed. It will help us to build upon our extensive 20-year body of work of 90 projects with over 70 families and continue the spirit of voluntary, collaborative work toward a healthier Long Tom Watershed. Importantly, your gift will help ensure that this culture you have built around doing the right thing for the landscapes and livelihoods of this watershed continues through the next 20 years of watershed moments!

But don't take our word for it, hear what your watershed neighbors have to say about the importance of this work and this vision at longtom.org/watershedmoments, and join us on September 14th as more voices from the watershed Share Their 20 Years of Watershed Moments!

[Thank you to [Cliff Etzel - Multimedia Photographer & Storyteller](#) for his strong work, extraordinary talent, and generosity in helping members of the watershed community tell their story about the council. Thanks, Cliff!]

Recent Gifts - Thank You for Your Support!

Business Donors: Organically Grown Co., Transition Management Inc., Weyerhaeuser Co.

Individual Donors: Merle & Kathy Allen, Dana Dedrick, Friends of the Long Tom Watershed, Glen & Genie Harden, Betsy Parry, Anami Ridge, Jodi Sommers, Steve Soltesz & Ditte Lokon

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

Tribal Engagement Campaign: McKenzie River Trust, Pacific Continental Bank



2017 Watershed Awards Recipients

These outstanding volunteers, partners, and stakeholders will be recognized with an award at the Annual Celebration for their tremendous service and dedication to the mission, goals, and work of the council. Thank you to these amazing award recipients and everyone who supports the important work of LTWC!

Private Sustaining Entity: **Mountain Rose Herbs**

Public Sustaining Entity: **City of Eugene Public Works**

Project Landowner of the Year: **Art & Anita Johnson and family**

Project Contractor of the Year: **Jeff Jones, Habitat Contracting LLC**

Outstanding Volunteers: **Denny Capps and Becca Hale**

Outstanding Technical Volunteer: **Josh Richmond, City of Springfield**

Outgoing Board members: **Kea Cannon, Alan Dickman, Steve Horning, Lindsay Reaves, David Turner**



*Last year's project landowner awardees,
Val & Ken Kime*

Board Member Elections

Each year, the council recruits and recommends a slate of Board of Directors candidates for election at the Annual Meeting. All members of the Long Tom Watershed Council—any adult who supports the purpose and mission of the Council and is connected to the watershed community—**may sign in at the September 14 Annual Meeting and Celebration and participate in voting**. We're currently in conversations with candidates about potential service as volunteer board members. This year's slate of candidates will continue to balance the diversity of perspectives and geography that present board members bring to the table. We will post all candidates' info on our website, longtom.org, before the event and send the info out on our email listserv. Candidate bios will also be provided on the day of the event within the programs. For more information, contact Clinton, 541-654-8965.

Snapshot of Upcoming Work this Year

This summer, LTWC's Board of Directors approved the council's annual work plan for Fiscal Year 2018 (July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018). Below is a snapshot of that planned work for major program areas. The full annual Work Plan is available at www.longtom.org/about-ltwc/action-plan/. If you have any thoughts or questions about work this year, feel free to contact Clinton Begley: 541-654-8965, coordinator@longtom.org.

Watershed Capacity & Coordination

Capacity and Development

- Efficiently manage council resources and ensure smooth operation of the organization
- Sustain LTWC's organizational resiliency by strategically pursuing funding opportunities that allow for the effective implementation of the council's mission and goals
- Pursue grant opportunities from state and federal agencies that will fund projects to improve stream and riparian, oak and prairie, urban, and Willamette River habitats.
- Continue developing relationships with private foundations that could lead to funding opportunities

Capacity & Coordination (continued)

Collaborative Partnerships

- Participate in cross cultural communication and knowledge sharing by facilitating dialogue with Native peoples and youth in conversations about Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Work with regional partners to identify opportunities to meaningfully serve and engage diverse communities in the Long Tom Watershed and broader Upper Willamette area.
- Collaborate with local and regional partner organizations to increase capacity and advance shared goals for watershed health in priority areas

Community Outreach & Fundraising

Community Connections & Fundraising

- Build and steward community donor relationships
- Leverage those connections for support through individual giving, corporate giving, sponsorships of public learning events, and campaigns for specific projects and programs

