

Wow! What an incredible 20th Anniversary Year!

While finalizing this year's annual report, some of the feedback we received was "It's kind of long, can you make it any shorter?" The truth is that we can't – there is just too much to share!

By the numbers

All those facts and figures tell an important part of the council's story and the growth of our impact. Last year the council stewarded 33 active grants and contracts – this coming year that number has nearly doubled to over 62! Those 62 grants and contracts represent just over \$1 million of grant funding directed to this watershed community to do the work you support. The truth is that funding only gets directed to the Long Tom because of meaningful and consistent community investment.

The majority of those grants require significant local match. Funders want to know that the projects are supported by local communities, they are a local priority, and that local partners have some skin in the game on realizing success in the long term.

The strongest way to demonstrate that support is to show local investment and matching dollars from the watershed community. In other words, it depends upon you!

Donations represented about 16% of our funding picture last year, but what that piece of the pie represents is the power to make all the other pieces of the pie possible. Your gifts are the linchpin for our work toward a healthier Long Tom Watershed! We simply cannot accomplish this scale of impact without your generous support.

Beyond the numbers

What our chocked-full annual report also includes are lots and lots of names!

If you've ever heard me talk about the council, you've probably heard me include the reminder that this watershed is about 90% privately owned. When I say that we don't get much done unless private landowners and members of the community want it done, I mean it! These are the names of all our project landowner partners, and our council supporters for the year!

With a few exceptions like our work on the Willamette mainstem with the US Fish & Wildlife Service, and with the City of Eugene to enhance oak habitat on the Eugene ridgeline for example, the vast majority of our work happens on private, often working, lands where people build their lives and businesses. The continued commitment to help landowners balance habitat enhancement with earning a living on the land is one of the things that makes our council so unique. That focus is a continued reflection of the spirit of the Oregon Plan for Salmon & Watersheds crafted over 20 years ago, and continues to be at the core of our mission and priority. **Private lands are the heart of this work.** Continuing to build relationships and find solutions with urban and rural private landowners is essential to realizing the incredible opportunities for enduring, high-quality, habitat enhancement work in the Long Tom Watershed. **All of that depends upon your support for our unique and successful process, and your participation as stakeholders in this thoughtful and sincere approach.**



On a Personal Note

Even though I've been with the council nearly 3 years, I'm still amazed on a daily basis by things that are surely obvious to those who have been here a long time. To see the diversity of Watershed stakeholders continuing to come together in common interest for a healthier watershed is humbling – it is clear our community uniquely understands <u>why</u> this work is important. Of course, there will always be differing opinions on <u>how</u> that works is done. But that is the beauty of a private lands approach – the council can bring science and resources to the community to help each partner decide what is right for them. The trust that this community places in its council to have those conversations is remarkable and truly special – that is because this council was built by you. It was built by your values, your voice, and your investment. It is something for you to be proud of, and it is a testament to the power of community to stand together in changing times, and of the enduring strength of a culture of neighbors helping each other to do the right thing for the health of the home they share.

Thank you for being a part of this special watershed and for putting yourself and your values behind this work. **Please share the joy of the watershed this holiday season with your family, neighbors and friends.** I look forward to connecting with you in the new year and continuing to work together toward a healthier Long Tom Watershed!

Sincerely,

Clinton Begley





Stream & Riparian Projects in Rural Areas Connecting habitat for fish, wildlife and future generations

Goals: Increase **habitat connectivity and complexity;** increase **shade to lower stream temperatures**; improve **soil stability** and **water quality**; and open streams for **fish migration**.

2017 Impact:

- Planted native trees and shrubs along 1/2 mile and 7 acres of streamside habitat; stewarded additional 250 acres to increase project success
- Removed over 2 miles of invasive weeds on 22 acres
- Treated over 15 acres of ponds and 14 stream miles that are source populations for aquatic invasive plant, Ludwigia
- Secured funding to remove 12th and final fish passage barrier in Owens Creek, culminating 10 years of work at 8 sites!

Willamette River Enhancement Projects

Regional stewardship in our broader watershed community

Goals: Improve habitat complexity and function; reconnect side channels and alcoves that provide refuge for fish; increase floodplain forest habitat at Snag Boat Bend and Sam Daws Landing projects

2017 Impact:

- Planted 120,000 trees and shrubs, another 30,000 willow stakes (26 species!)
- Completed project designs that will remove berms and other constructed features that disconnect side channel habitat

Recovering Oak, Prairie, and Wetland Habitats

Leaving a legacy on working lands and public open space

Goals: Improving habitat and connecting these sites on private and public lands

into **corridors of habitat; increase populations and diversity** of native plants; implement projects that **balance goals of working lands** while providing increased **food and nesting** opportunities for pollinators and wildlife.

