



Long Tom Watershed Council

Watershed news and meeting notice

April 2011

Action
Through
Understanding

A color version of this newsletter is available at



Photos (from top left): Garlic Mustard, Japanese Knotweed, oak savanna habitat at Wild Iris Ridge

Learn How to Identify & Report Invasives

Workshop & Council Meeting

Saturday, April 30, 10:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Veneta Community Center

Hosted by Dave Turner, LTWC Board Member

- ◆ **9:45** Gather, enjoy coffee & doughnuts.
- ◆ **10:00** Introduction & Announcements
- ◆ **10:20** Learn about Early Detection & Rapid Response approach, and invasive species reporting.
 - * *Tania Siemens from The Nature Conservancy will talk about invasive plants.*
 - * *Rick Boatner from ODFW will discuss invasive aquatic animals.*
- ◆ **11:10** Identification workshop—learn how to identify 10 weeds, plus invasive mussels & turtles with the experts.

Free, with refreshments!
Donations much appreciated.

Please RSVP for this workshop.

Contact Rob: 541-338-7060 or
operations@longtom.org

Tour—Enhancing Oak Habitat

Outdoor tour of Wild Iris Ridge

How to enhance rare oak savanna, woodland, and upland prairie habitat; general enjoyment of the site.

Tuesday, May 10, 9:00—10:00 a.m.

- ◆ *In cooperation with WREN*
 - ◆ *Jesse Cary Hobbs, City of Eugene*
 - ◆ *Josh Harrison, Long Tom Watershed Council*
- * Directions on page 11 *

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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.

751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene, OR 97402 · Phone: (541) 338-7055 · Fax: (541) 338-7062

www.longtom.org



Long Tom Watershed Council

April 30—Get Rid of Invasive Species

Help keep a look out for these pesky plants & animals ...



Learn how to identify and report invaders!

Workshop Topics—You will learn:

- ◆ **Practical info** on invasive **weed** and **aquatic animal** species.
- ◆ What **Early Detection, Rapid Response** is—detecting and reporting invaders before they become established and spread (prioritizing those species).
- ◆ **What to do** if you find an invader—**how to report** it and **who to report to**.
- ◆ **Removal methods** for invasive weeds.
- ◆ **Cooperative** Lane Co. Early Detection Network.
- ◆ **Funds for invasive weed control** on non-industrial forest land.

Experts

- ◆ *Tania Siemens, The Nature Conservancy & Oregon Sea Grant*
- ◆ *Rick Boatner, ODFW*
- ◆ *Bob Johnson, ODF Stewardship Forester*
- ◆ *Josh Harrison, LTWC Stewardship Technician*

Identification Workshop

- ◆ **Visit 12 stations** and examine **hands-on samples** of invasive weeds and animals.
- ◆ Learn **key identifying features** from volunteers,
- ◆ **Collect materials** on identifying and reporting **10 weeds** as well as invasive **mussels & turtles**.
- ◆ **Ask the experts!**

Workshop Details

Date: Saturday, April 30

Time: 10:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Where: Veneta Community Center,
25192 East Broadway Ave, Veneta

RSVP to help us plan for materials, space,
and snacks.

- ◆ **Free!**
- ◆ **Coffee and doughnuts served**
- ◆ **Color fact sheets & booklets**

To RSVP with the number of people
attending or for more information,
contact Rob:

541-338-7060 or
operations@longtom.org

The Long Tom Watershed Council is a volunteer group of citizens from diverse perspectives coming together to learn about the watershed and do what they can to improve water quality and habitat conditions.

www.longtom.org



May 10 Project Tour Background: Wild Iris Ridge Oak Savanna & Upland Prairie Enhancement

