



# LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

November 2018

Action  
Through  
Understanding

## Public Meeting Invitation

Monday, November 26, 7 - 9 p.m.

“First Peoples of Western Oregon:  
Our Cultures, Our Histories, and Our Future”

Lane Community College Longhouse (directions on back)



Left: Joe Scott, speaker for Nov. 26 public meeting; Middle: Andrew Reasoner Wildlife Preserve hosts many of the Team TEK gatherings (photo by Aaron Zettler-Mann); Right: Team TEK gathering in September at Andrew Reasoner.

**Speaker:** Joe Scott, Siletz Tribal member and language and culture bearer; curriculum coordinator for Team TEK Youth Education Program

### Meeting Topics:

- History and traditional ways of life of the Tribes and Bands that make up today’s Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Learn about Siletz history, language, and a spiritual and material culture tied to the land that thrives to this day.
- Learn about the Team TEK Program, providing opportunities for Native youth to learn about traditional knowledge, language, and history

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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.

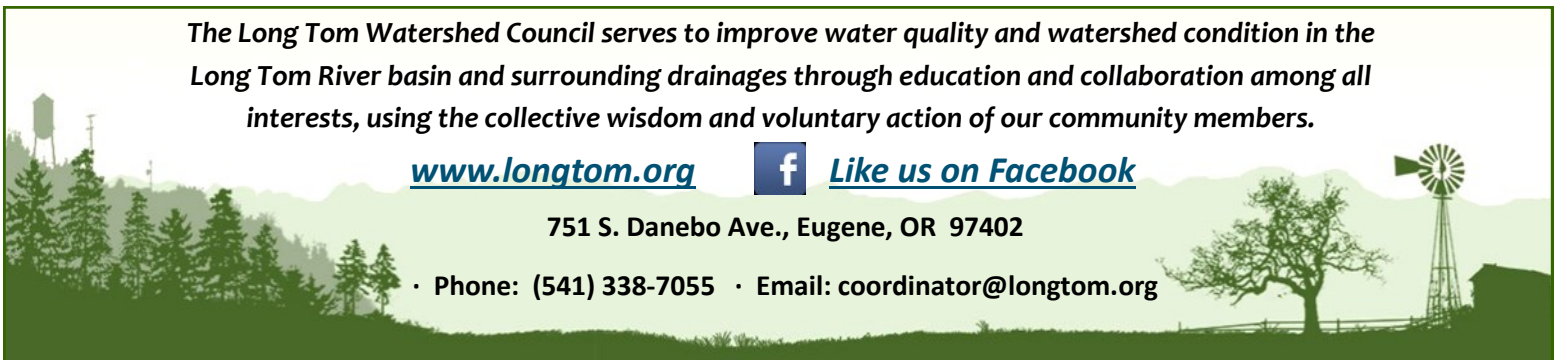
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751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene, OR 97402

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



# “First Peoples of Western Oregon: Our Cultures, Our Histories, and Our Futures”

**LTWC’s Note:** Last year, this watershed community stepped up in a big way to support outreach and engagement to area Tribes regarding traditional knowledge in oak and prairie habitats. We are incredibly grateful and humbled by the strong community support from individual donors, partners, and private foundations that helped collectively raise nearly \$35,000 for this work in its first year! We also wouldn’t have been able to engage in this work without the tremendous partnerships with area Tribal members, staff, and educators, Valerie Goodness and Joe Scott. Joe is the curriculum coordinator and youth mentor for the Team TEK (Traditional Ecological Knowledge) Youth Education Program. This program and the engagement of Native youth in learning about traditional ecological knowledge, history, and culture, is a significant outcome of this community support. **Thank you!**

**At the November 26<sup>th</sup> public meeting,** folks will have an opportunity to learn more about the Team TEK Youth Education Program and of the history, culture, and language of the Siletz People from Siletz Tribal Member Joe Scott.

All are welcome to this free public meeting! If you have any questions, please contact Rob: 541-338-7055 | [operations@longtom.org](mailto:operations@longtom.org).