2017 Impact:

• Improved oak savanna, oak woodland, and upland prairie habitat at 6 sites, and improve wet prairie and wetland enhancement at 4 sites totaling 97 acres

Celebrating 20 Years of Community Support "Action through Understanding"

Mission: 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.



Mink at Hunton Family Farm project Photo: Jason Hunton



Volunteers cutting and planting willow stakes as part of a project stewardship effort along Owens Creek

A snapshot of local impact 2017

Urban Waters & Wildlife Program

Bridging urban & rural communities

Goals: Work with businesses to **develop best management practices** (BMPs); upgrade landscapes by **improving soil**, using **lowmaintenance plants**, and **designing stormwater facilities** that improve **water quality**; create urban **wildlife habitat** corridors.

2017 Impact:

- Created stormwater project designs for 5 businesses, conducted project feasibility studies for another 6 businesses
- Implemented 5 projects that treat over 70 acres of stormwater

Community Engagement

Providing opportunities for learning & involvement



"I was incredibly impressed at the dedication, hard work, and success the LTWC staff, namely Sarah Whitey, had with our project while juggling it with so many others. They are making a positive impact on our land and all of our community, not just humans, every day." - Jennifer Salvatore, HIV Alliance

Goals: Provide **meaningful opportunities for stakeholders** to share ideas, learn about watershed conditions, and participate in finding practical solutions; value **diverse perspectives**; identify opportunities to **advance diversity**, **equity, and inclusion** in LTWC's work.

2017 Impact:

- Involved Monroe area residents and community leaders in idea-sharing, planning, and problem-solving conversations for the **Lower Long Tom River Enhancement Plan** project.
- Commenced an exciting project to **facilitate dialogue between tribal members and partners** to **incorporate traditional practices into oak restoration** through workshops, conversations, and internships for Native youth
- Engaged over 2,000 community members through newsletters, website / listserv postings, and social media
- Produced 6 open public meetings and tours
- Engaged volunteers in habitat stewardship, fundraising, stormwater designs, and office operations.

Collecting Scientific Data

Understanding current conditions & habitat needs

Goals: Use data to **identify and prioritize areas for habitat enhancement**; Continue to monitor pesticides through the **Pesticide Stewardship Program**; assess long-term impacts of riparian plantings and reduction on temperature by monitoring changes in shade and temperature over time.

2017 Impact:

- Collected Amazon Creek pesticide & water quality data for 6th straight year
- Gathered continuous water temperature data at 26 sites in Bear, Ferguson, and Coyote Creek basins
- Monitored habitat improvement progress on completed projects at 11 sites



"LTWC is unique in their ability to successfully bring together all of the various entities, such as landowners, agencies, contractors, and educational resources to achieve our common goal of habitat and watershed health. They know how to accomplish what we don't have the ability to do alone!" - Donna & Al Hrynyshyn, Owens Creek Landowners

Thank you, 2017 Donors and Partners!

Development Program Note

This year the council celebrated 20 years of neighbors helping neighbors to enhance land and water in their community. This milestone is a celebration of the wonderful tapestry of people that make up our watershed community and the common value to steward our land and water that has been the foundation for building bridges of trust and a sense of community around the vision for a healthy Long Tom Watershed. This year was also an important milestone in our Development Program, marked by our 20th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign, as well as our 5th consecutive year exceeding the prior year's private donation totals! The council also started an exciting project to facilitate dialogue with Tribes regarding traditional knowledge in oak and prairie habitats. After an initial grant from Spirit Mountain Community Fund, the generosity of the watershed came through in a big way! Through private donations, we were able to successfully meet our goal to fund outreach and facilitation work on this project!



"The project is important to me, personally, and organizationally, as I am a basket weaver and we are always looking for spots to have our material grow and be harvested in a correct way and time. Habitat restoration would be so beneficial. [But] what excites me most is simply having a tribal voice heard." - Brenda Brainard, Natives Program Dir., Eugene 4J Schools

Private giving is essential to the council's work and ability to secure capital funding for important projects. From the council to the entire watershed community, thank you for investing in clean water and healthy habitat watershed wide. Can you imagine what we can continue to achieve in the next 20 years together?