Project Background

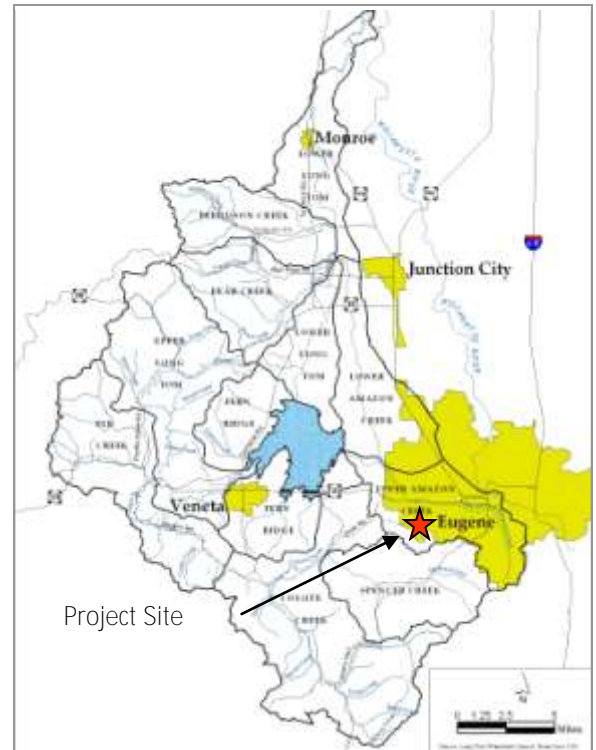
Wild Iris Ridge, a 200-acre site located along the South Hills ridgeline, was purchased by the City of Eugene for habitat preservation and community open space. Wild Iris Ridge contains a patchwork of oak woodlands, oak savanna, and upland prairie habitat that was common throughout much of the Willamette Valley prior to Euro-American settlement. Today, less than 2% of oak savanna and 1% of upland prairie—essential habitat for as many as 200 species—remains in the valley.



Before the project: Dense, closed-canopy forest crowded oaks, reducing crown spread and decreasing habitat quality.



After the project: Conifers and other woody vegetation was thinned from around oaks to allow more space between trees and encourage crown spreading.



The May 10 (9:00 a.m.) project tour will focus on the third phase of a three-phase project to enhance these rare but important habitat types. During the first and second phases, we removed invasive species such as Scotch broom, blackberry, and false brome on 85 acres. Afterwards, we seeded the area with a mix of native grasses and forbs. We also improved oak habitat structure by thinning trees and other woody vegetation. Like many areas in the valley, the oak savanna had transitioned to a closed-canopy forest from lack of fire and encroachment from Douglas-fir, Ponderosa Pine, and other trees.

For phase three, the Council removed invasive plant re-growth on the initial 85 acres to ensure continued success of native prairie vegetation. We treated invasive plants on 27 additional acres of the site and seeded the area with more native grasses and forbs. We also removed slash piles left over from a logging operation by a former landowner. This phase also thinned encroaching trees and shrubs, particularly Ponderosa pine, from 38 acres of former oak savanna and woodland that had become closed-canopy forest.



May 10 Project Tour Background: Wild Iris Ridge (continued)

Restoration Techniques for Phase 3

- ◆ Mowed blackberry with a Bobcat on flat or gently sloped ground on parts of the treatment area.
- ◆ Spot spraying of Scotch broom, blackberry, thistle, and false brome.
- ◆ Removed slash piles from site with an excavator. The bare ground left behind was smoothed and seeded with native grasses and wildflowers.
- ◆ Thinned Ponderosa pines and other woody vegetation using a skid steer with a masticating head.
- ◆ Soil exposed from the pine removal was reseeded with native prairie grasses and forbs.
- ◆ Removed 1,000 feet of barbed wire fence to allow wildlife easier access to and from the site.



Before the project: Scotch broom thickets had invaded open areas, crowding out native prairie species.



After the project: After treating the invasive Scotch broom, the area was seeded with native grasses, wildflowers, and forbs.

Environmental & Economic Benefits

- ◆ Removal of invasive non-native plants will increase the biodiversity and cover of native prairie grasses and forbs.
- ◆ Thinning of faster-growing woody trees such as pine and Douglas fir, as well as younger oaks, creates open space that allows native prairie and savanna plant species to grow.
- ◆ Thinning also allows mature oaks to expand their crowns and produce more acorns, which provide food for native wildlife.
- ◆ As native prairie and savanna plants return, the site will provide habitat for insects, birds, and mammals dependent on prairie and savanna habitat.
- ◆ Contractors were used from the surrounding area, which supports the local economy.

Project Funding & Partners

Phase 3 Project Cost: \$124,057

Funding:

OWEB:	\$ 90,847
In-Kind Match:	\$ 33,570

Partners

- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)
- City of Eugene

The Long Tom Watershed Council thanks our partners and funders!

Please support our work!

We're on PAYPAL now! Click the button at www.longtom.org

The Board of Directors is increasing their work to support the **Council's projects and education programs in the watershed. Please** check the website homepage for our new PayPal button—an easy way to make a contribution.



After 13 years, 50 projects, and 110 events, and counting, the Long Tom Watershed Council has demonstrated just how committed this community is to voluntarily improving water quality and fish and wildlife habitat in our local watershed.