## **Public Meeting Introduction written by Joe Scott**

“At the November 26<sup>th</sup> public meeting, I will deliver a brief history of western Oregon’s First Peoples; the struggles, survival, and ultimate triumph against the many forces that would see the People destroyed in mind and spirit. I have been bestowed the honor of ‘Language and Culture Bearer’ by the Tribe, and I have extensive knowledge of the histories, languages, cultures, and cultural practices of the various Bands and Tribes of this place; this place we now call Oregon.

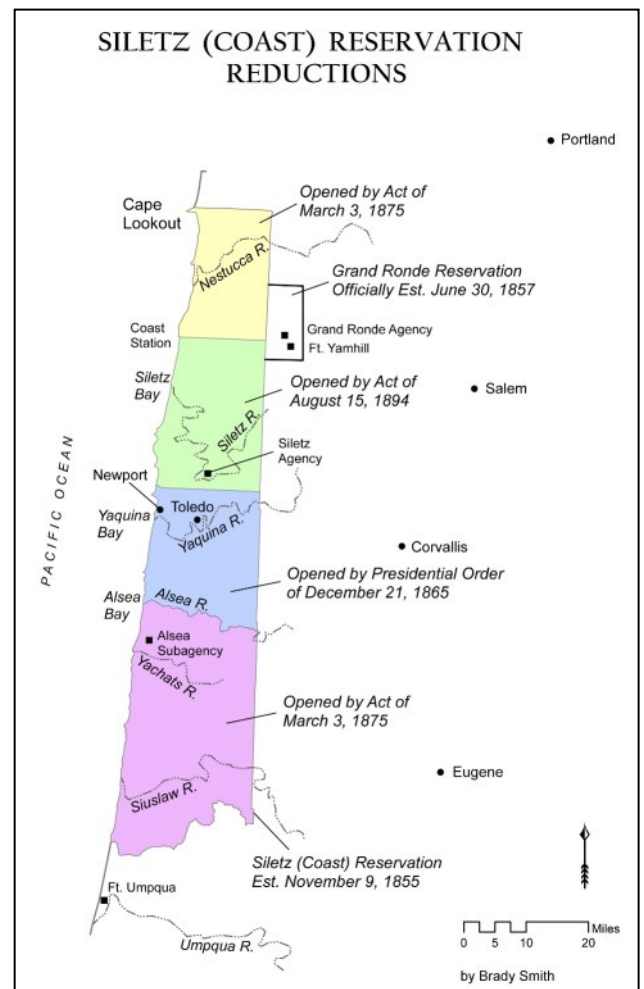
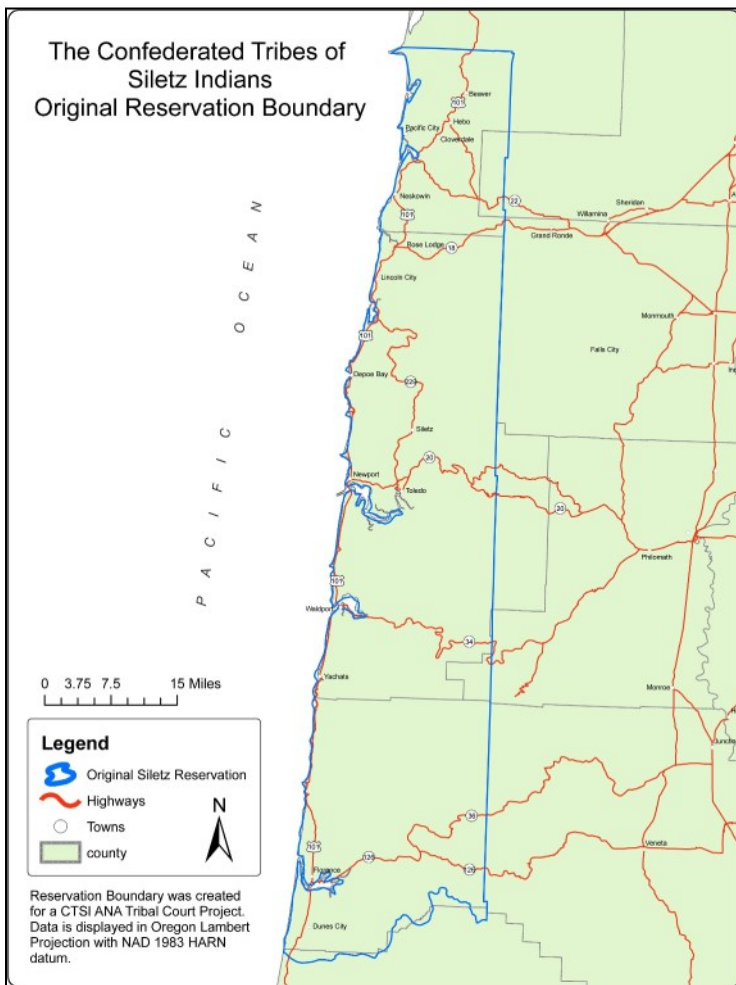
There are life lessons, and a vast traditional knowledge that has developed here along with and complementary to the Siletz People since time began. These cultural practices, unique to this rare and special place, have allowed Siletz People to live and thrive here since time immemorial. These ways of being will be shared throughout the evening.

