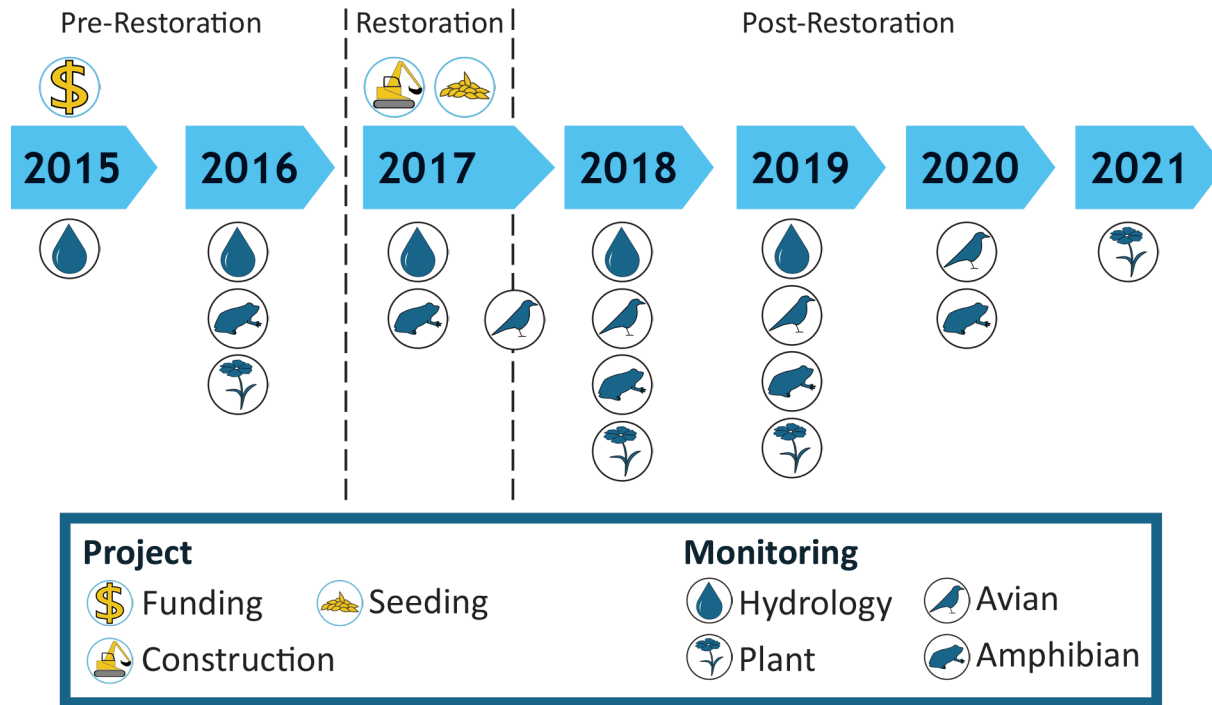


OUR TIMELINE

MONITORING TO MEASURE BENEFITS TO WILDLIFE FROM WET PRAIRIE RESTORATION



RESTORATION TECHNIQUES

The site was previously under cultivation for grass seed. Drainage ditches were installed and soil was leveled to reduce standing water, benefiting crops, but disrupting the natural movement of water and severely limiting habitat for many species. Starting in 2015 with funding from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board and Bonneville Power Administration's Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program, Long Tom Watershed Council and ODFW restored the historic hydrologic function of the ecosystem across 116 acres using the following techniques:

- **SITE PREP:** removing agricultural grasses with herbicide to prepare for seeding native species
- **EARTHWORK:** creating shallow berms and depressions to hold water on site seasonally
- **SEEDING:** native plant mixes designed for eight different microhabitats through broadcast and drill seeding
- **MONITORING:** amphibian, plant, and bird surveys; seasonal pool depth and surface area

BENEFITS OF RESTORATION

HYDROLOGIC FUNCTION: Vernal (seasonal) pools are special features of wet prairies that provide valuable habitat for a diversity of plants and animals.

- Some pools hold water into June or July for amphibians to complete their reproductive cycle.
- Other pools dry in time for streaked horned larks to begin nesting in May.

HABITAT FOR RARE BIRDS: Welcome back streaked horned lark! 2018 saw larks establishing in the area. In 2019, five nests with fledgling birds were identified at Coyote Creek South. These birds create nests in bare ground that is exposed when shallow pools dry.

HABITAT FOR AMPHIBIANS: In 2018, native amphibians found on the site included rough skinned newt, long toed salamander, and Pacific chorus frog. Native amphibian presence significantly increased in 2019. The threatened Red-legged frogs have not yet been found on site, but they are nearby and expected to travel.

PLANT DIVERSITY: Over 60 species of plants were seeded to the site. Overall the plant establishment is quite successful. 89 plant species were counted in 2019.



A lark nest discovered at Coyote Creek South in summer 2019. Photo by Lara Jones

COYOTE CREEK SOUTH WET PRAIRIE RESTORATION



99% of wet prairies in the Willamette Valley are gone. Only 8 square miles remain.

Coyote Creek South is a 309 acre property managed by the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW). Historically maintained as part of the Kalapuya people's prairie horticulture system in the Willamette Valley, Coyote Creek South is part of a complex of more than 8,500 acres of protected lands around Fern Ridge Reservoir that include the largest remaining acreage of wet prairie in the valley.

Many of the plant and animal species associated with wet prairie habitats have become threatened or endangered because of habitat loss, including the streaked horned lark (pictured below) and the red-legged frog. In 2015, ODFW and the Long Tom Watershed Council partnered to create a plan to restore more of the original hydrology and native plant composition through years of site preparation, earthwork, and seeding.



