



LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL JULY 2021 NEWSLETTER



IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON FORESTRY

2-Part Virtual Presentation

Tuesday, July 27 & Tuesday, August 10

(both from 6-8 p.m.)

In March we introduced the first in our series of public meetings discussing the impacts of a changing climate on communities in our watershed, with Haley Case-Scott presenting on the intersection of climate change and racial justice. This summer, **LTWC is partnering with Oregon State University Extension to present a two-part virtual presentation on how climate change is affecting the forest and timber community**, and the considerations and decisions facing timber owners as they manage working forests. **The presentations will be broadcast over our YouTube channel on July 27th and August 10th, and will be accompanied by a video interview with small woodland owner, educator, and LTWC board member Lindsay Reaves and her husband, Tom Bauman.**

The wood and paper products produced from timber are an essential renewable resource that touches all of our lives in a multitude of ways. Forestry is an immensely important part of the Long Tom Watershed community and our region. **Of the watershed's 262,000 acres, almost half (46%) is classified as forestry**, with

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We hope you'll join us for this virtual presentation!

- No registration required
- You can view live or at your leisure by visiting LTWC's YouTube Channel: youtube.com/longtomwsc
- To watch live, click "live" at the top of the channel at 6 p.m. on July 27 and August 10.
- The video recording will remain up on both our YouTube page and our website.



IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON FORESTRY CONTINUED

nearly 100,000 acres managed under private ownership. In Lane County forests make up 90% of the overall land area.

A changing climate is creating challenges and uncertainty for those in the forest and timber community. Rising temperatures may mean intense heat waves like we had last month may become more common. **Hotter and drier conditions can lead to periods of prolonged drought like we're experiencing now and contribute to longer and more intense wildfire seasons. Climate change also magnifies the susceptibility of already stressed trees to outbreaks from insects and disease.**

Fire, storms, and pests are all natural disturbances, and forest ecosystems depend on the messiness created by these disturbances in order to support complex habitats and a variety of plant and wildlife species. However, **as the climate continues to change, more frequent, more intense, and more catastrophic disturbances create additional economic and operational challenges for folks who rely on timber for their livelihoods.**

Oftentimes, timber owners need to adjust their harvest operations to salvage and recover merchantable logs sooner than expected and balance recouping some revenue while trying to limit the further spread of insects and disease from sick trees. Some timber owners are also making decisions on whether to replant different species that may be more adapted to potential future conditions.

Resources like OSU Extension help timber owners navigate these challenges and decisions. Like our changing climate, forestry is complex, and management approaches often depend on timber owners' specific situations and property goals. **In addition, peer networks like the Oregon Small Woodlands Association, Women Owning Woodlands, and Oregon State University Master Woodland Managers provide opportunities for folks in the forest and timber community to learn from one another.** We invite you to listen in on July 27 and August 10, each from 6-8 p.m., for this important conversation.



Tour of Bauman Tree Farm in 2014 (photo by Beth Krisko, Forests Today & Forever)

Supplementary Video: Climate Change & Forestry from a Timber Owner's Perspective



Leading up to the virtual public meetings, we'll post a video with interviews featuring **Lindsay Reaves and Tom Bauman from their property on Bauman Tree Farm.** They will share their perspective as timber owners on a 672-acre working tree farm by discussing how a changing climate is impacting management decisions, and the intersection of forestry and water resources. OSU Extension forestry agent Lauren Grand will also provide context in the video from a scientific perspective. **Thanks to Cliff Etzel | CE Visuals for producing this video!**

In addition to her work on the tree farm, Lindsay volunteers with Forests Today & Forever to educate middle school students on forestry management, riparian needs, wildlife considerations, and recreational opportunities. She is also an LTWC board member.

MEET THE PRESENTERS

Part 1: July 27, 6-8 p.m.



David Shaw

Topics: How climate change increases forests' susceptibility to infestations and why pests and disease increase with hotter, drier conditions. What timber owners can do to mitigate an infestation.

David is a biologist and forest health specialist with Forestry and Natural Resources Extension and is a professor in Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management. His research interests include forest pathogens and insects, forest ecology, and forest health.



Glenn Howe

Topics: How a changing climate may impact the tree species composition in our forests and what are some considerations and resources for landowners when deciding which species to replant.

