

# LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL

### May 2013 newsletter and meeting notice

Action Through Understanding



(At Left): A volunteer plants willows along Turnbow Creek during February 2013.

(Center): This bridge on Owens Creek replaced an undersized culvert and now allows trout to access 6 miles of upstream habitat. ("before" photo on next page)

<u>Project Tour Invitation</u> Tuesday, May 28, 5:30 p.m. Deck Family Farm Restoration Project

### Improving stream habitat on an active farm in the Bear Creek basin

### John Deck, landowner

- Landowner's goals and approach to project
- How improving stream habitat coexists with the goals of a working farm
- A landowner's experience enrolling in the Conservation Enhancement Reserve Program

### Pat McDowell, geomorphologist at University of Oregon

• How land & stream dynamics work & what this project does

### Jed Kaul, LTWC fish biologist

- Why the Bear Creek basin is important for cutthroat trout
- How the project improved migration for native fish

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.

www.longtom.org

Like us on Facebook

751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene, OR 97402 • Phone: (541) 338-7055 • Fax: (541) 338-7062 **Meeting Host:** 

David Turner LTWC Board member

Open to all, free with light refreshments

For more info, Rob: 338-7060 or operations@longtom.org

## May Project Tour at Deck Family Farm

Deck Family Farm is a 320-acre certified organic farm west of Junction City. The restoration efforts there focused on enhancing habitat for cutthroat trout and improving the streamside habitat and water quality of Turnbow Creek. An undersized culvert in Owens Creek was replaced with a bridge. Culverts that are too small or perched above the stream inhibit the movement of cutthroat trout, particularly juveniles. Removing the culvert opened up over 6 miles of trout habitat for spawning, cool water refuges during the summer, and for juvenile trout to find food and cover.

The project also included the removal of invasive weeds, planting thousands of native plants, and construction of fencing to separate grazing pastures from the riparian area adjacent to Turnbow Creek. Fencing allows livestock to utilize the same pastures while improving water quality.



<u>Before the project</u>: Undersized culvert on Owens Creek. Note the culvert's outlet is perched above the stream's surface, and its diameter is much smaller than the width of the stream. ("after" photo on front page)

## Latest action in Bear & Ferguson Creeks

The Long Tom Watershed Council has been hard at work this winter! LTWC planted the most trees and shrubs in its history—over **85,000 native plants** this year at 7 restoration project sites. This effort improved over 32 acres and more than **4 miles of streamside habitat**. These plants will provide cover and nesting habitat for wildlife, stream habitat for fish, and provide shade to cool stream temperatures.

Volunteers contributed nearly 200 hours to the effort. **Boy Scout Troup 54** placed tubes around young oaks along Ferguson Creek to protect them from herbivory, and students from the **University of Oregon** planted hundreds of willows at **Deck Family Farm**.

We're also excited to announce that LTWC has secured two grants that will allow us to continue improving habitat and water quality in Bear & Ferguson Creeks. LTWC received the 5th installment of a 10-year grant funded by Meyer Memorial Trust with the goal of increasing our capacity to develop new restoration projects and monitor the effectiveness of existing projects. Secondly, an OWEB grant has funded the removal of four fish passage barriers along South Fork Ferguson Creek—in total we'll remove 7 barriers this summer to open up **12 more miles of fish habitat**!



Members of Boy Scout Troup 54 at the Hagen property along Ferguson and South Fork Ferguson Creek helped protect hundreds of newly planted oaks with tubes in February.



# Only 1 month left in 2013 Fundraising Campaign!

### The Long Tom Watershed Council works!

This is an exciting year for the Long Tom Watershed! Cutthroat trout have been found in Amazon Creek, we planted over 85,000 native trees and shrubs, and we finished our first urban stormwater project in Eugene to directly improve Amazon Creek water quality.

Donations like yours are the seed money for these and many other projects for clean water, fish and wildlife. Please help us continue these exciting results! Donate by June 30 to help us meet our campaign goal! To Donate, visit www.longtom.org and click on "Support Us"

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ATERSHED COUNCIL 751 S. Danebo Ave. Eugene, OR 97402 541-338-7055	Yes, I support community solutions to restore clean water and enhance habitat for fish and wildlife. Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of:								
		◯\$500	<b>\$250</b>	◯\$100	◯\$50	○ Other \$_			
	○ Check ○ Credit/Debit (see reverse)								
	Name:					O Please acknow	vledge me as:		
	Address:					<ul> <li>I would like to remain anonymous.</li> <li>Please mark my gift O as:</li> </ul>			
	City, State, Zip:								
	,, , ,					${\sf O}$ In honor of	${\sf O}$ In memory of		
	Phone:								
	Email:								

Your tax-deductible support allows us to do unique local work for this community! Invest, Restore, Inspire!



