



LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

March 2007

www.longtom.org *Action Through Understanding* 541.683.6578

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, March 27th, 2007

6:30pm - 8:45pm

Veneta Community Center (directions on back)

AGENDA

6:30pm: Gather, View info., Greet neighbors

6:45pm: Opening Remarks

Mike Wolf, DEQ Western Region Water Quality Manager

7:00pm: Watershed Monitoring Volunteer Appreciation

7:15pm: What's important about monitoring the Long Tom Watershed?

7:30pm: Results of Water Quality Monitoring Program

*Cindy Thieman, Projects & Monitoring
Coordinator*

8:30pm: Steering Committee and Staff Reports

8:40pm: Meeting Review

Save the date for the next
Council meeting:
Tuesday, May 29
Restoration Project Tour,
Amazon Basin

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.

Council Meeting Notes

Council Meeting

January 30th, 2007

Lower Long Tom Subwatershed, Monroe High School Library

Two Main Agenda Items:

Restoration Projects Slideshow

Cindy Thieman, Projects & Monitoring Coordinator

Gary Holzbauer, Project Landowner



Fender's Blue Butterfly
Photo: C. Schultz

Cindy and Gary provided an overview of the restoration work done on Gary and Jo Holzbauer's land on the mainstem of Ferguson Creek, which drains into the Long Tom River just west of Junction City. Twenty large logs were placed along an 800-foot section of the creek to improve habitat diversity within the stream for cutthroat trout. The presentation included a discussion of costs, landowner contributions, and observations on how the terraces and instream wood are functioning.

Addressing Threatened and Endangered Species in our Watershed: Benton County Habitat Conservation Plan **Carolyn Menke, Institute for Applied Ecology**

Less than 1% of Willamette Valley native prairie habitat remains today, making it one of the rarest ecosystem types in the United States. These habitats are home to the federally endangered Fender's blue butterfly, and its host species, the threatened Kincaid's lupine, as well as several other listed species. In Benton County, most of this native prairie is located on private land.

Carolyn Menke of the Institute for Applied Ecology provided an overview of the habitat conservation planning (HCP) process currently underway in Benton County to address imperiled species associated with native prairie habitat. Benton County is seeking an incidental take permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that will allow the county to continue to manage its lands and issue land use permits without legal liability for the taking of federally listed threatened or endangered species (T&E). The County is preparing a HCP that will identify the actions it intends to take to reduce impacts on the species included in the HCP.

The HCP will also allow private landowners whose activities are covered in the HCP to obtain a "certificate of inclusion", which can save time and money in dealing with listed species. According to Carolyn, participation in an HCP can allow private landowners to continue to manage property in a lawful manner without jeopardizing the recovery of any T&E species that may be present on the property. Benton County is interested in surveying property of willing private landowners that has the potential to support the species covered by the HCP. The purpose of the site surveys is to learn about the distribution and habitat requirements of the prairie species, to allow for better conservation in Benton County, and to get the incidental take permit from the USFWS. The threatened T&E species location data (including that gained on the property of willing private landowners) will be included in the HCP. This data will also be shared with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center database, and will be maintained in a Benton County database. Currently, only T&E animal species are protected by the Endangered Species Act on private lands. Of the animal species in the HCP, only Fender's blue butterfly is currently listed. Plants are not protected on private lands, with the exception of Kincaid's lupine that are directly used by Fender's blue butterfly as a host plant.

For more information, visit <http://www.co.benton.or.us/parks/hcp/index.php> or contact hcpinfo@co.benton.or.us.

Meeting Backgrounder

Water Quality and Stream Health in the Long Tom Watershed Monitoring Results from 1999-2006

At this month's Council meeting, we will be presenting and discussing final results from the Council's water quality monitoring program. This presentation is the grand finale to seven years of data collection by volunteers and staff. Over the course of this time, we have collected:

- Monthly data on turbidity, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, and pH at 18 sites
- Monthly to bi-monthly data on *E. coli*, nitrate, and phosphorus at 34 sites
- Hourly summertime temperature at 67 sites, and
- Macroinvertebrates at 92 sites



Volunteers being trained in macroinvertebrate monitoring on the Long Tom River.