Thirteen federally-recognized species of concern call the wet prairie of Coyote Creek South home.

LEARN MORE AND DONATE TO SUPPORT RESTORATION PROJECTS AT:
LONGTOM.ORG/COYOTECREEKSOUTH



LEARN MORE AT:
LONGTOM.ORG/COYOTECREEKSOUTH

COME VISIT!

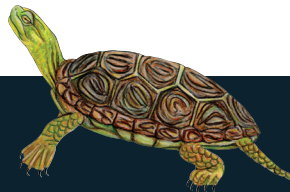
Coyote Creek South is a unique opportunity to see the results of a conservation project. Its proximity to the Fern Ridge Reservoir and nearby urban centers such as Eugene and Veneta makes it a convenient location to visit. As state-managed land, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife welcomes on-foot, low-impact recreation on the site to observe and enjoy the outcomes of restoration actions.



BIRDWATCHING: Overwintering waterfowl, seasonally migrating shorebirds, as well as grassland birds such as meadowlarks and streaked horned larks.

WILDFLOWERS: Enjoy the colorful display of flowers, from popcorn flower, monkey flower, and blue-eyed Mary in the spring, to the culturally significant gumweed and tarweed in later summer.

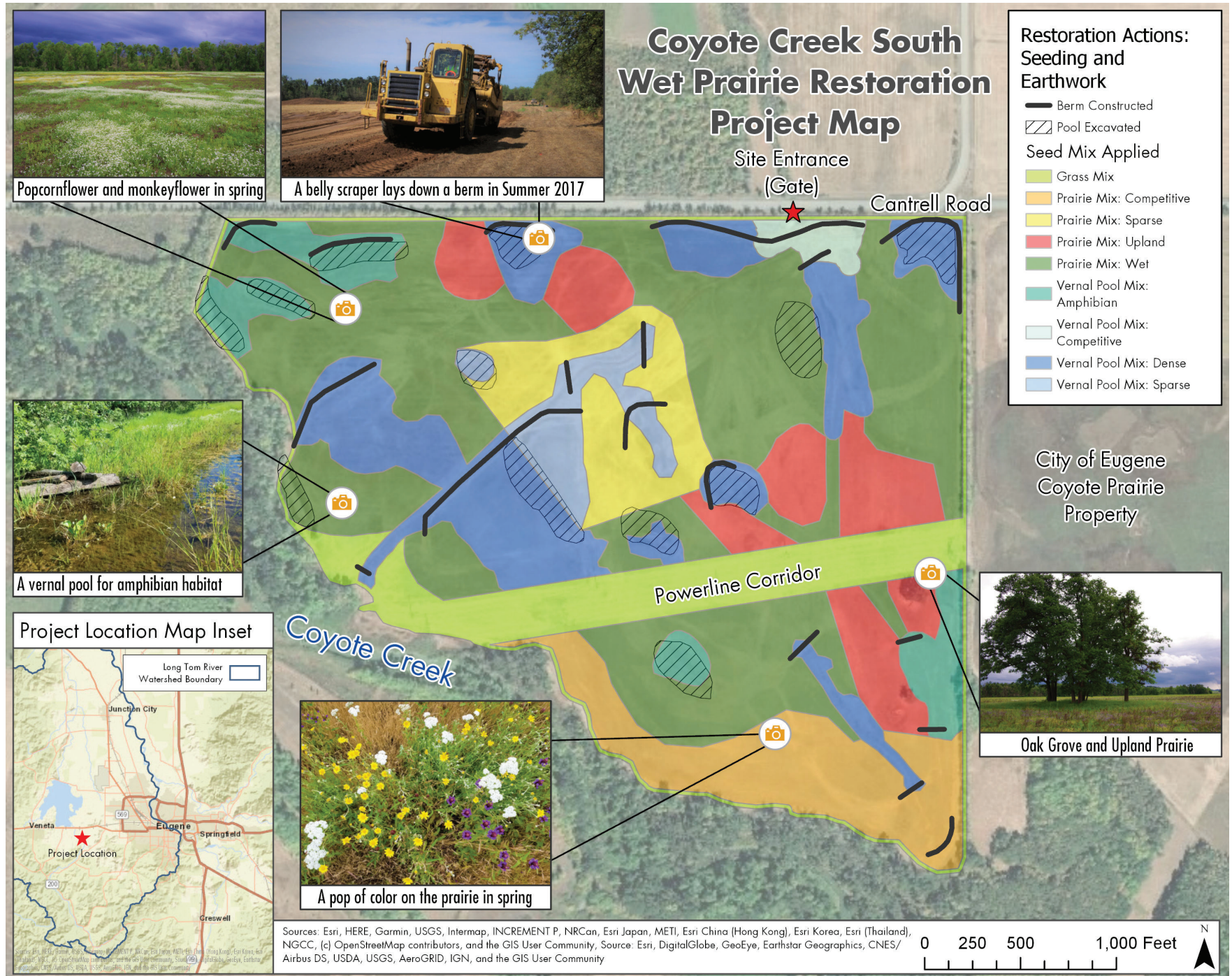
VERNAL POOLS: See how the water level changes dramatically throughout the year. Take a closer look at the teeming aquatic life.



VISIT THE SITE:

Seasonal closure are posted at the site entrance on Cantrell Road. More information on site access and regulations can be found at:

myodfw.com/fern-ridge-wildlife-area-visitors-guide



*In one square meter of wetland,
you can find up to 30 native plant species.*

LEARN MORE AT:
LONGTOM.ORG/COYOTECREEKSOUTH