Community Outreach for Project and Program Areas

- Long Tom River Enhancement Project—hold final Steering Committee and public meetings for community and present community needs analysis and action plan
- Develop potential stream and riparian, oak and prairie, urban, and Willamette River projects through outreach to property owners with priority habitat
- Conversations with small watershed cities and communities on opportunities to improve storm and drinking water
- Continue outreach to businesses, landscapers, and farmers for stormwater best management practices and Trout Friendly Landscape commitments

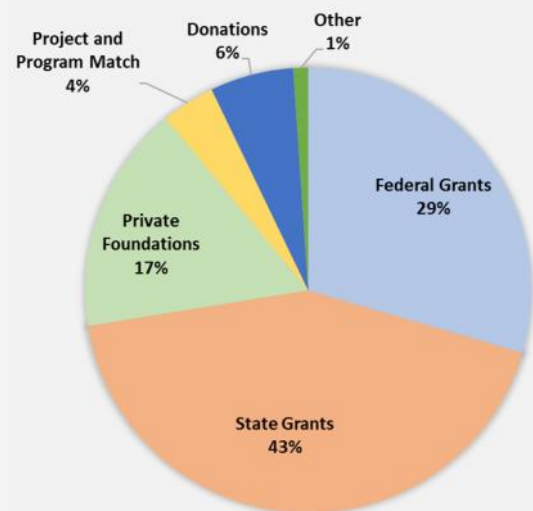


It was a packed house at the Veneta Community Center in March! Over 75 people came to learn about area the watershed's history. We'll continue holding events like these in the coming year!

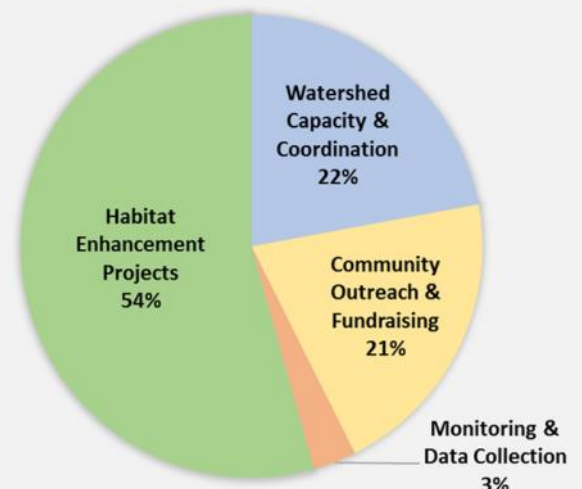
Fiscal Year 2017 Snapshot

We're currently working on our Annual Report, which will be released later this year and showcase key accomplishments from Fiscal Year 2017 (July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017). Below is a breakdown of the council's sources of funding and allocation of expenses to major program areas for the fiscal year.

FISCAL YEAR 2017 FUNDING SOURCES



FISCAL YEAR 2017 EXPENSES



Community Engagement (continued)

Community Learning & Involvement

- Expand public awareness and support through existing community networks and by expanding relationships
- Hold 6 educational public meetings and project tours
- Engage watershed community regularly through newsletters, website and social media announcements, and postings in local media (newspapers, radio, etc.)
- Involve and retain volunteers to fill needs in key areas of council's work

Habitat Enhancement Projects for Watershed Health

Stream & Riparian Habitat

- Complete two fish passage improvement projects (Bear and Coyote Creek basins)
- Plant native trees and shrubs on approximately 7 acres; steward plantings on existing project sites at another 100+ acres (Bear, Coyote, and Ferguson basins)
- Explore opportunities for log placement at project sites in Coyote Creek basin

Willamette River Projects

- Plant 48 acres of new trees and shrubs and steward 65 acres planted in previous years at Snag Boat Bend and Sam Daws Landing
- Reconnect the river to adjacent floodplain habitat at 5 areas within Snag Boat Bend; complete project design for gravel pond enhancement at Sam Daws Landing

Oak, Prairie & Wetland Habitat

- Enhance rare oak savanna, oak woodland, and upland prairie habitat at 8 sites
- Improve wet prairie and wetland habitats at 3 sites
- Participate in controlled burns lead by partners to learn skills and develop awareness of fire as a habitat enhancement tool under the right conditions
- Explore techniques to create and incorporate biochar back into the soil of habitat improvement projects



Sunset over the Willamette River following our public tour at Snag Boat Bend on June 27, where LTWC is engaged in a six-year project partnership made possible by significant investment from OWEB, Bonneville Environmental Foundation and Meyer Memorial Trust.