Thank you for your support!

# Lead Gifts: In memory of Dan Graham

Major Donors: John Allcott, Rolf Anderson, Gary & Jo Holzbauer,

Huntons' Family Farm, Derek Johnson, Tom Lively & Megas MacDonald, Organically Grown Co., Peter Ruffier & Lori Kievith,

### **Deborah Saunders Evans, Court Smith**

Supporters: Kurt Corey, Bela Dedrick, Dr. Doug Evans - Feline Thyroid Clinic, David & Duane Funk, Roger & Karen Hamilton, Cary Hart, Ric Ingham, David Moon & Joan Kelley, Kurt Koehler, Laughing Stock Farm, John Moriarty, Keli Osborn, Pacific Ag Systems, Inc., Sir Edgar Peara, Tenold & Karin Peterson, Nancy Pierce, Jonathan Plummer & Jean Jancaitis, Ninkasi Brewing Co., Charles Ruff, Shirlee Taylor, Stillwater Farm, Therese Walch, Kate & Brian Widmer, Eric Wold, In memory of Jan & John Johnson, Anonymous (1)

### For credit card donations:

# **PayPal**<sup>\*\*</sup>

- 1. Visit www.longtom.org/donate
- 2. Follow the instructions on the simple form
- 3. Enter your PayPal or credit card information

## Welcome, LTWC interns!



Jane Christen has joined LTWC as our Communications & Marketing Intern. Jane is studying finance and environmental studies at the UO. She will assist with business outreach and social media strategies.



**Megan Connor** is joining LTWC as our Watershed Stories Intern. Megan is studying journalism PR and business at UO, and is a Ford Scholar. She will be looking to tell the stories of people's lives in the watershed alongside their commitment to the future prosperity of fish, wildlife and people here.

# **Community Announcements**

### **July Public Event**

#### "Pesticides in Amazon Creek"

Date & location TBD. More details soon at www.longtom.org and our Facebook page.

#### Willamette Resources & Educational Network Events

For more info: 541-338-7047 or info@wewetlands.org

#### Wetland Wanders (9-10:30 a.m.)

Tues, June 11 at Golden Gardens Ponds

Tues, July 9 at Checkermallow Access

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 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 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

### LTWC Board of Directors

#### Lower Long Tom

Jason Hunton Jim Pendergrass, Chair Chad Stroda, Vice Chair

#### At Large

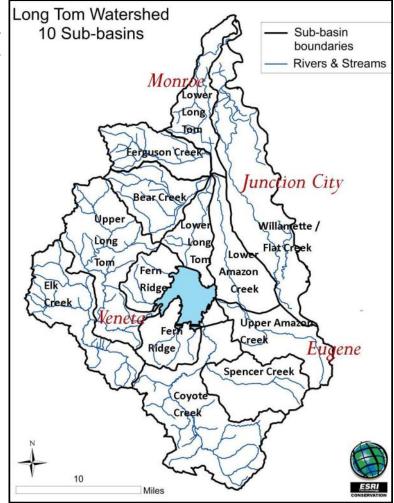
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### Council Staff Contacts

**Dana Dedrick**, Watershed Coordinator/Executive Director: 338-7055

Jed Kaul, Aquatic Projects Manger: 338-7058

Katie MacKendrick, Restoration Ecologist: 338-7033

Jason Schmidt, Urban Watershed Restoration Specialist: 338-7042

Rob Hoshaw, Operations Manager: 338-7060

Amanda Wilson, Fiscal Manager: 338-7055



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

### **Upcoming Event**

Restoration Project Tour "<u>Improving stream habitat on an</u> active farm in the Bear Creek basin"

### Tuesday, May 28, 5:30 p.m.

Deck Family Farm 25362 High Pass Rd, Junction City 3.1 miles west of junction with Territorial Rd.

# Help us spot invasive Yellow Flag Iris

**Description:** 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 Owens Creek.

If you believe you have found yellow flag iris, please report it at **www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org.** For more info, contact Katie MacKendrick, **541-338-7033** or visit **www.longtom.org**, **ODA.org**, or **westerninvasives.network.org**.





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