



LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

September 2004

!!! ANNUAL CELEBRATION !!!

Sunday, September 26th, 2004 4:00-7:00

7th Annual Watershed Celebration!

THIS
SUNDAY!

Sunday, Sept. 26th 4:00-7:00pm

Stillwater Farm

Hosted by Rick Huhtanen and Karen Scholler

With Live Music

Highlights:

☞ **Potluck** – Bring a dish to share. We will provide the tableware and drinks.

☞ **Project Tour** – Explore the project and listen and learn from the two neighboring landowners' experiences. Wear your walking shoes.

☞ **People** - Sharing diverse perspectives in the watershed. Bring your chair or blanket.

☞ **Awards** – Celebrate the volunteers that make the Long Tom Watershed Council work!!



Please volunteer to help with this fun party!

Contact Anita Ragan at 554-8103 or aragan@jhbaxter.com

Directions on the back of this newsletter.

Our Mission

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.

Projects & Monitoring Update

Tour of Huhtanen-Scholler Riparian Restoration Project and Sertic Fencing & Riparian Planting Project

At this year's Annual Celebration we will take a tour of a riparian restoration project on Rick Huhtanen and Karen Sholler's property, and a riparian restoration and fencing project on Steve and Susan Sertic's place. These adjacent projects are on the upper Long Tom River, 3 miles west of Veneta.

Rick and Karen wanted to restore the floodplain forest on their recently purchased, 80-acre property and enhance habitat for riparian dependent species. The major impediment to habitat on their place was dense and extensive patches of blackberry. They requested assistance from the Council to remove the blackberry and replace it with native conifers and hardwoods. Funding for this project was part of a large projects grant the Council received in September of 2003.

The first phase of the project consisted of mowing approximately 5 acres of Himalayan blackberry surrounding two oxbow ponds. This was done with a large mowing blade attached to a bobcat. The bobcat is equipped with rubberized tracks that minimize soil compaction and other problems associated with wheels or metal tracks. The oxbow ponds on this property are used by a large population of western pond turtle. By removing the blackberry, we have improved turtle access to these ponds. The second phase of the project involves controlling blackberry re-growth and planting native conifers and hardwoods. Eventually, the shade from these trees will reduce new blackberry invasions and improve cover and forage for a variety of bird and wildlife species. We also plan to create a nesting berm for western pond turtle adjacent to the oxbow.

The Sertic family began ranching and timber harvesting on the upper Long Tom in 1917 when Steve's grandfather established a homestead. Several years ago Steve became interested in planting more trees along the creek to provide shade and help reduce water temperature. At a Council meeting six years ago, he learned about farm programs available through the Natural Resource Conservation Service and signed up for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). EQIP covered part of the cost of installing 8100 feet of fencing along the river and planting over 600 Willamette Valley ponderosa pine. One outcome of the project that surprised Steve was how much willow and dogwood grew along the banks once cattle were excluded from the riparian zone. He knew they grazed the grass down, but hadn't realized how much of the brush they suppressed. On his own, Steve has also installed cross-fencing to allow for rotational grazing and he recently received a small grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to develop off-channel watering in each pasture. The small grant also provides matching funds to finish fencing off a final segment of the Long Tom River on his property and remove scotch broom and blackberry from one of his pastures.

Watershed News

Amazon Appreciation Day 2004

On Tuesday, July 20th, five busy people met to explore and commingle ideas for a revised Amazon Appreciation Day. Education, community building, the health of the creek and fun were deemed important elements. We are sending the following proposed outline to potential participants. Please feel free to add your enthusiasm and creative juices to the mix in any way that works for you.

WHO: Potential partners include but are not limited to:

- * Eugene Stream Team and other City staff/programs
- * Stream Team Adoption Groups
- * Neighborhood Groups (especially those that border Amazon Creek)
- * Schools within walking distance of Amazon Creek
- * Non-profits such as Audubon, Walama Restoration Project, WREN, Long Tom Watershed

Council,

Eugene Tree Foundation, and any others who want to participate.

