

# **LONG TOM WATERSHED COUNCIL**

January 2014 news

Action
Through
Understanding

# **Public Meeting Invitation**

Tues, Jan 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:00—7:45 p.m. Veneta Community Center, 25192 East Broadway Ave





Far left: American Beaver, photo by Steve Trask.

Middle: "Beaver Flats" - a wetland with beaver activity along South Fork Ferguson Creek in the upper Ferguson Basin.

# "Living with beaver, and solutions to common problems"

6:00 Gather, visit beaver education table

6:10 Welcome & Introductions

#### 6:20 Steve Trask, fish biologist

- Beaver as a keystone species, and how they help improve habitat
- Tips for dealing with problem beavers

#### 7:20 Kristin Anderson & Don Pierce, project landowners

Landowner's perspective on living with beaver

#### 7:30 Rob Hoshaw, LTWC

- · A few fun facts about beaver life and behavior
- See beaver pelts and skulls provided by local naturalist Dave Walp

**Meeting Host:** 

Lindsay Reaves, Bauman Family
Tree Farm

Open to all, free with light refreshments

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

more info on next page

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



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751 S. Danebo Ave., Eugene, OR 97402

· Phone: (541) 338-7055 · Fax: (541) 338-7062



# Public Meeting: "Living with beaver, and solutions to common problems"

Jan 28<sup>th</sup>, Veneta Community Center, 6:00 p.m.

Some people love beavers, others hate them. Beaver activity in streams, ponds, and wetlands can have tremendous habitat benefits for the watershed, but they can also cause costly damage for landowners. At our January 28th public meeting, area fish biologist Steve Trask will help us navigate the good and bad of beaver activity, and provide tips for how landowners can approach common issues. Trask has over 25 years of restoration experience working with landowners and watershed councils to improve habitat for fish and wildlife. Learn about beaver biology and how beavers can help meet restoration goals, such as improving juvenile rearing habitat for native cutthroat trout and Chinook Salmon. Local landowner Kristin Anderson will also share her perspective of living with beavers. We hope you'll join us to learn more about this fascinating and sometimes vexing animal.



Duck pond created by beavers on Inman Creek at Kristin Anderson's & Don Pierce's property at White Oak Farm northwest of Fern Ridge Reservoir.

## Snapshot of Long Tom's diverse native fish

Cutthroat Migration Study volunteers and fish biologists from LTWC & ODFW took a day to sample the Long Tom River downstream of Monroe using seine nets. We found an array of native species, including four Chinook salmon (upper right)! One was even a wild-born fish. These juveniles use the Long Tom as rearing habitat until they head out into the ocean. We also caught the largest cutthroat trout we've ever sampled—nearly 14 inches! Other native fish found include mountain whitefish, redside shiner, chiselmouth, peamouth and sucker.



Juvenile Chinook salmon



14 inch cutthroat trout

# Help us spot invasive Old Man's Beard!

**Identification**: *Clematis vitalba,* known as old man's beard or traveler's joy, is an invasive perennial vine. *Clematis* gets the name "old man's beard" by the long, white fluffy seed heads that remain attached into the winter. Its most identifiable feature, these seed heads are the remnants of the small, white, 4-petaled flowers that bloom in summer. Leaves typically consist of 5 leaflets.

**Impacts**: Introduced as an ornamental from Europe, *Clematis* negatively impacts ecosystems by smothering both native trees and ground cover vegetation, reducing forage and cover for native wildlife. These plants reproduce in multiple ways, including by wind,



Note the long, feathery seed heads that persist after the flowers have bloomed.

insects, and even can even germinate from stem and root fragments. Report suspected *Clematis* or other noxious weeds at *www.oregoninvasiveshotline.org*.

## **Newest Amazon Creek project!**



Recently, LTWC partnered with local West Eugene business **Life Technologies** to install an innovative stormwater retention pond. At 20,000 square feet, the facility will treat runoff from nearly one acre of Life Technologies' campus and reduce pollutants from reaching Amazon Creek. Life Technologies learned of LTWC's Amazon Creek Initiative through their participation in the Bring RE:Think Business Program. The stormwater facility was designed by Sarah Whitney of Terraculture Holistic Design.

## 2014 Public Meeting Calendar

**Jan 28**: "Living with beaver, and solutions to common problems." Veneta Community Center

March 25: "Farming in the Long Tom Watershed." Location TBD

**May 27**:Tour recent fish passage improvement projects in Owens Creek

**July 29 or Sept 30**: Tour of urban stormwater improvement project at Life Technologies.

July 29 or Sept 30: "Water, Woodlands & Wildlife: an overview of small woodlands management." Tour, Bauman Family Tree Farm

**Oct:** 17th Annual Meeting & Celebration! Indoors. Date & Location TBD.

Nov 18: TBD

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

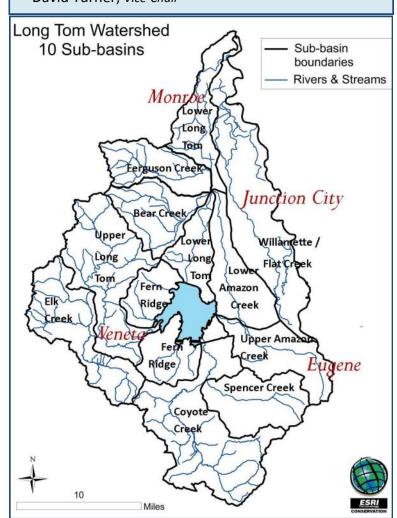
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### **Upper Long Tom**

Cary Hart Sue Kacskos Charles Ruff

#### **Amazon**

Alan Dickman
David Ponder
Therese Walch, Secretary



## **Council Staff Contacts**

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

Jed Kaul, Fish Biologist/Aquatic Projects Manger: 338-7058

Katie MacKendrick, Restoration Ecologist: 338-7033

Jason Schmidt, Amazon Creek Initiative Manager: 338-7042

Rob Hoshaw, Operations Manager: 338-7060



**Long Tom Watershed Council** 751 S. Danebo Ave.

Eugene, OR 97402 Phone: 338-7055

e-mail: coordinator at longtom.org

www.longtom.org

# Public Meeting Invitation

All welcome!

"Living with beaver: Solutions to common problems"

Tues, Jan 28, 6:00-7:45 p.m.

Veneta Community Center

25192 East Broadway Ave, Veneta

South on Territorial Rd from Hwy 126 intersection. Turn east onto Broadway Ave and follow until near end of road. Across from Catholic Church.

# 2014 Annual Fundraising Campaign

Your gift helps us continue our important work to improving habitat for native fish & wildlife. Make your donation today!

Thank you to all our recent donors!

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## **Major Donors**

Mike Brinkley, Dana & Jason Dedrick, Habitat Contracting, LLC, Gary & Jo Holzbauer, Lochmead Farms, Transition Management, Inc., David & Suzanne Turner, Weyerhaeuser Co.

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## Taste the Watershed—participating businesses

Brigadoon Wine Co., Hop Valley Brewing Co., Silvan Ridge Winery, Sweet Life Patisserie

