

LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

April 2016

Action Through Understanding

Outdoor Tour Invitation

"Improving Habitat Connectivity for Cutthroat Trout in Coyote Creek"

Tues, April 26, gather at 5:45, tour leaves at 6 p.m. sharp! ~ 13 miles south of Veneta on Simonsen Road (directions inside)



Photos: Vertical 7-foot headcut on Bear Creek blocked upstream access to spawning and cold water refuge habitat (left); Contractors re-graded headcut (middle) into a gradually sloping engineered riffle that allows year-round fish migration (right).

Topics

- Why the Bear Creek tributary to Coyote Creek is important for resident cutthroat trout
- Learn how the project improved stream habitat and upstream fish migration
- See the results of a collaborative effort to improve habitat connectivity in the southern end of the Long Tom Watershed
- Project "nuts and bolts" including the timeframe to complete the project, funding sources, and techniques used at the different sites

Presenters:

- Nick Scheidt, BLM Fish Biologist
- **Grahm Trask**, *Project Contractor*
- **Jed Kaul**, LTWC Fish Biologist & Project Manager

Free, and open to all

Light refreshments provided

For more info, Rob: 338-7055 or

More on next page

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.

www.longtom.org



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Project Tour: "Improving Habitat Connectivity for Cutthroat Trout in Coyote Creek"

Tuesday, April 26th, 5:45 - 7:45 p.m. Tour leaves at 6 p.m. sharp

Within the Long Tom Watershed, there are actually multiple "Bear Creeks," and both the larger Bear Creek sub-basin to the west of Junction City and lesser known tributary of Coyote Creek provide important habitat for cutthroat trout. The latter Bear Creek's headwaters contain some of the best spawning habitat and summer cold water havens in the Coyote Creek basin. Headcuts and culverts that are perched as little as 4-6" above the stream can be a barrier for cutthroat trout. Correcting the four adjacent barriers provided access to 5.5 miles of this habitat, and now the full 8+ miles of Bear Creek is passable for native fish.

This collaborative effort included work on both private and public property. LTWC worked with the private property owner to voluntarily install an engineered riffle to replace a headcut, and an undersized culvert was also replaced. Two more culverts were replaced on public land, including on adjacent federal Bureau of Land Management timber property and a Lane County road crossing. Fifty pieces of large wood were placed in 3/4 mile of stream within the BLM timber land. Large wood increases habitat complexity by creating deep pools and varying the stream's physical structure. We hope you'll join us on April 26th to see the on-the-ground results of this cooperative and impressive project!



Before the project: The dual culverts of this crossing on Bear Creek were undersized, and their outlets were perched 1.5 feet above the stream.



After the project: A single 110" wide culvert can now accommodate winter flows and allow year-round upstream fish passage.





Join us in making Amazon Creek Trout Friendly!

The council's current fundraising campaign to kick -off a long term vision for a Trout Friendly Amazon Creek would not be possible without the important, and passionate, work of several enthusiastic volunteers! Mike Brinkley, Deborah Saunders Evans, David Turner, Shelly Miller, Travis Lloyd, Greg Butler, Trisha Maxfield, Gary Holzbauer and Karen Scholler have all generously donated their time to helping spread the word about this important campaign. By reaching out to the Long Tom Watershed community, they are helping us build community support for the work ahead. You may have already received a letter, email, or



phone call from one of these friendly volunteers; but whether or not you decide to support the vision for a Trout Friendly Amazon Creek at this time, please thank them for their generosity in giving their gifts of time and expertise to the watershed during this important campaign! From everyone here at the council, thank you for all that you have given to support clean water and healthy habitat in the Long Tom Watershed!

If you would like to be a part of this exciting and important vision for a Trout Friendly Amazon Creek, please email or call Clinton Begley [clinton@longtom.org | 541-654-8965] to learn how your gift will directly impact clean water and healthy habitat for people and wildlife in the watershed. Or give online at www.longtom.org/donate

Recent Gifts - Thank You for Your Support!

Business League: Huntons' Family Farm

Individual & Business Donors: Monica Begley, Dedrick Family, Gary & Jo Holzbauer,
Pat & George Miller, Horton Road Organics, Jim & Christine Pendergrass, Deborah Saunders Evans,
Anonymous (1)



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Introducing new Board Member Shelly Miller!



Shelly Miller

We're excited to welcome Shelly Miller to the LTWC Board of Directors! Shelly has worked in fish and wildlife conservation and management for over 20 years. During her career, she's worked for fish and wildlife agencies in West Virginia, Virginia, and Oregon, and she's also worked for The Nature Conservancy. Currently, Shelly works for the City of Eugene Parks and Open Space Division as the Natural Areas Planning supervisor. She's lived in the Eugene/Springfield area since 2005 and loves it. She and her family enjoy the outdoors, exploring cultural opportunities in the area and travelling. Shelly represents the Amazon geography on the board, and will

be presented for election, along with the full slate of candidates, for a full term of board service at this October's Annual Meeting & Celebration.



Therese Walch

We'd like to thank outgoing board member Therese Walch for continuing to serve for a few extra months through February, which allowed us to fill her board seat with Shelly's capable and talented hands! Therese, who is the Water Resources Manager at the City of Eugene, has been instrumental in helping LTWC and the City forge a productive partnership as part of our Urban Waters & Wildlife Program, and she plans to continue to support this important endeavor. Thank you Therese, and welcome to the LTWC Board, Shelly!