Since the Creator made all of the unique Tribes and Bands of Oregon, the Laws have been abided and followed; Siletz People have lived with the land as a guide and companion. From the two-legged and the four legged; from the plants and insects - every living thing has evolved with the water, earth, sky, and fire. It’s important for colonial descendants to understand

*(continued on next page)*



*Images of Joe Scott (top) and the Team TEK (Traditional Ecological Knowledge) gatherings at the Andrew Reasoner Wildlife Preserve. The bottom photo shows the construction of a traditional camas oven. (Photos by Joe Scott)*

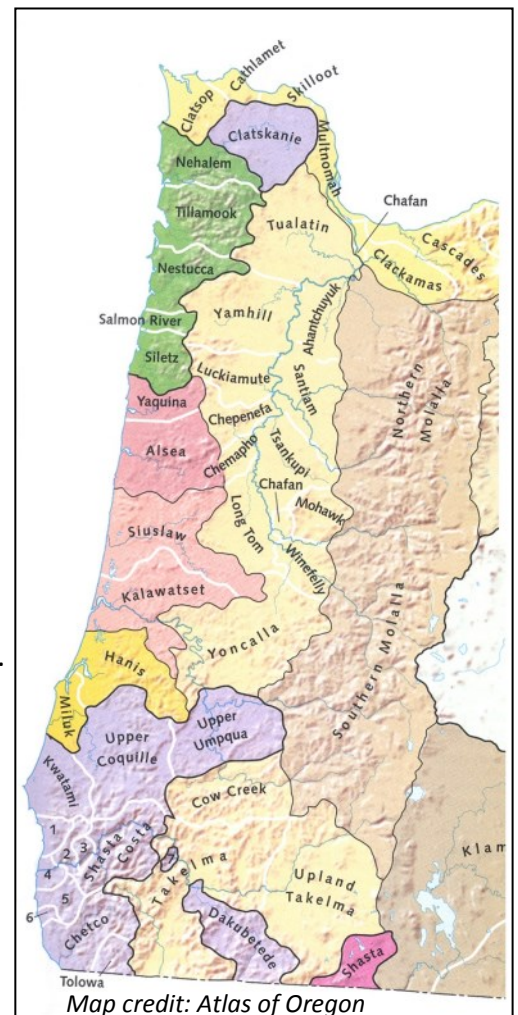


Maps provided by Joe Scott. The maps above show the coastal reservation boundary, and subsequent reduction of that area, for the Siletz Tribes. The map at the bottom left shows the languages of Native peoples in western Oregon. A link to the full map, including the legend detailing the linguistic and cultural diversity, can be found at [www.longtom.org/novpublicmeeting2018/](http://www.longtom.org/novpublicmeeting2018/)

that the Siletz as a People are still here. Not only are the People here, but songs, stories, ceremonies, and other precious practices and traditions shape and guide Tribal life to this day. The Siletz Tribe is a sovereign, and as such, these ways are protected and promoted - once again, against the many forces that would see the People undone.