Glenn is an associate professor at Oregon State University and the director of the Pacific Northwest Tree Improvement Research Cooperative. His research focuses on the breeding, ecological genetics, and genomics of forests, including understanding of climate-associated patterns of genetic variation, physiological adaptations to climate, and assisted migration.

Part 2: August 10, 6-8 p.m.



Amanda Rau

Topics: How the Oregon landscape has been shaped by fire, and how it impacts forest health and ecosystems. Why a changing climate is contributing to the risk of catastrophic wildfires and steps timber owners can take to reduce the risk.

Amanda serves as OSU Extension's Fire Program Fire Specialist in the Willamette Valley and North Cascades. She previously worked for The Nature Conservancy as the fire manager for Oregon and Washington. She has robust experience in fire-adapted ecosystem restoration and conservation; prescribed fire and fuels treatment planning and implementation; and training, outreach, communications, and engagement.



Lauren Grand

Topics: Managing forests as a way to sequester carbon, including what management objectives can be used to increase carbon storage on your property over time. She will also speak on managing forests with habitat, wildlife, and water goals in mind.

Lauren is a forestry and natural resources extension agent for OSU Extension. Her areas of expertise include small woodland management, community forestry, fire and forest ecology, and conservation management.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



The Long Tom Watershed lies within the traditional homelands of the Tribes and Bands of the Kalapuyan peoples. Following treaties in the 1850s, the Kalapuya people were dispossessed of and forcibly removed from their Indigenous homeland by the United States government. Today, many descendants are citizens of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. We acknowledge that we are on occupied lands, and express our respect for Kalapuya and all Tribal Nations of Oregon, and the important contributions they continue to make to their communities, including to the stewardship of this watershed.

STAFF PROFILE

Dana Dedrick – Special Projects Lead

I had the joy of interviewing Dana Dedrick who now works on special projects at the Long Tom Watershed Council. Many of you know Dana since she has been with the Council from its inception, but hopefully you will still learn a few new things about her. She shared a bit about her life with me. As with last month's article, this is in a Q&A format so you can hear from Dana in her own words. ~ *Lorette Waggoner*

Lorette – What gets you out of bed in the morning?

Dana – My dog hears me when I rustle just so, and gently comes over and puts a paw up on the bed. Then I hear the hummingbirds zipping to and from the feeder outside. Then I squint up at the trees through the skylight. Ideally it would be the smell of pancakes, of course.

LW – Do you have a motto, mantra, or favorite quote?

DD – “Change rooms in your mind for a day.” - Hafiz

LW – Do you have a skill, or gift or superhero capacity that you would like to share?

DD – I oddly love harmony and conflict equally; I doubt that is a gift. I would say good humor and resilience in the face of trauma. Seeing and appreciating the talents of others. Taking care of people. At my 50th birthday happy hour, which was on Zoom (blech), everyone commented on this theme, and it made me wonder if my mission is to let other people know they matter and can be their best selves! Also, talking with legislators. Convincing people. Persuasion.

LW – If you could snap your fingers and be an expert at something, what would it be?

DD – Guitar. I want to play around campfires, while I am traveling, on my porch. I want to sing instead of talk. I want to harmonize and play with others in song. Hopefully, I will get there! Right now, I keep tuning my guitar and then gazing at it until it is out of tune again.

LW - Where did you grow up? Share with us an experience from your formative years that brought you to a love of nature.

DD - California. Being kicked out of the small tent trailer and chasing around the woods of Yosemite and the Sierras all day with my beloved brother. Camping on the ocean with my cliff-diving, fun-loving grandpa. Sailing on San Francisco Bay with my mom. The open space, freedom, and smell of the redwoods; riding on horseback on the beach; swimming in lakes. The brilliance of orange poppies and cuteness of every little bug. Okay, not all bugs. Now it is hummingbirds, owls, foxes, and still always trees and water for me. Nestling in still water, like in a kayak nosing into a little rivulet from the Willamette. There is nothing like wind, in the trees, on the ocean. Later, it was climbing most of the mountains in Oregon, on many solo backpacking trips. I was still growing up in my 30s so this counts.

LW – Is there anything else that drew you into this field?