- * Agencies such as the BLM, DEQ, others?

WHAT: A celebration of Amazon Creek. We are talking about several activities:

- * Cleaning up the creek
- * Planting native vegetation along the creek
- * Involving schools in creative ways
 - * Asking schools for art work based on the creek, and then displaying it at one of our sites on the day of the event
 - * Planting native plants on school grounds (Chavez School has already agreed to have a native plant area!)
 - * Inviting schools who already work with Stream Team to participate in the organizing.
- * Planning an educational bike tour

WHERE: Three sites were chosen to be the hubs: Amazon Park, Chavez School, and the stretch of Amazon Creek between Oakpatch and Acorn Park that was widened two years ago. The Hilyard Center is available as a site for gathering afterwards. We would like to have the prizes, music, food and art show follow the event.

WHEN: Saturday, October 23rd. The day would start with a bird walk at 8:00ish. Work parties would start at 9:00. We hope to finish at 12:00 and celebrate at a central meeting site at 12:30.

We welcome your ideas and would especially like to invite you or your group to participate! Please let us know quickly, though, because October is just around the corner.

The Amazon Appreciation Day Steering Committee to date:

Lorna Baldwin
 Phil Carroll
 Amy Murschall
 Jennifer Rowan
 Joanne Vinton

Lorna Baldwin, Eugene Stream Team, 1820 Roosevelt, Eugene, Oregon 97405, (541) 682-4850, fax: 682-4882, email: lorna.j.baldwin@ci.eugene.or.us

Volunteer Opportunities

WEST NILE VIRUS MONITORING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Dear Watershed Council:

The West Nile Virus task force has developed a plan in preparation for what appears to be the imminent threat of WNV. One aspect of the plan is doing a mosquito survey of the county to identify the location and species of mosquitoes. Some types of mosquitoes are not good vectors for WNV. Knowing which areas are more likely to be affected will be useful information. We also have purchased WNV testing equipment to determine if the mosquitoes collected are infected. The task force is committed to using pesticide as a last resort. We are hoping that by identifying the threat, or absence thereof, and presenting the ineffectiveness of pesticide spraying, the frenzied outcry from the public can be assuaged.

Due to the non-existent budget to accomplish this task, I am interested in finding volunteers that would be able to set mosquito traps one or two evenings a week and collect them the following morning. I will be attending training on August 9-10 on how to use the traps and analyze the mosquitoes. I would be willing to train anyone who would like to collect mosquitoes or do the analysis. Several volunteers have already stepped forward from the Coast Fork watershed. Jim Mough, a watershed council member and the Lab Manager at UO, has been recruiting volunteers and has interested representatives from many of the lake areas.

If you would like to participate in the fun, call me at 682-3497 and I'll set up some training time.

Sincerely,

Tamara Wilhite, R.S.
West Nile Virus Coordinator

Volunteer Opportunities

Do you care about this watershed and have an interest in participating in the guiding body for our watershed council?



We have three Steering members due to rotate off in September, having served the Council well. So first, a thank you to those members:

Amazon – Anita Ragan

Lower Long Tom – Dave DeCou

Upper Long Tom – Larry Rhodes

New member search

The Search Committee is charged with putting together a slate of new Steering member volunteers that, combined with current members, provide for a balance of geography and perspective. The Search Committee is comprised of the outgoing members plus Mike Kesling, current Vice-Chair and incoming Chair, and Dana Erickson, Council Coordinator.

The outgoing members currently bring the following perspectives to the table. Potential new members are not limited to these perspectives but these are likely categories of interest.

urban resident

organic farming

woodland ownership

rural resident

organization process and management

business and industry

Nominations Open

If you are interested in serving or know someone who might be, please send a note of nomination to the Search Committee care of longtom@efn.org or the Council office. Please include some information about yourself or the person that would help us understand the perspectives they bring to the table, and why you are nominating them. Please also provide their contact information (phone, email, address if possible).