The Council's program began in 1999 after a review of available water quality data completed during the Council's Watershed Assessment (2000) showed that many parts of the basin had very little or no monitoring information.

The data that did exist indicated problems with phosphorus, bacteria, water temperature and dissolved oxygen in some parts of the watershed. Council members and staff wanted a more thorough analysis of watershed conditions and felt that water quality data collected by the Council would have a better chance of reaching and involving local residents.

Highlights of this month's presentation will include:

- Watershed conditions based on macroinvertebrate results
- Relationship between land use and aquatic insect communities
- Target areas for increasing shade and reducing water temperature
- Target areas for fish passage in relation to habitat and water temperature
- Hot spots for bacteria and nutrients



Volunteer Bob Hager collecting macroinvertebrates.

Council Business

Council Becomes Nonprofit Corporation

As of February 2, 2007, the Long Tom Watershed Council officially became a nonprofit corporation. The Council's Steering Committee held its first organizational meeting as a nonprofit on February 8, 2007. At this meeting, the Steering Committee elected officers, officially adopted the Council's bylaws, established some initial committees, and resolved to continue the work that the Council has been doing to protect water quality and watershed health.

The following officers were elected:

Chair: Jim Pendergrass

Vice Chairs: Will Bondioli and Ric Ingham

Secretaries: Sarah Medary (Corporate Secretary) and Eric Freepons (Recording Secretary)

Treasurer: Tina Fenley

Immediate Past-Chair: Rich Margerum

The next steps in this process are to apply for tax-exempt status, continue to formalize organizational policies and operating procedures, further develop the capacity of the Steering Committee and ensure the smooth transition of fiscal management from Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.



See Steering Committee and Staff
biographies on our website:

www.longtom.org

Wanted: Nonprofit Bookkeeper

The Council is looking for a bookkeeper with experience with QuickBooks and the level of nonprofit accounting that includes accrual basis and restricted funds. If you or anyone you know might be interested, please contact Jenna Garmon at (541) 683-6949 or jgarmon@longtom.org.

Thank Yous

Thanks to our Tree Planting Volunteers

We are grateful for the help of volunteers who helped plant trees along creeks at our partner landowner sites this winter:

Sarah Aitkin	Rik Huhtanen
Dani Barr	Isis Ilias
Greg Benge	Matt Kacmarcik
Chloe Bickle- Eldridge	Sarah Keysers
Bonnie Bonebrake	Neil Kissler
Gavin Bruce	Keely Koda
Jim Bruvold	Rachael Larson
Brian Carter	Rivers Marshall
Danette Chambers	Sarah Marshall
Kari Cook	Jessica McElfresh
Michelle Cordle	Brennan McGinnis
Benny Dean, Jr.	Chris McReynolds
Lynn Dean	Sarah Mueller
Paul Dorner	Kyle Owen
Justin Elliott	Ed Peara
Adam Eriksen	Megan Rice
Justin Erkess	Lindsay Seidenverg
Ross Eshelman	Oskar Stephens
Corbin Fancher	Jonathan Stevens
Maia Fancher	Brandon Stewart
Adam Fleenor	Jeff Verber
James Fox	Stacy Vynne
Gwyneth Gilkerson	Candace Wallace
Brett Hinton	Courtney Weyrauch
	Gregory J. Wobbe

Special Thanks to dedicated volunteer **Bob Hager**, who helps us get out newsletter printed and mailed every time we ask!

DONOR RECOGNITION

Our Gratitude To

Swanson Group, Inc.

For supporting the Council
this year!



Volunteer Jim Bruvold (left) helps Isaac Mattson (above) and family plant trees along Jordan Creek.

Do you have a neighbor or friend that might be interested in the Council?