DD – I was going to be an environmental lawyer but knew I had enough conflict in my life growing up. After a great community college experience, I got into a fancy school but my partner had a low GPA and so we went to Humboldt State. The natural resources program there was incredible, and I loved it all – rangeland science, GIS, climatology, remote sensing... but I really loved planning and policy. I interned for the City of Arcata and got a commendation from the City Manager for completely flipping their public meeting process with stormwater management planning to start out with “Hi, why are you here and what do you care about... what answers would you like, what are you curious about?” People’s responses brought out the expertise in the city’s staff and made their presentation directly relevant and responsive. At OSU I took a collaborations course and a human-



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Healthy communities DEPEND ON HEALTHY WATERSHEDS

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nature-interactions course and found that I cared most about humans working together to be stewards of nature. I made good friends in those classes – they helped me channel my social impatience into inquiry and service.

LW – What aspect of your work do you like the best?

DD – Doing positive things with other people for a greater good. The cooperation, the feeling that people are in it together instead of in isolated spaces. Privacy is great, and independent action that is all yours, is good. But there is nothing quite like feeling like you are doing the right thing alongside people bringing different talents. That has always been the best part, and just how fascinating everybody is. Having many sectors of the community with different experiences and approaches and being able to blend all that.

LW – What was your first job?

DD – I worked for a great woman who hired me to clean her house. My mom had met her through the neighborhood PTA. I started by cleaning her house, then helping her host Mary Kay parties. I was helping women try on lipstick and cosmetics, helping them choose and loving the process of making people feel more beautiful. Being around all these women chatting in good humor.

LW – Tell me something that you that most people you work with do not know about you.

DD – My most comfortable place to be is alone in the wilderness.

LW – If you could choose anyone, who would you pick as your mentor?

DD – Court Smith, one of our local council members,

who is a professor emeritus in Anthropology and has an engineering background and writes concrete poems. He came down from Corvallis to be a part of our council meetings for over a decade. He would offer the most clarifying insight if I asked or would send me a handmade card and a poem to let me know I was doing a good job.

LW – Tell me about the scope of the work you are doing now with the Council.

DD – My focus right now has been the work on the Lower Long Tom River fish passage at Monroe. It is a continuation of work the Council has always done; looking at what is possible, talking with people to hear different perspectives and ideas, and bringing the best of everything to the foreground so we can get a solution that has a lot of win-wins in it.

It seems many of our programs now are their own mini-watershed council. Each has a different group of stakeholders and partners. Each needs a plan. Each needs a slew of different grants and donations. In Monroe I'm getting to focus in on one area and maybe bring a piece of the watershed perspective and listen to what a small town would like to see for their future. Their vision includes an orientation toward the river, the desire to include it in people's experience of living there, quality of life, good water quality, and there are echoes of inherent worth of clean water and wildlife. It's interesting, everyone really cares about those things. It is the same thing the Watershed Council has always done. We all agree that we care and we all agree on that ultimate goal. So, now the tricky part is how do we get there? Our part is to help facilitate the process in whatever way we can to help reach that best of all possible

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outcomes for everyone involved.

LW – What is something that surprised you about working for the Long Tom that you did not expect when you started here?

DD – That people would be so patient and kind with my spaz style of service. That so many people would be willing to reconsider opinions and work with people they did not think they had anything in common with. That the Long Tom is so darn beautiful. A fellow grad from OSU joked as he trotted off to Yellowstone for research, “Long Tom Watershed health, isn’t that an oxymoron?” I think my whole career has been my answer to that. Long term in the Long Tom!

LW – What is the coolest or most important trend you see out there today?

DD – That we are running back around the circle of community to see who has capacity to be more involved - people and entities we have left out. People that have been here since time immemorial, and people whose voices we have not heard. We are a big choir of talented people and there’s always

room for more contributions, more learning, and more caring.

Thanks again, Dana, for sharing with us. Be sure to catch up with Dana when you see that dazzling smile around the watershed!



LOWER LONG TOM STUDY FUNDED!

We are thrilled to share that recently the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was able to fully begin the 1135 Feasibility Study for ecosystem improvement on the Long Tom River at the site of the Monroe dam. The cosponsors for this project are the City of Monroe and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians (CTSI). Your watershed council is the NGO partner to the project, and our primary interest is river passage for aquatic organisms - like juvenile Chinooks salmon, Pacific lamprey eels, and native cutthroat trout. The collaboration between all four partners continues to be impressive, which is part of the reason the study ranked highly for the Corps. The Study will take approximately 18-24 months to complete and will include public meetings that LTWC will likely host or co-host, and we’ll provide our watershed members and stakeholders with invitations to all of these events. Please reach out if you have any questions or thoughts - Dana Dedrick, 541-654-8965 or dana@longtom.org.