- Over 1,100 families are directly connected to learning about watershed conditions and what kinds of projects neighbors are doing via our newsletter.
- More than 2,500 adults have participated in watershed learning through the Council - these are the people with the power to do projects or actions on their property, or help others to do so.
- In 2009, LTWC won an international award **for the “Science and Practice of Ecology and Society” for the community-based approach to watershed restoration.**
- Also in 2009, LTWC became a **“model watershed”** with funding and support from two private foundations - with a challenge to increase the pace, scope, and effectiveness of our work by utilizing and expanding the community participation and commitment that got us here.

Please support our work!

YES! I'd love to help with a tax-deductible donation to the Long Tom Watershed Council to improve water quality and habitat in my community!

Note: The Council will not release your personal information to other organizations.

DONATE BY MAIL:

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

☐ Check here if you'd like to receive our newsletter via email _____

☐ Check here if we should not list your name as a donor.

Send to:
Long Tom Watershed Council
751 S. Danebo Ave.
Eugene, OR 97402

THANK YOU! from the LTWC Board of Directors

Questions?
Dana Dedrick, Watershed Coordinator, 541-338-7055

DONATE ONLINE

www.longtom.org

On the front page, left sidebar — find the **“Donate” button and click to begin PayPal donation**. Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Council!

Donate



Notes from March Council Meeting

Notes: “A 10-Year View of Forest Management in the Long Tom Watershed”

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Monroe High School Commons

28 people attending

Three main agenda items were presented:

Types of forestry ownership in the watershed, and the Council’s related work:

- Jed Kaul, LTWC

Jed talked about how water temperature and fish passage barrier data has shaped our restoration priorities. The headwaters of the Long Tom River and several of its tributaries are in forestry-zoned areas. Cutthroat trout use these upper reaches for spawning and rearing habitat. Our restoration goals are to improve access to these stream reaches by removing barriers and enhancing habitat through riparian plantings to enhance shade and reduce erosion. The Council has also prioritized enhancing rare oak and prairie areas for their benefits as native plant and wildlife habitat.



Giustina Land & Timber Co.’s perspective & approach to private forest management:

- Cary Hart, Chief Forester

Giustina owns about 8,400 acres of land in the watershed. The company focuses on long-term sustained yield, and they manage their land in compliance with the Forest Practices Act. The company is open to exploring opportunities to improve conservation values on their land.

The majority of Cary’s presentation focused on Giustina’s planned forest management activities on recently purchased land. Their timber management practice is to thin young, dense stands and allow timber to grow larger. (Higher quality stands are allowed to grow to at least 70-80 years old.) Cary emphasized that Giustina is a small company that takes pride in its property, and also has done projects to improve fish passage, enhance existing wetlands, and leaving oak savanna and prairie as intact when possible. To combat erosion, Giustina will not be allowing ATV/ORV use on their roads.

BLM’s 10-Year Long Tom Watershed Landscape Plan:

- Bill Hatton, Area Manager & Leo Poole, Fisheries Biologist; Bureau of Land Management

Bill Hatton described the history of timber harvest in Oregon and the key federal laws that have shaped forestry practices today, including the Northwest Forest Plan. The Long Tom Landscape Plan is an Environmental Assessment for the thinning projects proposed for public forest land in the watershed. Bill explained the different types of lands (matrix, old growth, and riparian reserves) considered for thinning on ~ 9,300 acres. He answered questions about how the BLM decides to build new forest roads and how they address issues such as off road vehicle use and the discharge of firearms on public land.

Leo Poole discussed BLM projects to improve fish passage on public forest land by removing barrier culverts. The Council recently partnered with the BLM to replace a barrier culvert on the South Fork tributary of Ferguson Creek.

Invasive Species Spotlight: Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

For color photos, see website version of this newsletter

Identification:

- ◆ Heart or kidney-shaped leaves with slightly-toothed or wavy edges.
- ◆ Leaves form at the base of the stem and radiate outward.
- ◆ Leaves 2-4 inches across and dark green.
- ◆ Flowers in 2nd year and plants grow 1-3 feet tall
- ◆ White, 4-petaled flowers form clusters and bloom in spring.
- ◆ Plants die back after flowering (done flowering by June or July).
- ◆ Releases pungent, garlicky odor when new leaves are crushed (*not always most reliable identifying feature*).

Habitat:

- ◆ Native to Europe. First introduced as a food source for its content of vitamins A & C.
- ◆ Grows well in partial shade (such as in oak savanna).
- ◆ Frequently found along edges of forests, roads, trails, edges of agriculture land, and stream sides.