Farewell and thank you, Christer!

We'd like to thank Christer LaBrecque, LTWC's Stewardship Technician shared in partnership with the McKenzie Watershed Council, for his work this past year. He has recently accepted a position as McKenzie River Trust's Restoration Project Manager and has started there this month. While at LTWC, Christer played a key role in helping to steward habitat improvement projects and foster and maintain relationships with our stakeholders. He did a fantastic job leading our efforts to treat Ludwigia, an aquatic invasive plant, and overseeing our winter tree planting efforts. We appreciated Christer's hard work, diverse talents and wish him well!



For credit card donations visit www.longtom.org/donate to enter your credit card or PayPal information

751 S. Danebo Ave. | Eugene, OR 97402 | 541-654-8965

Questions? Please call Clinton, 541-654-8965 or clinton@longtom.org

Your tax-deductible support allows us to do unique local work for this watershed community!

Upcoming LTWC Events

Public Meetings & Tours

"Howdy Neighbor Tour" in Association with Lane County
Small Woodlands Association

Saturday, June 4, 9:30 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.

Tour an LTWC streamside habitat rehabilitation and oak enhancement project along Coyote Creek. Other sessions

from partnering organizations will include forestry economics, managing a tree farm for wildlife habitat, and the basics of forest management.

Meet at Bauman Tree Farm, 84289 Territorial Hwy (10 miles south of Veneta, 20 miles south of Eugene) Signs will be posted.



June 28 Tour of Wild Iris Ridge POSTPONED - This previously announced tour of oak savanna and upland prairie enhancement is postponed to allow for the completion of additional project activities this summer. A tour here or at a similar project is in the works for 2017.

"Taste the Watershed!"

Mon, April 18 at Fisherman's Market

Enjoy fish & chips, crawfish pie, salmon burgers, soups, salads and more while supporting LTWC! Fisherman's Market is donating 20% of all sales all day during open hours (10 a.m.—8 p.m.) 830 W. 7th Ave., Eugene. Bring voucher found at www.longtom.org.

Tues, June 14 at Hop Valley Tasting Room

Eugene Tasting Room located at 990 W. 1st Ave. More details to follow at www.longtom.org.

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

Steve Horning, Vice-Chair
Jim Pendergrass, Past Chair
John Reerslev

At Large

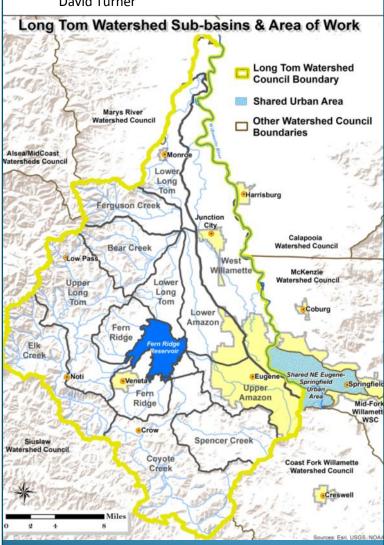
Mike Brinkley, *Treasurer*Deborah Saunders Evans, *Vice-Chair*David Turner

Upper Long Tom

Cary Hart Lindsay Reaves Charles Ruff, *Chair*

Amazon

Alan Dickman Shelly Miller



Council Staff Contacts

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Clinton Begley, *Development & Communications:* 654-8965

Rob Hoshaw, Operations Director: 338-7055

Jed Kaul, Fish Biologist: 338-7058

Katie MacKendrick, Ecologist: 338-7033

Sarah Whitney, Urban Habitat & Stormwater: 654-8965

Heidi Heisler, Fiscal Manager: 338-7042

Melanie Giangreco, Ops & Database Assistant: 338-7060

Help Stop the Spread of Yellow Flag Iris

Yellow flag iris may be beautiful, but it's harmful for native fish and wildlife. It's a perennial wetland plant, growing from 3-4 feet tall. The bright yellow flowers are blooming this time of year and are the most readily identifiable feature. The three large drooping petals are the classic iris shape. Leaves are stiff, long, and sword-like. Yellow flag iris displaces native wetland plants and disrupts habitat for waterfowl, fish and other wildlife. Rhizomes and dead leaves from the plant accumulate to form large mats that trap sediments and other leaf litter, which can build up the surrounding topography and dry out wetlands. Seeds are easily dispersed in water, making the spread of any existing infestation downstream a real concern. This plant is known to occur in the watershed. If you believe you have found yellow flag iris, please report it at <u>oregoninvasiveshotline.org</u>. For more info, visit longtom.org, the Western Invasives Network, or the Oregon Department of Agriculture.





Note the large, showy yellow flowers and long, sword-like leaves of yellow flag iris.

Left photo: Tania Siemens, The Nature Conservancy

Right Photo: Johnson Creek

Watershed Council



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e-mail: operations at longtom.org

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for Cutthroat Trout in Coyote

Creek"

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Tour leaves at 6 p.m. sharp!

~ 1.7 miles down Simonsen Road from Territorial Hwy intersection (Coyote Creek sub-basin)

See page 2 for directions or visit www.longtom.org
Google Maps Link