Enhance Urban Habitat Health

- Develop a project prioritization chart to rank potential voluntary urban stormwater projects
- Develop 5-8 new urban stormwater projects on commercial and industrial property

Monitoring and Data Collection

- Collect year-round water temperature data at 27 sites in Bear, Ferguson, and Coyote Creek basins
- Monitor and report on pesticide levels (5 sites) and flow data at (2 sites) in Amazon Creek basin
- Conduct post-project monitoring and report results at 13 project sites
- Explore opportunities to analyze and describe results of Cutthroat Migration Study

Youth Internships for Native American Students: Bringing Traditional Ecological Knowledge Back into the Long Tom Watershed

College and high school students interested in Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) in the Long Tom Watershed and southern Willamette Valley are encouraged to apply.

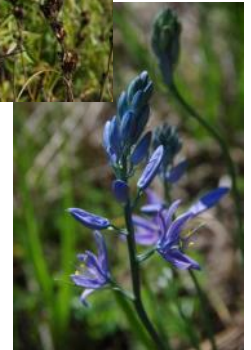
Choose a topic to study through changing seasons, like traditional medicine plants, weaving plants, camas, oak, etc.; natural phenomena, landscapes, policy and law, or another topic of your choice to explore in collaboration with Tribal TEK experts, community members, the Long Tom Watershed Council, and other conservation organizations in the Eugene-Springfield area.

Students will learn about local ecosystems, oak and prairie habitat restoration, botany, ethnoecology, community collaboration, or other topics of interest. Intern projects can contribute to oak habitat restoration efforts currently underway on private and/or public lands and provide information on ways to incorporate TEK into oak restoration efforts in the area.

Internship Details:

- Stipends and funding for transportation are available to support interns.
- Up to six internships are available for the 2017-18 school year.
- Internships can be tailored to fit a student's schedule with time and length commitments flexible based on the student's interest.
- Peer mentor opportunities and public presentation opportunities could be incorporated for students as well.

For an application, please contact Katie MacKendrick at the Long Tom Watershed Council: 541-338-7033 or restoration@longtom.org.



Intern Spotlight: Q&A with Christine Ransom

Christine joined LTWC as our volunteer Landscape Architecture Intern earlier this summer to design stormwater facilities as part of the Urban Waters & Wildlife Program. She is a recent graduate of the Landscape Architecture Program at the University of Oregon. We're very appreciative of her many talents and the generosity of her time as a volunteer! Thank you, Christine!

What type of career path would you like to have in the landscape architecture field?

Upon graduation, the one thing I can say for sure is that Landscape Architecture is my passion. While the direction I would like to take my career is still evolving and changing, what is clear is that I want to make a difference within my community and contribute my skills to projects focused on sustainable design. Ultimately, I would like to be a part of projects that take into consideration the impacts of design on health for both people and environment, which I believe are intertwined. I would say that I would like my career in Landscape Architecture to really focus on how design could improve both our physical environment and our health in a sustainable way. [continued on next page]



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How do you feel this internship is valuable for you?

I feel that my values and interests really align with the long-term mission of the Urban Waters & Wildlife Program. By reducing and preventing pollutants from entering our waterways through stormwater management we can have a positive impact on the health of our environment and people in a sustainable way. It is truly inspirational work. Learning about stormwater management will no doubt be an important tool as I grow as a designer. Stormwater management techniques can be implemented in any type of design and therefore I am learning a widely applicable set of design strategies. The wonderful thing about working for LTWC is that the experience is helping to focus my goals as a designer. My goal is to learn how to weave stormwater systems into designed spaces that are aesthetically pleasing and multifunctional. I have been having a great time learning about the community and all the different programs people are involved in that focus on the health of our environment and the commitment LTWC has to educating the public to make positive changes. I am inspired to do my part.



Any personal interests or hobbies you'd like to share?

I feel like I'm your typical Oregonian who loves to spend most of the time outdoors. So naturally many of my hobbies include taking advantage of good weather and sunshine. I love traveling, hiking, caving, camping, taking pictures, and hanging out with my pup. Anything involving water is at the top of my list. Being near the water (ocean, rivers, lakes, and waterfalls) is when I feel most at peace and I feel really fortunate to live in a state that provides so much opportunity and beauty. And of course that makes working with the LTWC so amazing because now I can be actively be a part of improving our waterways and give back.