June 2021 site visit with project partners and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service staff to discuss the passage requirements for lamprey eels.

THREE NEW TROUT FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE PROJECTS!

While the pandemic slowed the pace of many things in our communities, the Urban Waters and Wildlife (UW&W) Program was able to continue important work in the watershed! **Alongside the voluntary participation of local businesses, we installed three new Trout Friendly Landscape Projects** in the ground due to the trust and long-term relationship-building model of the Council.



Swale and rain garden at The Church in Eugene

The Church in Eugene reached out in early 2019 to see if they could have an Eagle Scout oversee a project at their location adjacent to Tugman Park in south Eugene. UW&W program manager Sarah Whitney met the Eagle Scout, Enoch Martin, and his father, Don Martin, who wore the hats of Troop Leader & Church representative on site. The church was experiencing persistent erosion of their parking lot from neighborhood stormwater. On the east side of the parking lot is the church, and on the west, a stand of Oregon white oaks surrounded by lawn dotted with picnic tables. The entire space was soggy, indicating that the oaks were used to being inundated with water through the wet season and could likely accept a little more. Thus, the stormwater solution was to work with the City of Eugene to install a device at the edge of the property, diverting the stormwater that had been running across the parking lot, first into a sediment drop box, then into a swale that led into a large rain garden, that then overflowed into a second, lower rain garden. Enoch and his team did

an impressive job, even selecting and properly locating native plants both within and surrounding the rain gardens, creating a lovely native planting beneath the oaks.

Thermo Fisher Scientific in West Eugene has been working with the Council since 2014 to transform their traditional corporate landscape to a more naturalized



Replanting the undulating meadow and swale at Thermo Fisher

space that is enjoyed by wildlife and staff alike. This winter, they installed phase six of their Trout Friendly Landscape Plan which was to capture the stormwater from two acres of parking lot and road in a new catch basin, diverting it into an existing swale, installed in phase two which

transformed two acres of bark into an undulating meadow with a stream running through it. Up until now, the swale had been managing the rain that fell directly on that two acres, but capacity was built into the swale to manage this stormwater, and more that will come in future phases.

The Monroe, located in the Whiteaker neighborhood, is a Veterans Housing space. The owner, Liberty Housing Group, connected with the Council in 2016 via a local Landscape Architecture firm, Cameron McCarthy. The site is very constrained with very little greenspace around it, except for the grove of highly invasive *Ailanthus altissima*, or Tree of Heaven, along its western border. The site is small, with many constraints, so the solution was to install above ground stormwater planters to treat the entire roof area, and add some greenspace for the residents. These stormwater planters are the first of their kind, and are a collaborative effort between the Council and a local alternative material business: Shelterworks, makers of Durable GreenBed.

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Together, these three projects will be treating 120,200 square feet of impervious surfaces, removing sediment, and treating heavy metals, petrochemicals, and other common urban pollutants while reducing the temperature, and delaying water for the stormwater receiving streams.

We want to extend our appreciation and gratitude to these three businesses and property owners for their voluntary participation in helping to clean our urban stormwater!



Stormwater Planters at The Monroe, a Veterans Housing unit in downtown Eugene.

INTERESTED IN JOINING LTWC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Do you care deeply for the health of the lands and waters of the Long Tom watershed? Are you interested in the human and social systems that support watershed health? We have openings on our Board of Directors!

We are seeking candidates who can meet 10 times a year for our general board meetings, participate in at least one sub-committee, and bring your lived experience and expertise to the table for the health of our watershed, and the diverse communities that depend on it. **We are currently requesting board candidates with connections to federally-recognized**

Tribes and members of the agricultural community. We're also searching for board members with an interest and expertise in fundraising.

If you are interested and would like to learn more about board service with the Long Tom, or let us know about someone you think we should reach out to, you can send a letter of interest to info@longtom.org (or mail to 11 East 27th Ave., Eugene, OR 97405) with your name, why you're interested in being on the Long Tom Board of Directors (or why someone we should reach out to might be a good fit), and a short bio about yourself and what you might bring to benefit the lands and waters we share.

We can bring board members on anytime throughout the year and currently have openings!