Please call Jenna Garmon at 683-6949

Watershed Announcements

Testing the Effectiveness of Various Site Preparation Techniques for Wetland Prairie Restoration

**May 24, 2007 • 1:00p.m. to 3:00p.m. (optional site visit at 3:00p.m.)
Eugene Public Library, 100 W. 10th Av., Bascom/Tykeson Meeting Room**

The West Eugene Wetland (WEW) Partnership and the University of Oregon are progressing on a three-year study that will look at the effectiveness of wetland prairie restoration site preparation techniques. The experience of the WEW Partnership, as well as other restoration practitioners throughout the country, suggests that the method of site preparation is among the most important factors for determining the ultimate success of a restoration project. To help provide a broader ecosystem perspective on the effects of site preparation, this research is examining a wide range of response variables.

The May 24 presentation will include the following elements:

- Summary of experimental design and implementation;
- Plant community, productivity, and physical/chemical soil analysis results from the experimental plots and retroactive study;
- On the ground implementation of site preparation techniques; and
- Information sharing on other wetland restoration efforts as time allows (all are welcome to briefly share techniques they have been working with).

For more information, contact: Jeff Krueger, 541-682-4122 (jkrueger@lcog.org).

Nutria Management in the Pacific Northwest

**April 24, 2007 • 8:30a.m. to 4:00p.m.
Vancouver Water Resources Center • Vancouver, Washington**

This workshop will include presentations by nutria experts from other affected areas of the country where nutria management efforts have already been established, presentations regarding current management efforts in the Pacific Northwest, and a panel of restoration managers and biologists who have been addressing nutria problems. There will also be an opportunity for agencies and individuals to talk about their own experiences and how nutria problems are currently being handled in their respective regions. The ultimate goal of the workshop is to provide information about the current status of nutria in the Pacific Northwest, outline current and future impacts of nutria, and lay the groundwork for a future regional nutria management plan.

The nutria workshop is free, however space is limited and registration is required. To register, visit: <http://www.clr.pdx.edu>. Or, contact Trevor Sheffels at 503-725-9076.

*Would you like a presentation about the watershed and our Council?
Would your agency or organization like to talk about ideas for collaboration?*

Please call Dana Erickson at 683-6578

Watershed Advice Column

Got Ivy?

By Vern Holm, Resource Conservationist, Yamhill SWCD

If you have English ivy on your land and want to rid yourself of this pernicious pest, early spring is a great time to do it. Most of the other vegetation is dormant, which makes ivy vines easy to spot and the ground is soft and moist, making pulling the vines much easier.

While clearing an area of ivy may seem like a daunting task, here are a couple of things that will cheer you up. While very difficult to eradicate entirely, a little work goes a long way. Whether you cut the vines growing up the trees or clear the ground of ivy cover, you are providing immediate benefit to native plants and animals. Also, keep in mind that ivy is a relatively slow growing invasive weed, so once you get the worst of it you can stay ahead of it with little extra effort.

Let's start with the basics: the most important thing to do is sever the vines that are growing up trees. The reason for this is two-fold: The most obvious is to save the tree. Ivy weighs a lot and can help take a tree down in strong winds, and it also can shade or choke out limbs and leaves. Also, ivy only seeds when it has climbed up trees so severing the vines reduces the number of berries that get dispersed by birds (particularly starlings).

Be sure to cut a three foot gap in the vines; this allows you to see if you have missed any small vines; also, ivy has an amazing ability to grow back together. After you have cut the vine try and clear ivy at least six feet away from the tree so it doesn't readily climb it again. Once the vines are cut it will take them a long time to die. When they finally brown up, summer's leaves will hide any unsightliness and by the next winter there will be little left to mar the looks of the tree.