LTWC Board Member, Book, Featured in Register-Guard

Board member David Turner was featured in the July 30th edition of [The Register-Guard](#) for his work on a new book, ***Along the Long Tom River: Observations from the Past and Present***, which David introduced at the Council's March public meeting on the watershed's history. Below is an excerpt from the newspaper article, titled "The forgotten river." Read on to join David and RG writer Derek Maiolo on a canoe float of the river, and a reflection on the rich history of this watershed! The full article can be found at: <http://registerguard.com/rg/life/lifestyles/35777959-74/the-forgotten-river.html.csp>

"Turner's first brush with the Long Tom River came 14 years ago, when Turner and his wife, Suzanne Linquist, moved to a house along Owens Creek, a tributary of the Long Tom. Previous owners had built a makeshift dam that backed up the water and stopped the native cutthroat trout from following their natural migration upstream. Turner said that such manmade fish barriers pose other threats to the quality of the water and are a concern to conservationists. 'I was wondering what to do about this as a new landowner and got a hold of the Long Tom Watershed Council,' Turner said. [...] 'They have proven to be wonderful stewards of the land.'"



Photo Credit: Rhianna Gelhart/The Register-Guard

We encourage you to check out the [full story online](#), and thanks for sharing your story, David!

Upcoming LTWC Events

Urban Waters & Wildlife Prog. Public Meeting

Tuesday, October 24, 6 - 8 p.m.

Location TBD. More info to follow on website and October newsletter!

Long Tom River Enhancement Project

Thurs, Nov. 30, 6 - 8 p.m., Monroe Library

Final in series of public meetings on this topic. Opportunity for watershed stakeholders to review the draft Long Tom River Habitat Improvement Plan. This plan will be a summary and prioritization of the information and ideas and habitat enhancement opportunities generated by the project.

Community Announcements

Oregon Season Tracker Citizen Science Program Expanding to Monroe!

LTWC is teaming with OSU Extension to help spread the word about the Oregon Season Tracker (OST) Program. OST is a citizen science program connecting community volunteers with OSU researchers studying weather and ecology where we live.

The OST program recruits and trains citizen scientist volunteers in our area and across the state. OST volunteers collect and report local data on seasonal events such as rainfall, bud break and flowering. OST volunteers track events in their own backyards, on their farms and woodlands, and in schoolyards. They report their data online, making it available to researchers at OSU and across the country.

OSU Extension is offering new OST trainings this fall in Lane, Benton and Linn Counties. Complete a 2-3 hour self-paced online training at home before attending one, 2 hour local hands-on classroom session. Online training opens mid-September with local classroom sessions being scheduled now for **October 17 in Monroe and November 15 in Tangent (6-8 p.m.)** After learning the protocols volunteers spend about 5 minutes a day reporting precipitation, and about 15 minutes a week reporting plant observations.