Ecological Impacts:

- ◆ Can rapidly out-compete native vegetation in forest understory.
- ◆ Decreases native biodiversity and available forage for wildlife by forming monocultures.
- ◆ Especially detrimental to rare oak savanna habitats.
- ◆ Suppresses many native plants & trees by releasing chemicals that harm soil fungi that native plants depend on for growth and survival.
- ◆ Seeds can stay viable in the soil for at least 5 years.

Where is it currently found?

- ◆ Found in northwestern OR counties in and around Portland and adjacent to Columbia River.
- ◆ Report from Corvallis & Monmouth areas.
- ◆ Closest report of specimens in Coburg Hills.

How to Get Rid of It:

- ◆ Prevention and early detection is best practice.
- ◆ Can manually pull smaller patches fairly easily, especially in moist soil.
- ◆ Important to pull before the plant flowers, otherwise it may have dispersed seed.



1st-year Garlic Mustard. Notice the slightly-toothed or scalloped edges on heart-shaped leaves.

*Photo courtesy of Glenn Miller,
Oregon Department of Agriculture*



2nd-year Garlic Mustard. Flowering form is much taller. Notice the clusters of white flowers at the top of the stem.

*Photo courtesy of Glenn Miller,
Oregon Department of Agriculture*

(Continued on next page)

Invasive Species Spotlight: Garlic Mustard (*continued*)

- ◆ Be sure to pull entire plant & root system and dispose of in sealed bag.
- ◆ Because Garlic Mustard has a long-lived seed bank, it is important to revisit the site for 5 years after treatment and monitor for re-growth.
- ◆ Larger patches of Garlic Mustard can be cut off at the ground and sprayed with herbicide either early in the spring or late in the fall. Caution: Always read herbicide labels carefully and follow all directions before applying.

If you find or believe you have found Garlic Mustard, please report it at: <http://oregoninvasiveshotline.org>

Additional Resources:

- ◆ Western Invasives Network (www.westerninvasivesnetwork.org)
- ◆ Oregon Department of Agriculture (www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS/)



Example of large infestation of garlic mustard in the understory.

Photo: Victoria Nuzzo, Natural Area Consultants, Bugwood.org

You may be eligible to receive funds for invasive species control

Landowners with non-industrial forest land in Lane and Linn Counties may be eligible to receive reimbursement for costs associated with controlling certain invasive weed species as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Priority will be given to eradication on knotweed species (i.e. Japanese, Himalayan, and giant). Other **potentially eligible invasive species are listed on the Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) "A" and "T" lists** (<http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS/lists.shtml>). Please note that invasive removal projects must be approved through an application to determine eligibility. Project applications must be approved prior to beginning work in order to receive reimbursement.

People who are interested in receiving reimbursement for invasive species control costs done in spring 2011 should contact the Veneta office of the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). Approved spring 2011 projects must be completed and proof of payment submitted to ODF by June 15, 2011. Funding for additional projects is anticipated for summer and fall 2011.

CONTACT: Bob Johnson, Stewardship Forester
Oregon Department of Forestry / Western Lane District
Email: rajohnson@odf.state.or.us Telephone: (541) 935-2283

**Note: Bob will be at the April 30 Invasive Species Workshop in Veneta if you have questions about this fund, the application process, or eligibility.*

Calendar & Announcements

LTWC Council Meetings & Tours

Invasive Species Workshop: Learn to identify & report invaders!

*Saturday, April 30, 10:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
Veneta Community Center, Veneta*

- ◆ *Practical info about invasive weed & aquatic animal species.*
- ◆ *Learn about Early Detection & Rapid Response approach.*
- ◆ *What to do if you find an invader.*
- ◆ *Hands-on Identification Workshop!*
- ◆ *12 stations and learn how to identify invasive weeds, mussels, and turtles.*

*Please RSVP to Rob (contact info below)
No cost, donations appreciated. Refreshments served.*

Oak Habitat Tour / Council meeting

Tuesday, May 10, 9:00—10 a.m.

Outdoors, west Eugene

Outdoor tour of Wild Iris Ridge upland prairie and oak habitat, with the Council, and WREN.

Tour location is in the Upper Amazon sub-watershed near Bailey Hill Market.

See directions & info on page 11

No cost, donations appreciated. Refreshments served.

Outdoor Project Tour / Council meeting

Tuesday, May 31, 5:30 p.m.

Outdoors, near Fern Ridge on private property.