Steering Committee Purpose (from the Charter)

The Long Tom Watershed Council is guided by a standing Steering Committee. The Steering Committee supports and ensures communication among people of the watershed, maintains continuity among Council activities, and monitors progress toward the Council's Mission and Goals. The Steering Committee also gives feedback to the coordinator, makes staffing and operating decisions, oversees any fiscal operations, facilitates team development, and serves to represent the Council. The Steering Committee reports back to the Council on their topics of discussion, recommendations, and decisions at the full Council meetings.

Contacts: Mike Kesling mike@surecrop.com or Dana Erickson 683.6578 coordinator@longtom.org

Volunteer/Internship Opportunities

Watershed News Column Editor

Description:

Editing short informative articles about the Long Tom watershed on a monthly basis.

Outline of Activities

Determine range of possible article topics.

Find suitable authors within the Long Tom Watershed or within the greater science or writing community.

Set deadlines and timelines for your writers, review panels, and yourself, using established guidelines for publication.

Edit authors' work and submit to both the Long Tom Watershed Council newsletter review panel, then to the Tri-County News/ East-Lane News staff via e-mail.

Qualifications:

Access to a word processor, Internet access.

Ability to critically edit and write portions of articles within established limits.

Hours and pay: This is a volunteer position requiring approx. 4 hours/month. We prefer a 1 year commitment.

Timeline: Begins with the August or September publication deadline.

Working with: The coordinator and members of the Long Tom Watershed Council.

Rewards: Experience in authorship and editorship in a volunteer position requiring responsible, independent work. Interactions with professionals and other interesting people from around the watershed. You also get a cool native cutthroat trout pin.

Application process: Please ***send an e-mail or letter*** to Dana Erickson at the Council office briefly showing your interest in this project and related skills.

Contact: Dana Erickson, Coordinator for the Council, 683-6578.

Watershed Events

Calendar of Events

(Details on following pages)

Sunday, September 26th, 4:00—7:00 pm

Annual Watershed Celebration!

Project Tours and Potluck along the
Long Tom River

Details in this newsletter

Thursday, October 14, 6:30pm

Steering Committee Meeting

Contact: Dana, 683-6578

Tuesday, October 26th, 6:30 pm

Council's Annual Business Meeting

Presentations, affirming new
Steering Committee members, & more!

Agriculture & Water Quality Conference

Join us for the upcoming October 19 - 20, 2004 Agriculture and Water Quality in the Pacific Northwest & Idaho Ground Water Connections Conference to be held in Boise at the Centre on the Grove. Registration is due by September 27, 2004.

There are two extension type training opportunities for Animal Feed and Nutrient Management and Small Acreage Sustainability on October 18th, and an Isotope Hydrology on October 21 22. See the brochure and website <http://www.agwaterqualitynw.org> for further details.

Hope to see you at the conference.

Gary Bahr
Conference Chair
Agricultural Bureau Chief
Water Quality Programs
Idaho State Department of Agriculture
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Boise, Idaho 83701
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Watershed Map

Long Tom Watershed Ten Major Subbasins



Source: Long Tom Watershed Council, Brian Iosa 9/03

INSIDE: Annual Celebration Project Tours!, Volunteer Opportunities, and MORE!!

Long Tom Watershed Council
 Phone: 683-6578 e-mail: coordinator@longtom.org
www.longtom.org
 751 S. Danebo Avenue
 Eugene, OR 97402

DIRECTIONS: Take Hwy 126 west—the Huhtanen/Scholler property is 3 miles past the Territorial Rd intersection, on the LEFT. (It is also 1/2 mile past Secret House Winery, and 1/4 mile past mile-marker 44, which is on the left). Thomas Lane is unsigned but the driveway marker is 2 orange safety triangles (the top one is upside-down so the pair look like an hourglass). Go straight in, past the RR trax (use caution), and welcome!