Siletz ways follow a solar calendar. Ceremonies of thanks, renewal, wealth, and life change have always fallen to the solstices and equinoxes. Siletz ecological wisdom is complimentary to these marks in time. There are times for planting, gathering, weaving, fishing, hunting, and every tradition between. Spring is gathering; summer is for cultivation; fall is a season of preservation, trade, and preparation; winter is the time of legends. The People sit closer to the fire, and listen.

There are many lessons to be learned from the material culture of Siletz people, and these things will be honored and celebrated. Fall's songs, stories, and prayers mark this time of wise preparation, and I will be with us to share these things."



## Thank you! Yes, YOU!

**This watershed has so much to be thankful for!** This past year the Council removed the 12<sup>th</sup> and final fish passage barrier in Owens Creek, which opened another 15 miles of native fish habitat to the watershed! Our Urban Waters and Wildlife Program created project designs for 15 Eugene/Springfield area businesses, and currently has three voluntary green infrastructure projects underway to clean and cool urban stormwater entering the Long Tom via Amazon Creek. Our Uplands Program improved rare oak savanna and woodland habitat on 74 acres, and is actively working to improve another 188 acres across four sites. It has also improved wet and upland prairie habitat on over 150 acres and is currently exploring ways to incorporate Biochar creation techniques into these projects to reduce project emissions, and increase soil health. Our “Team TEK” Tribal Youth Internship program



is currently in its second season under the leadership of Curriculum Director and Youth Mentor Joe Scott of the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians. The program continues to explore opportunities for tribal youth to learn about the watershed, and facilitate the sharing of traditional ecological knowledge among participants. We have also continued our engagement with the community of Monroe to bring technical assistance and resources to help find win-win solutions for fish passage for juvenile spring chinook salmon up the Long Tom River, and support the city’s visions for growth and a vibrant future for Monroe. The Council has also grown to meet the needs of the watershed with the addition of critical admin staff, Sarah Pollock, shared with our partners at McKenzie River Trust, and the recent hiring of Stormwater Draft/Designer Miranda Hawkes to help meet the high demand for voluntary urban stormwater projects. **These are just a few of the activities and successes the Council has been able to realize on behalf of the Long Tom Watershed through the energy, expertise, thoughtfulness, and compassion of this watershed community.** That means you! In the coming months you’ll have a chance to read our full fiscal year 2018 Annual Report, see our multiple projects completed and underway, and study the impacts “by the numbers.” But it’s important to remember that **none of it happens without you**, the watershed community we serve. **Every one of the enhancements in our watershed this year has been directly supported by your generosity of time, your meaningful financial contribution, and the gift of your compassionate voice supporting, and guiding, the work we do on behalf of the values you hold dear for this home-watershed we share.**

From all of us at the Long Tom Watershed Council, **thank you** for all you do for this incredible watershed and everyone who calls it home.

# Urban Waters & Wildlife Program Project Updates

## 2fORM Architecture Stormwater Project

2fORM Architecture now has its driveway back—and it's better than ever! We removed the asphalt in front of the firm's building and replaced it with in-ground stormwater planters and permeable paving. All that is left is getting the 100% native plants installed in the planters, which will happen just after the publishing of this newsletter. The client put his personal stamp on the project by integrating a beautiful bridge over the stormwater facility near the front of the building to be used during large gatherings, and when the roll up door is open in the summer. This project manages nearly all of this building's stormwater as well as the entire parking area which will significantly reduce the amount of stormwater leaving the site, and delaying and cleaning what does leave the site. Pollutants managed include heavy metals and petrochemicals, not only from the vehicles that park here, but from those driving on nearby I-105. These pollutants turn into a fine spray in the air and land on nearby impervious surfaces, such as roofs, and are then picked up by stormwater and washed into streams. This project is funded by an OWEB (Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board) small grant and the City of Eugene.