Tour habitat enhancement projects of prairie and upland oak savanna/floodplain forest.

Tour location is in the Lower Long Tom sub-watershed off of Franklin Rd north of Fern Ridge.

No cost, donations appreciated. Refreshments served. See map in May newsletter.

Info for all: Rob Hoshaw, 541-338-7060
operations@longtom.org

facebook

LTWC is on Facebook
Friend us at:

www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Long-Tom-Watershed-Council-LTWC/133536603372644

Community Announcements

Wetland Wander at Wild Iris Ridge

Willamette Resources and Educational Network
Tuesday, May 10, 9:00—10:00 a.m.

Wetland Wanders are casual walks through various West Eugene Wetlands sites on the second Tuesday of every month. Wild Iris Ridge is a 200-acre site in Eugene's southern ridgeline. This month, presented in cooperation with the Long Tom Watershed Council.

Learn about the Council's project to improve oak and prairie habitat. WREN will provide binoculars.

Free! For more information, call 338-7047 or email info@wewetlands.org.

Family Exploration Day at Golden Gardens

Willamette Resources and Educational Network
Saturday, April 23, 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Spring is a wonderful time to explore the West Eugene Wetlands with your family. Golden Gardens is a 146-acre natural park area in Eugene's Bethel neighborhood. WREN staff and volunteers will be on hand to check out nature exploration equipment and provide guidance for independent exploration of the spring wonders of the wetlands. Bring a lunch, a rain coat, and sturdy shoes. Meet at our office at 751 S. Danebo Ave. Generously supported by REI.

Free! For more information, call 338-7047 or email info@wewetlands.org.

Contacts for volunteer opportunities:

Long Tom Watershed Council: 338-7060

WREN: 338-7047

Nearby Nature: 687-9699

City of Eugene, Parks Volunteers: 682-4845

City of Eugene Stream Team: 682-4850

Our Watershed & Council



Action Through Understanding

Steering Committee

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Jim Pendergrass, *Chair*

Chad Stroda, *Vice Chair*

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Sue Kacskos, *Treasurer*

Carl Harrison

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Therese Walch

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Dana Dedrick

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Cindy Thieman

(541) 338-7033

Jed Kaul & Josh Harrison

(541) 338-7058

Fiscal /Operations

Amanda Wilson &

Rob Hoshaw

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Long Tom Watershed Ten Major Subbasins



STAFF

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Restoration & Monitoring: Cindy Thieman 338-7033; Jed Kaul & Josh Harrison 338-7058

Fiscal Manager: Amanda Wilson 338-7060

Operations Manager: Rob Hoshaw 338-7060

Save the Date!

Long Tom Watershed Council's
14th Annual Meeting & Celebration:

Saturday, September 17, 1:00 p.m.

Hunton's Farm, Junction City

Food, Fun, Key Presentations, Awards, and a Tour of a habitat enhancement project habitat.

May Watershed Council Oak Habitat Enhancement Outdoor Project Tour
Tuesday, May 10, 9:00—10:00 a.m.

Directions to May 10 tour site:

- From 18th and Bailey Hill go 1/3 mile south on Bailey Hill Rd.;
- Turn left at Warren St. and go 1/3 mile; Turn right to stay on Warren St.;
- Right on Summit Terrace;
- Right on Bailey View.
- Park along this street and walk to end where we will gather to begin the tour.

(Be prepared to walk a one mile loop on site. Poison Oak is prevalent - we recommend long pants and sturdy walking shoes. Rain or shine.)



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 have a new requirement to include the following disclaimer, which is now 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 affiliation or 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!

Upcoming Events: April 30: Invasive Species Workshop: Learn to identify and report invasive plants & animals. May 10: Oak habitat tour: Enjoy Wild Iris Ridge & learn to enhance oak habitat.



Long Tom Watershed Council
Phone: 338-7055
e-mail: coordinator@longtom.org
www.longtom.org
751 S. Danebo Avenue
Eugene, OR 97402

APRIL WATERSHED COUNCIL MEETING/Workshop Saturday, April 30, 10 a.m. — Veneta Community Center

Directions to Veneta Community Center **25192 East Broadway Ave, Veneta**

From Eugene, head west on **West 11th/Hwy 126** to **Veneta**.

At the traffic signal at Hwy 126 and Territorial Rd, head **south/left** on **Territorial Rd**.

After about 1/2 mile, turn **left/east** onto **East Broadway Ave**.

The **Veneta Community Center** is on the right side of the road.

** See page 11 for directions to May 10 tour*