Annual Campaign Gifts

Peder Allison Allcott/Hunt Share It Now Advised Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation Ed Alverson **Rolf Anderson** Armadillo Roofing Inc. Tom Bauman & Lindsay Reaves Sharon & Jim Blick Peg Boulay & Bruce Newhouse Linda Bovard Barbara & Joe Bowman Troy Brandt Mike Brinkley Ted & Lindy Brown Café Yumm! Kea Cannon Linda & Doug Carnine Ryan Collay & Iris Tiedt John & Marilyn Daniel Deck Family Farm Matt Dedek Dana & Jason Dedrick

Alan & Sue Dickman Allen Dong Jeffrey Jane Flowers Friends of the Long Tom Watershed Len Gillette & Pennie Spraggins -Gillette Elliott & Kathryn Grey Susan Hall Stephanie Hampton—In memory of Ava June Hampton who esteemed American Indian culture for its loving wisdom of how to live upon Mother Earth Glen & Genie Harden Cary Hart Cliff & Kari Herbert Phyllis Helland & Ray Morse Gary & Jo Holzbauer Alec & Donna Hrynyshyn Hummingbird Wholesale Einar & Deb Ingebretsen

Sue Kacskos Sara Kaul & Robert Murphy Kurt & Mary Koehler Beth Krisko Jeff Krueger Lane Forest Products Laughing Stock Farm Liz Lawrence Gary Lech Lochmead Farms Whitey Lueck Fraser MacDonald Deb Mailander Pat McDowell Pat & George Miller Shelly Miller Linda Modrell John Moriarty Margo Murman Ninkasi Brewery LLC Oregon Recreation & Park Association Pacific Ag Systems

Jim & Christine Pendergrass Nancy Pierce Bonnie & Mike Quigley Maya Robbins Deborah Saunders Evans Steve Sertic Kevin & Evelyn Shanley Paul Simonds Court Smith Jodi Sommers Spencer Creek Growers Market Shirlee Taylor - In honor of Deborah Saunders Evans Randy Tittle & Marion Sproul David & Suzanne Turner Jabrila & David Wali Via Mary Ellen West Michael & Jan Whitty Charles Zennache & Bonnie Henderson Anonymous (2)

Tribal Engagement Campaign

Merle & Kathy Allen Ed Alverson Rolf Anderson Clinton Begley Monica Begley Vicki Blackman Heron Brae Mike Brinkley Bruce Campbell—In memory of Andy Reasoner Linda & Doug Carnine

Business League

Bowman Tree Farm GloryBee Foods Mountain Rose Herbs, Organically Grown Co. Seneca Family of Companies SureCrop Farm Service Transition Management Inc.

Public Sustaining Partners

Bonneville Power Admin. City of Eugene Oregon Dept. of Agriculture Oregon DEQ ODFW Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board City of Springfield Springfield Utility Board U.S. Army Corps of Engineers U.S. Bureau of Land Mgmt U.S. EPA U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Private Sustaining Partners

Bonneville Env. Foundation Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation Jane Christen—In honor of Future Generations Nancy Hafner Susan Hanner Hilary Hunt Fraser MacDonald McKenzie River Trust Shelly Miller Margie Myska—In memory of Sandra Morgen Keli Osborn

Annual Celebration Event Sponsors

Ninkasi Brewing LLC Stroda Brothers Farm Weyerhaeuser Co.

Lower Long Tom Community Engagement Project Match

Dick & Gretchen Evans

Davis Commercial Properties Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) Meyer Memorial Trust, Monroe Telephone Co. Spirt Mountain Comm. Fund SureCrop Farm Service Justin Overdevest Pacific Continental Bank Jim & Christine Pendergrass Hugh & Sue Prichard Bonnie & Mike Quigley Jim Remington & Joan Wozniak Kevin & Evelyn Shanley Richard Shugar Stahlbush Island Farms Joy Thompson—In memory of Todd Hicklin David & Suzanne Turner Jabrila & David Wali Via Maryellen Wyman—In honor of Ethan Wyman Peg Wyse—In honor of Margaret R. Wyse Anonymous—In memory of Piper Pants Anonymous (1)



Project Manager Jed Kaul describes the work to reconnect side channel habitat at Snag Boat Bend during a tour of LTWC's Willamette River projects.



"When I think about the future of the Long Tom Watershed Council, I am excited. I see better water quality. I see happier species that are supposed to live here. I see more people knowing about the watershed council. I see businesses getting more involved. I see farmers getting more engaged and landowners and people really valuing the habitat—where we live and connecting with it." - Jodi Sommers, Essex General Construction, Inc.

Thank you, Restoration Project Landowners!

These wonderful watershed families, businesses, and partners have voluntarily done restoration work on their land and represent 20 years of neighbors working together on local land and water issues!