*Newly installed permeable paving at 2fORM Architecture*



*Close up of permeable pavers and bridge over stormwater planter at 2fORM.*

## Ridgeline Montessori School

We're also currently creating project designs for Ridgeline Montessori School, which is exploring fixing a year-round soggy playfield by replacing it with a constructed wetland that will also function as an outdoor classroom and natural play area. Lindsay Smith-Ramsey, a parent at the school and a volunteer with the Council, connected the school with the Urban Waters and Wildlife Program who did a site walk with the principal and a dedicated teacher to identify stormwater issues and potential habitat improvement opportunities. Several site opportunities were identified, with the constructed wetland identified as Phase One. Just after the printing of this newsletter, a meeting with the school's Board and Site Committee will be held to get stakeholder input on the project. This project will be conducted in partnership with Ecology in Classrooms and Outdoors (ECO) who will write curriculum that will integrate this wetland into classroom activities. This project will be funded by grants and contracts from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and the City of Eugene.



*The playground at Ridgeline Montessori is soggy and muddy. Replacing part of the area with a constructed wetland will help divert water into the wetland, improving the playground and providing habitat.*

# Stream & Fish Passage Project Updates

## Owens Creek Grassed Waterway Project

This project re-graded a 1,300-foot seasonal tributary to the Long Tom River into a grassed waterway to reduce erosion and help filter runoff from adjacent fields. Before the project, this seasonal stream, which runs through a Christmas tree field off High Pass Road on the Thomson property, had vertical banks that lacked vegetation (see pre-project photo). This caused erosion and sedimentation downstream. The grassed waterway was seeded with a mix of native grasses and forbs, and erosion control fabric was installed on the re-



graded waterway to help stabilize the banks until the freshly planted seed becomes established (see post-project photo). LTWC now has a grant from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality that includes funding for outreach to agricultural landowners to develop similar grassed waterway projects like this one. This project at the Thomson property was funded by an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board small grant. The Thomsons also contributed significant labor, including re-grading the waterway with a tractor and bulldozer and the installation of the erosion control fabric.

## Jordan Creek Fish Passage Replacement and Log Placement

Jordan Creek is an important spawning area and summer cold water refuge for cutthroat trout, brook lamprey, and other native fish. This summer, we replaced the final remaining barrier culvert in Jordan Creek that will provide fish passage to five miles of upstream habitat! The new culvert, on Camp Murname of the Boy Scouts, is a 171" x 110" pipe arch culvert that's as wide as the stream during winter flows and laid with rock to simulate the stream bed. The Council also installed 30 log jams in two miles of Jordan Creek and a tributary to Jordan Creek within four properties owned by the Boy Scouts, Roseburg Resources, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the Rothauge property. Logs were sourced from Douglas-fir trees along the stream banks that were tipped at most sites to keep rootwads intact for stability and to incorporate limbs for improved habitat complexity that benefits juvenile fish. Some other logs came from Douglas-fir that were thinned from LTWC oak restoration sites. Both the fish passage and log placement efforts were funded by a BLM grant plus contributions from two of the landowners. Roseburg Resources also created the project designs for the log placements.



(more projects on back page)

# What an incredible Annual Celebration!

What a night! We had 152 registered guests to this, our 21st Annual Celebration on October 22<sup>nd</sup> - a new record! We're incredibly grateful to our three presenters for helping us visualize the important community connections in this watershed and the positive impacts upstream efforts in the urban area have on the entire watershed. Thank you to Melissa Koke of [QSL Print Communications](#), Jodi Sommers of [Essex General Construction, Inc.](#) and technical volunteer and retired landscape architect Kevin Shanley for their generosity of time and enthusiasm for the Council! We also want to thank the [Eugene City Barnstormers](#), whose upbeat, folksy music has become something of an annual tradition at these events. And of course, we want to thank [WildCraft Cider Works](#) for hosting us in their beautiful space!