You can read our bylaws regarding board membership on our website (longtom.org)

Thank you for giving to LTWC!

JUNE 2021 GIVING

Catherine Boucher
Dedrick Family Fund
Paula Conn

Allan Gubrud
Shelly Miller
Joan Ojerio

Anami Ridge
United Lutheran Church
(Earth Care Interfaith Fund)
Anonymous

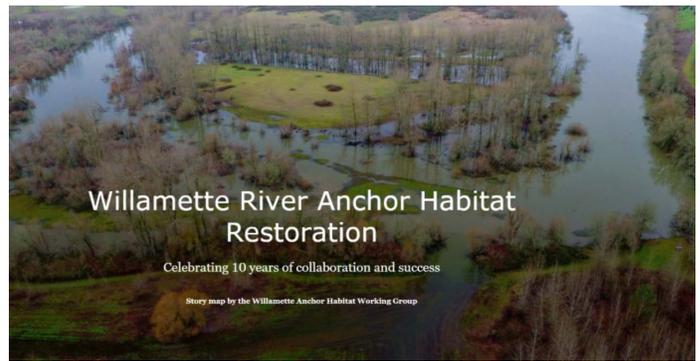
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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE PLEASE CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: LONGTOM.ORG

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF COLLABORATION & RESTORATION SUCCESS

We invite you to [check out a new interactive, visual story map highlighting 10 years of collaboration and Willamette River restoration success stories](#). The collaborating group of partners, called the Willamette Anchor Habitats Working Group, was formed as result of two major funders, Meyer Memorial Trust and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), coming together to support Willamette restoration.

Meyer Memorial Trust has been facilitating strategic collaborations to increase the effectiveness of restoration throughout the Willamette Basin for over a decade. They brought stakeholders together to identify opportunities for collaboration. This group of partners included conservation nonprofits, soil & water conservation districts, land trusts, and watershed councils including LTWC. These partners formed a steering committee to create an action plan in response to OWEB offering a competitive, multi-year funding opportunity for regional partnerships.



The working group collaborated to identify priority projects and make a detailed plan for a grant application to OWEB. The successful application committed \$7 million to the group over six years, starting in 2016. Since then, these partners have been working closely together to implement projects along the Willamette River.

These **grants funded floodplain restoration and side channel restoration at two Long Tom Watershed Council projects - Snag Boat Bend and Sam Daws Landing** - north of Harrisburg along Peoria Road.

Our very own Amanda Reinholtz led the charge in developing the story map! Check out the story map at our [website \(longtom.org/willamettestorymap\)](http://www.longtom.org/willamettestorymap).

Join us for a “Week of Celebration” this September!

SAVE THE DATES! WEEK OF CELEBRATION: COMING THIS SEPTEMBER

Rather than a single event, this year’s Annual Celebration will be a “week of celebration” at the end of September (roughly September 23 - 30). It will **feature a series of outdoor tours and engagement sessions, culminating in a short virtual event**

The tours will be open to between 20-30 people each, and community members who register will be able to attend a maximum of one tour each. Planned outdoor sessions include Winter Green Farm, Willamette restoration at Snag Boat Bend, an urban stormwater project, and likely a fourth centered on Tribal collaboration, upland restoration and/or prescribed fire.

July 2021 Newsletter

The virtual event will feature prizes and watershed awards! We will also elect new board members.

Stay tuned for more information posted to our website and in our next newsletter!



Guests at our 2019 Annual Celebration (photo: Marcus Kauffman Photography)

WANTED: INTERESTED AGRICULTURAL LANDOWNERS

The Council is seeking agricultural landowners interested in voluntarily working to develop projects to decrease erosion, improve streamside habitat and water quality, and upgrade farm infrastructure along waterways in the Lower Long Tom, Bear, Ferguson, and Amazon Creek basins.

Project types could include grassed waterways, riparian fencing and planting native trees and shrubs, installing off-channel livestock water stations, manure storage facilities, and other livestock management infrastructure. We currently have grant funding to meet with landowners and come up with plans for partnership with the Upper Willamette Soil & Water Conservation District.

If you're interested or have questions, please contact LTWC Project Manager Jed Kaul: 541-954-4284 | jkaul@longtom.org.



Cattle drinking at an off-channel water station at a restoration project in Coyote Creek that also featured riparian fencing and planting activities.



Mission Statement

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.



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