Once you have taken care of the climbing vines it is time to start work on the ground. The easiest thing to do is start at the terminal (furthest away from the roots) end and pull and dig the vines out of the ground from where they've taken root. A small sturdy rake or potato fork works well to help get at vines that are buried deep in humus. It will be close to impossible to get all of the roots out. Once you have pulled and dug the ivy, put it in a burn pile or dispose of it in the trash. English ivy is harder to kill than an ugly rumor, so do not compost it or pile it anywhere it can re-root.

If you are working on a hillside you and a willing assistant can use a garden rake to roll the ball of pulled ivy down hill. One person with the rake pulls from below while the other person frees roots and vines from the ground with a shovel. It really works great!

After the vines are pulled up you have two choices: keep digging the roots up as new plants emerge or wait until the following year when the vines are easier to see. Again, it's hard to completely get rid of ivy, but it grows relatively slowly so a little effort can make a big difference!

For more info on ridding properties of ivy go to the "No Ivy League" web site at <http://www.noivyleague.com/>.



*Interested in other watershed councils in Oregon?
Network of Oregon Watershed Councils www.oregonwatersheds.org*

Watershed Involvement Opportunities

Council Events

Watershed Monitoring Results

Long Tom Watershed Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 27: 6:30pm-8:45pm

Veneta Community Center (agenda on front and directions on back of newsletter)

Contact: Jenna Garmon, 683-6949;

jgarmon@longtom.org

Steering Committee Meeting

Long Tom Watershed Council

Thursday, April 12; 6:30pm-9:00pm

Contact: Jenna Garmon, 683-6949;

jgarmon@longtom.org

Restoration Tour of Wild Iris Ridge

Amazon Sub-basin

Tuesday, May 29: 6:30pm-8:45pm

Contact: Jenna Garmon, 683-6949; jgarmon@longtom.org

Opportunities on the Web!

www.longtom.org

www.wetlands.org

www.ortrout.org

Other Events



WREN: Eggs & Nests

Wetland Bird Nests & Eggs

March 31: 9am-10:30am

Contact: Holly McCrae at 683-6494



Earth Day Celebration

"Spirit of Sustainability"

April 21: 11am-5pm

EWEB's River Edge Plaza



Amazon Creek Clean-up Day

April 28: 9am-1pm

Help StreamTeam clean up

Amazon Creek between Danebo & Royal Aves.

Contact: Holly McCrae at 683-6494



Native Plants & Permaculture

May 11-13

Lost Valley Educational Center

Contact: Chris Roth at 937-2567



StreamTeam

Ongoing Volunteer Work Parties

Fridays from 2pm-4pm

Alton Baker Park

Contact Matt McRae at 682-4850

What habitats do you have and could you enhance them?
What can you do about the health of your stream and riparian area?