## A special thanks to our sponsors:

**Corporate Sponsor (\$500+)**  **Weyerhaeuser**

**Event Sponsors (\$250+)** **Bauman Tree Farm** | 

**Poster Sponsor (\$50+)** **Conser Quarry**

If you missed it, check out some photos of the event below, taken by board member Dave Thomas. **Thank you to all who came to celebrate another incredible year with us! We are so grateful for the care and thoughtful support of our watershed community.**



## Biochar: Learning how to make it and use it

Earlier this month, LTWC hosted a series of workshops and field demonstrations aimed at providing partners and landowners a better understanding of the benefits and potential uses of biochar, a form of charcoal creation from woody debris in a low-oxygen environment. Nearly 70 people attended one or both of the workshop and outdoor demonstrations. The diversity of interests reflected by attendees at the event mirrored the broad opportunities for biochar's use, and included landowners and community members from the Long Tom to northern California, participants from many local agencies, Tribes, NGOs, as well as contractors from as far away as Phoenix!

We're very grateful to biochar consultant Kelpie Wilson and USDA-ARS soil scientist Claire Phillips for presenting on the science, development, and use of biochar. Thank you to the City of Eugene and Lauri Holts for providing the space for the indoor workshop, and to Ray Morse and Phyllis Helland for hosting live demonstrations for folks on their property! Thank you also to Marcus Kauffman and the ODF South Cascades District / East Lane Unit for support with photos and equipment.

We're excited about the multiple beneficial uses and potential markets of biochar, and the opportunities for landowners and project partners to support project outcomes directly on site, while also supporting numerous off-site uses which could range from promoting composting efficiency to enhancing stormwater management. As we continue to learn more about biochar, we'll share information and resources on our website and in our newsletters.



*Biochar consultant Kelpie Wilson talking to folks before lighting the kilns*



*Above: Kilns burning with minimal smoke*



*Far left: Indoor workshop hosted at City of Eugene Parks & Open Space.*



*Left: Char steaming after burning*



## Recent Gifts:

### Thank you for your Support!

**Individual or General Gifts:** Philip Bayles, Chris Dunn, Kathleen Ehli, Pat McDowell, Jen Salvatore, Kevin Shanley, Court Smith, Steven Soltesz, Jodi Sommers, Carrie & Joseph Steinbach, United Way of Lane County, Dean Walton

**Annual Celebration Gifts:** Gene & Lisa Bennett, Ashley Chesser, Ray Morse & Phyllis Helland, Rich Margerum, Eileen Nittler & Greg Vanvlack, Hugh & Sue Prichard Dave Thomas, Graham Trask & Charlotte Willer, David Turner

**Faith Community Fund Gifts:** Penny Palmer



## Upcoming Events

### January Public Meeting:

Tuesday, January 29, 6 - 8 p.m.

Monroe Community Library

### Voluntary Incentives for Farmers to Improve Ag Land & Habitat

Meeting will focus on voluntary incentives and actions agricultural landowners can take to benefit both farming and conservation practices on their land such as through the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program, enrolling in a conservation easement, and other actions.