To register: <http://bit.ly/ORSeasonTrackerTraining>

More info: jody.einerson@oregonstated.edu, 541-766-6311

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

At Large

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

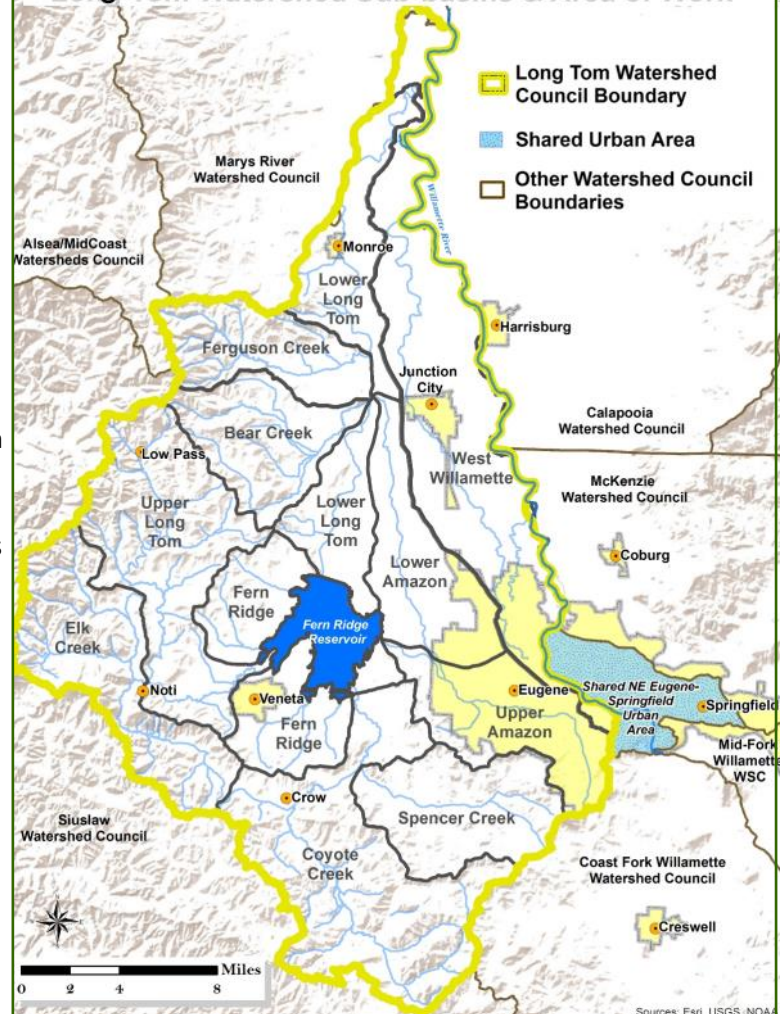
Upper Long Tom

Cary Hart
Lindsay Reaves
Charles Ruff, *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 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

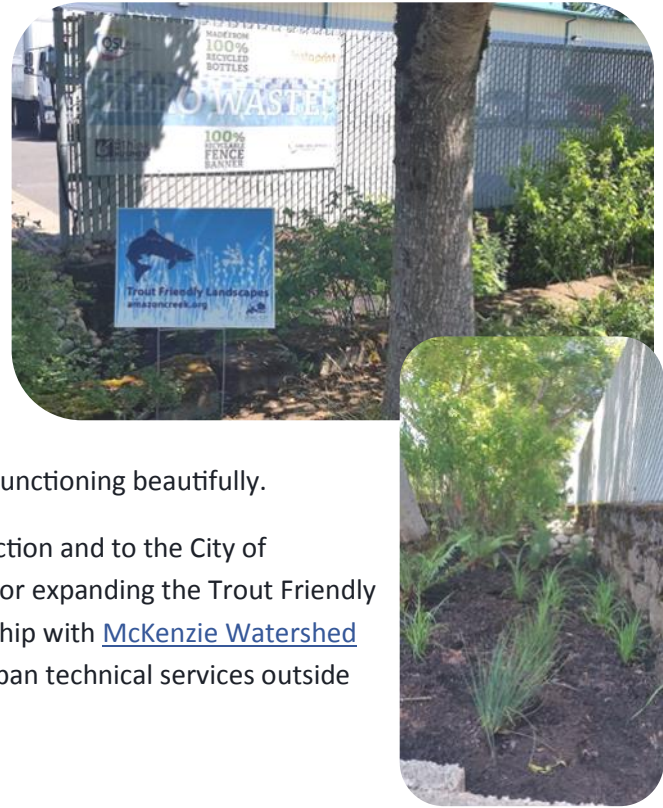
Trisha Maxfield, Ops & Database Assistant: 338-7055

Trout Friendly Landscape Project in Springfield!

[QSL Print Communications](#) is the first Trout Friendly Landscape project and the council's first stormwater project in the City of [Springfield](#)! QSL had an existing swale, but went above and beyond their requirements to replant. With LTWC's expertise, they created sediment drops, replaced soils, installed check dams and added irrigation. Employees say it looks beautiful – just like a park!

QSL staff did much of the work themselves, building a deep understanding of the function of the swale and the impacts downstream that can be mitigated by a well-designed, installed and maintained facility. Project lead, Kraig Slack, applied this new found knowledge at home and installed his own stormwater facility! Reports are that it is all functioning beautifully.

Thanks to our partners at [BRING RE:think](#) program for making the connection and to the City of Springfield, [Springfield Utility Board](#) and [Eugene Water & Electric Board](#) for expanding the Trout Friendly Landscape program into Springfield, made possible through our partnership with [McKenzie Watershed Council](#) and [Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council](#) to extend our urban technical services outside the Long Tom Watershed into Springfield!



Long Tom Watershed Council

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Eugene, OR 97402
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