Call Cindy at 683-2983 to discuss project possibilities

Our Watershed & Council



*Action
Through
Understanding*

Steering Committee

Lower Long Tom

Brent Skiles
Eric Freepons
Co-Secretary
Tony Stroda

Upper Long Tom

Will Bondioli
Co-Vice Chair
Ric Ingham
Co-Vice Chair
Gary Nolan

Amazon

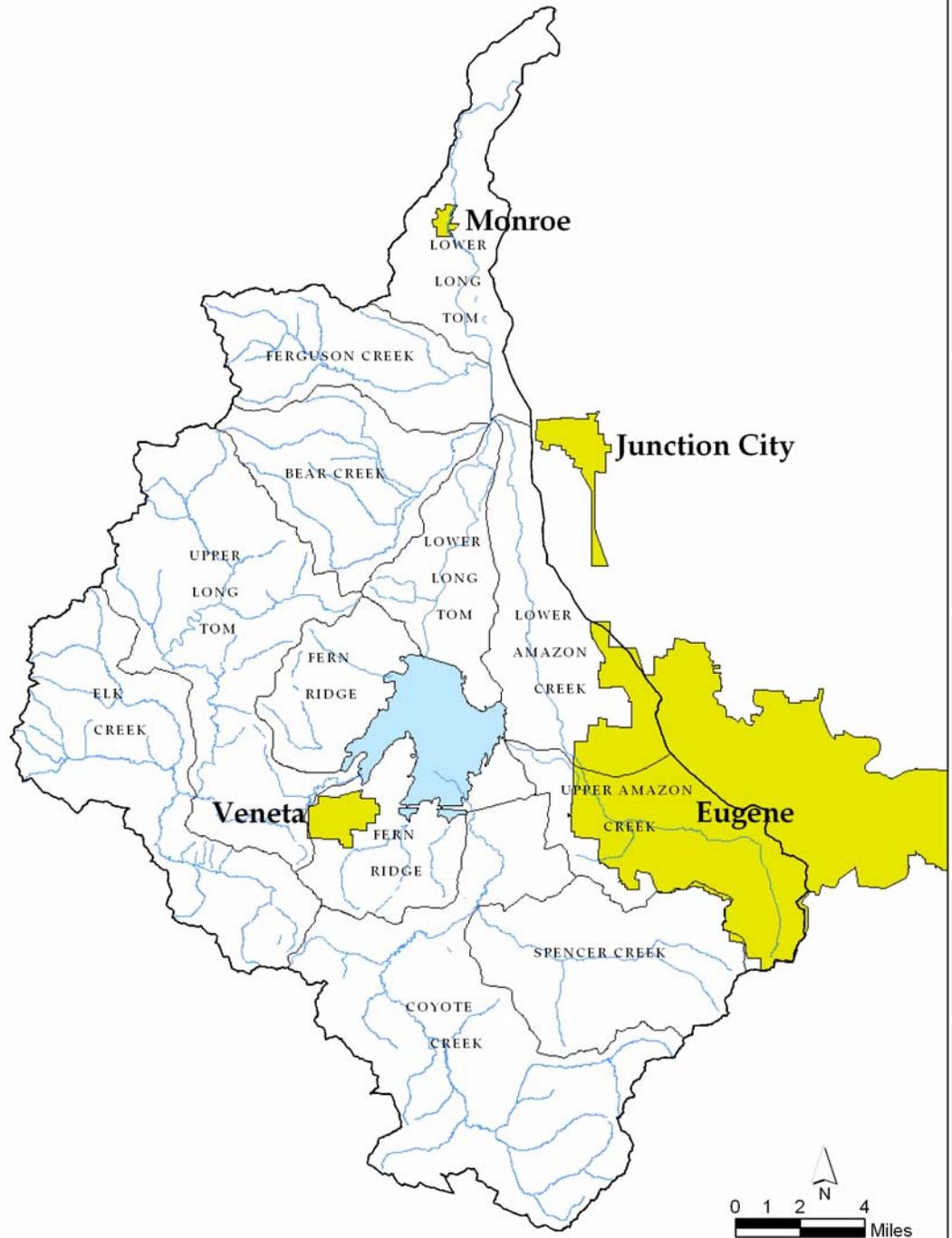
Peg Boulay
Sarah Medary
Co-Secretary
Tina Fenley
Treasurer

At Large

Ryan Collay
Rich Reeves
Corey Johnson
Jim Pendergrass
Chair
Rich Margerum
Immediate Past-Chair

751 S. Danebo Ave.
Eugene, OR 97402
Fax: (541) 683-6998
Web: www.longtom.org

Long Tom Watershed Ten Major Subbasins



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

Staff

Projects and Monitoring

Cindy Thieman
(541) 683-2983

Coordinator

Dana Erickson
(541) 683-6578

Special Programs Coordinator

Jenna Garmon
(541) 683-6949

Want to save your Council money on mailing costs?
Let us know you'd like an electronic version by emailing jgarmon@longtom.org!



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



Council Meeting
Tuesday, March 27th, 6:30 p.m.

Veneta Community Center
25192 E. Broadway
Veneta

Head west on Highway 126 towards
Florence.

Turn south onto Territorial Hwy.

Turn left onto E. Broadway Ave.
End at 25192 E. Broadway Ave.