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

Alec Hrynshyn

### At Large

Ginnie Grilley, *Vice-Chair*

Darian Lightfoot

Pat McDowell

Jonathan Powell, *Vice-Chair*

### Upper Long Tom

Lindsay Reaves, *Secretary*

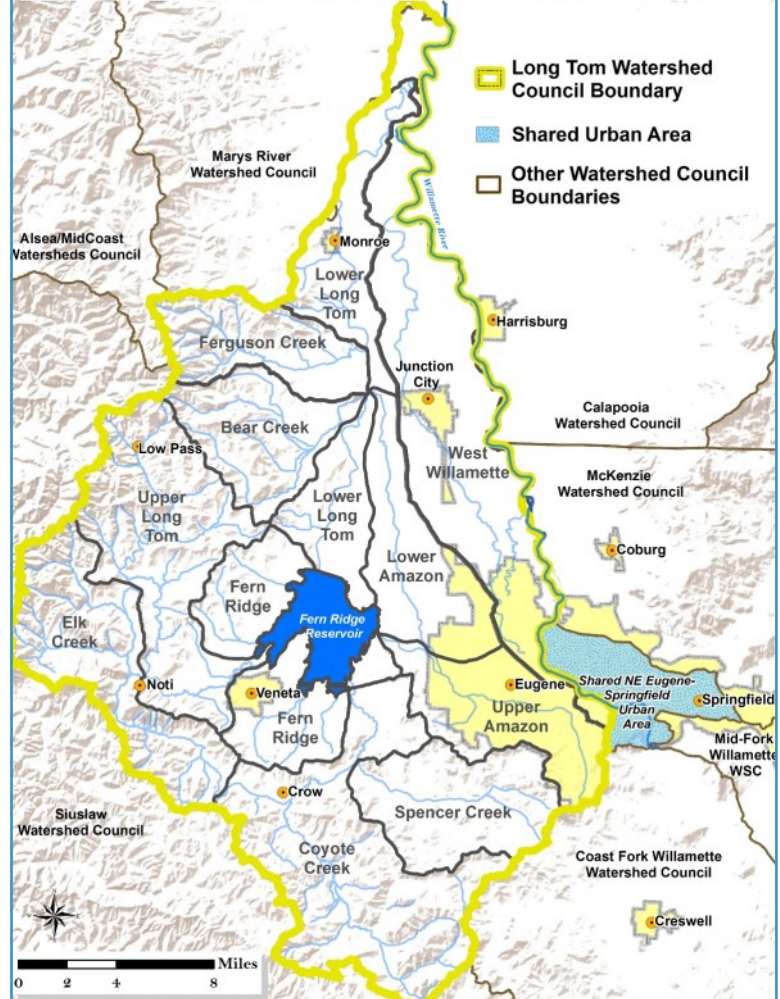
Jabrila Via

### Amazon

Shelly Miller, *Chair*

Dave Thomas, *Treasurer*

## Long Tom Watershed Sub-basins & Area of Work



## Council Staff Contacts

**Clinton Begley, Watershed Coordinator/ED:** 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

**Sarah Pollock, Administrative Assistant:** 338-7055

**Miranda Hawkes, Stormwater Drafter/Designer:** 654-8965

# Stream & Fish Passage Project Updates (continued)

## Log Placement at Bennett Vineyards & Wine Co.

You may remember Bennett Vineyards as the site of our 20th Anniversary Celebration! Previously, we replaced a fish passage barrier with a bridge on Bear Creek. This year, we started a second project, a multi-faceted effort that will improve wetland, upland, and riparian habitat. We installed 15 log jams on just under one mile of Bear Creek to improve habitat complexity, create deep pools, and capture sediment for spawning. We also placed logs in an existing pond on the property to create basking habitat for the rare western pond turtle. The logs came from oak thinning projects on previous LTWC oak restoration sites.



This summer we also excavated three shallow seasonal pools to create breeding and rearing habitat for native amphibians. Five mounds were created in the seasonal pools for turtle nesting habitat. We recycled the excavated materials from the seasonal pools and added some loan and fine gravels to create ideal turtle nesting conditions as sparsely vegetated areas of native forbs and bunchgrass.

This winter, we'll plant 16 acres of streamside habitat with a combination of dense riparian buffer along the stream and less dense oak woodland. We're also planning to plant 12 25-foot by 25-foot plots of native prairie plants throughout the riparian area, to increase diversity for native pollinators. A grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board funded the project, and the Bennetts are enrolling in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, which will fund the riparian planting work.



### **Long Tom Watershed Council**

751 S. Danebo Ave.

Eugene, OR 97402

Phone: 338-7055

e-mail: [coordinator@longtom.org](mailto:coordinator@longtom.org)

[www.longtom.org](http://www.longtom.org)

**November 26**

**Public Meeting**

**7 - 9 p.m.**

**Lane Community College**

**Longhouse**

*The LCC Longhouse is located at the main LCC campus at **4000 East 30th Ave in Eugene**. The Longhouse is located near the southwest corner of the track and field. Park in Lot A immediately adjacent to the Longhouse.*