Private

2Form Architecture (2017) Kristen Anderson (2007) Paul Atkinson (2008) Barrows Family (2012) Al & Wanda Bartlett (2005) Bennett Vineyards (2015) Will & Kathy Bondioli (2002) Jim & Maria Bradshaw (2012) Ted & Linda Brown (2012) Doug & Linda Carnine (2016) Ryan Collay (2001) **Davis Commercial Properties** (2012)Deck Family Farm (2010) Ron & Pam Detering (2001, 2013) Wallace & Roberta Detering (2013)Paula & Curtis Erickson (2009) Essex General Construction (2015)Kathy Flanagan & John McClurkin (2013) Scott Gibson (2007, 2008) Gibson Steel Basins (2016) Giustina Land & Timber (2013, 2014) GloryBee Foods (2016) Goracke Seed Farms (2015) Marilyn Graham (2015) Jack Gray & Mary Jo Wade (2006, 2008)Scot Gray & Catherine Reinhart Linda Stork (2006) (2015)Trey & Tammie Hagen (2011, 2012) Kent Hansen (2008) Glen & Genie Harden (2008) Harper Family (2015) Dave & Marta Heidt (2007, 2010) HIV Alliance (2017) Gary & Jo Holzbauer (2003) Gibson Steel Basins (2015) Hull-Oakes Land & Timber

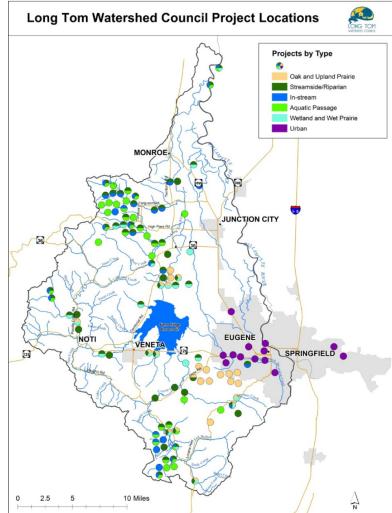
(2013)Hunton Family (2005) Rick Huhtanen & Karen Scholler (2003) Derek & Diane Jaros (2007) Joe's Garage (2015) Art & Anita Johnson (2000, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2010, 2016) Val & Ken Kime (2011) Pete Kingzett (2014) Kurt & Mary Koehler (2011) Rick & Patti Little (2003) Deborah & Alan Mattson (2005, 2007, 2011) Joe McFadden (2008) Cary Moffett (2005) Mountain Rose Herbs (2015) Rick Movsky (2002) Ron & Janice Murphy (2008) John & Gwen Neumeister (2003)Noble Family (2005) OSU Extension (2016) Scott & JJ Perkins (2016) **QSL** Communication (2016) Dave & Linda Schudel (2012)Seneca Sawmill (2016) Steve Sertic (2004) Smyth Family (2014) Sogge Family (2010) Stroda Family (2007, 2008, 2011) Swanek Family (2014) Molly Templeton (2002), Thermo Fisher Scientific (2013, 2015, 2016) Andy & Maryrae Thomson (2003, 2011) Randy Tittle & Marion Sproul (2014)

Dave & Suzanne Turner (2005) Dave & Isabel Watkins (2011) Mark Westphal (2002) Wild Time Foods (2017)

Public

Bureau of Land Management (2010, 2011, 2013, 2014) City of Eugene (2001, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2014, 2016)

Lane County (2001, 2013, 2014) Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (2015) Oregon Parks & Recreation (2013) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2012)U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (2014)



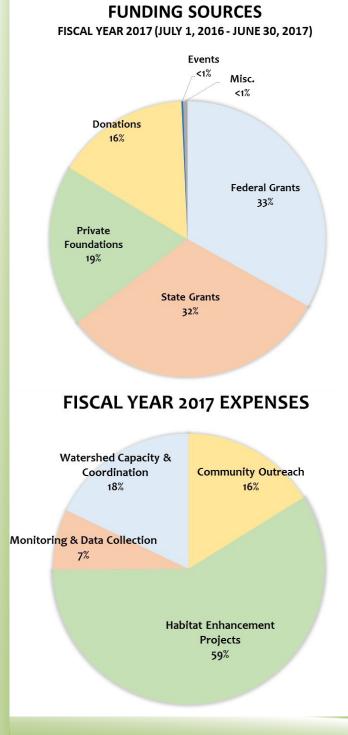
"It's nice to work with (LTWC) in a way that's benefitting the environment and letting farmers still farm in a way they see fit. It doesn't take a lot of work going out of our way to work with the watershed council and have the watershed council work with us in ways that benefit our farm, and the water flow, and the fish, and the charismatic megafauna that are around." - Jason Hunton, farmer

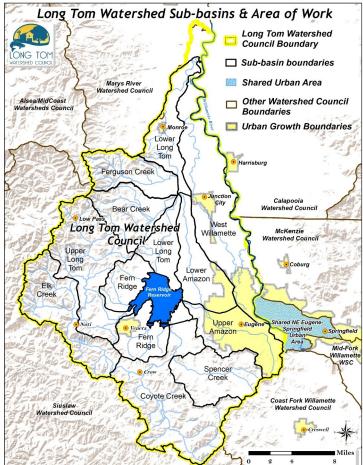
Long Tom Watershed Council

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