

SIUSLAW WATERSHED COUNCIL NEWS

May 2011

www.siuslaw.org
watershed@siuslaw.org

P.O. Box 422 • Mapleton, Oregon 97453 • 541-268-3044

• *Community* • *Economy* • *Environment*

Message from the Coordinator...

Spring 2011 is arriving slowly, but the summer's work is rolling in quickly. Once again the Siuslaw Watershed Council has a busy implementation season ahead. You may have noticed invitations to bid and a request for proposals on our website. Summer 2011 brings culvert replacements, design development for other projects, large wood placements, another season of the Siuslaw Watershed Exploration Camp, and maintenance of riparian vegetation restoration sites. Our July newsletter will explore some of these exciting projects.

This issue is a bit heavier than usual as it is time for our biannual Council Self-Evaluation. Instead of the regular articles, two checklists are included for you to use to participate in this process. All councils who receive Council Support grants from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) are required to perform a self-evaluation every biennium. This is an opportunity for council members to identify what we do well and areas in need of improvement. While we regularly assess staff and projects through staff evaluations and post-project monitoring, the broader Council Self-Evaluation process takes place every other May.

We will all benefit from your involvement in the process. Please take the time to fill out the enclosed checklists and mail them in or bring them to the May General Meeting. We will be compiling the responses and will use them for the Council Self-Evaluation and to guide and inform the strategic planning process which the SWC will be going through this year. We appreciate your participation in the Council Self-Evaluation.



Restoration practitioners discuss potential approaches at Fivemile-Bell.

May General Meeting

Join us for this month's General Meeting on Wednesday, May 25 at the Mapleton Grange for a much requested presentation about the developing Fivemile-Bell Restoration Project. Paul Burns, Siuslaw National Forest, will talk about the history of the valley, the innovative proposed restoration activities, the project timeline, and how you can get involved. The evening's second presentation has also been requested several times. Kevin Fenn with the Oregon Department of Agriculture will explain the Oregon Agricultural Water Quality program, Area Plan and Rules, Compliance, and discuss common water quality concerns. Please also join us in Blachly for our annual Upper Lake Creek SWC General Meeting. In June, our presenters will explore native plants and land management. And in July, join us for the Lakes Forum at the Yurt on Woahink!

Thank You,
Liz Vollmer-Buhl
Council Coordinator/Executive Director



Siuslaw Watershed Council

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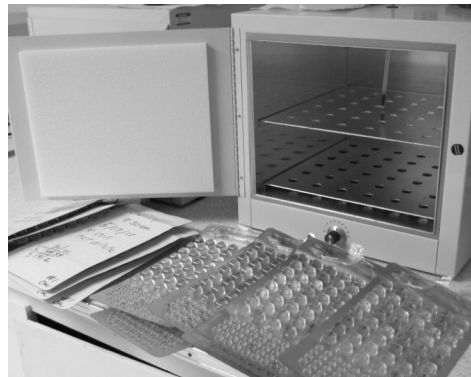
Rose Tristano

2011 Executive Committee

Chair: Gus Gates
Vice Chair: Dave Eisler
Secretary: Wesley Voth
Treasurer: Nancy Nichols
Representatives:
Barbara Beers
Jim Grano
Ray Kinney
George Uriona
Former Chair: Steve Elliot

Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program Update

Spring is well under way throughout the Siuslaw watershed and the VWQMP continues collecting high quality data from 12 water quality monitoring sites in the basin on the third Tuesday of each month. Monitoring occurred on May 17 and 18 and the upcoming sampling dates are June 21 and 22. Parameters monitored include temperature, turbidity, dissolved oxygen content, and bacterial content. Check the SWC website's Monitoring Page (www.siuslaw.org/monitoring) for updated graphs for all water quality monitoring sites. A refresher water quality training event with Steve Hansen, DEQ, is being planned for the first week of June. All participating volunteers are encouraged to attend as well as anyone who is interested in training for the VWQMP. As always, water quality data is available upon request to those who are interested. Please contact Katie Neall at monitoring@siuslaw.org for more information.



Release Assistance—Free Brush Control

Here are some time tested tips to help the success of your native riparian plants:

- If you didn't mark them with flagging tape when you planted them, now is the time to do so. As competing grasses and brush grow up in the spring, the native seedlings can easily be overtopped and hidden. Hidden seedlings can accidentally be mown down or ran over. Flagging tape is still available.
- Clear competing brush and grasses away from young plants. We have free assistance available for marking seedlings, placing protective tubing or cages around plants, and preparing sites for additional native riparian plantings.
- Your plants have not needed to be watered so far, but summer is coming on. Depending on their location, you may need to water your plants.
- Please call or email the SWC office to find out if you qualify and to get on the list for release assistance. Funding is limited but all requests for help will be considered. Contact the SWC office at restoration@siuslaw.org or 541-268-3044.



Unflagged trees play hide and seek.



Siuslaw Watershed Council



May General Meeting

6:30 pm, Wednesday, May 25, 2011

Mapleton Grange, E. Mapleton Rd, Mapleton.

6:00pm – Doors Open

6:30-6:40 – Welcome and Introductions

6:40-7:15 – Fivemile-Bell Restoration Project, Paul Burns, USFS

7:15-7:30 – Q & A

7:30-7:40 – Refreshment Break

7:40-8:00 – Oregon Agricultural Water Quality Program, Area Plan, Rules, & Compliance, Kevin Fenn, ODA

8:00-8:05 – Q & A

8:05-8:10 – Reports: Chair, Coordinator/Tech Team

8:10-8:20 – Open Mic

8:20-8:30 – Announcements

8:30pm – Adjourn. Safe travels!

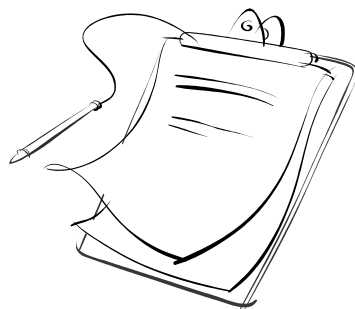
To encourage reduction in waste, we are requesting that folks bring their own coffee mug to the meet-



Join us for the June General Meeting in Blachly at the Triangle Grange at 6:30pm on Wednesday, June 29

Presentations:

- Rare and Endangered Plants of the Siuslaw River Watershed and Lakes; Charlene Simpson, Emerald Chapter, Native Plant Society of Oregon, R & E Co-Chair
- Diverse Landownership and Land Management in the Basin; presenters TBA



Time and Mileage

Thank to all of our volunteers, we appreciate the time that you dedicate to the SWC. Please remember to document the time and mileage that you donate to the SWC on the Volunteer Time Logs (available at the office). Turn in your logs at the General Council Meetings or to the SWC office. Thank You!



We thank the BLM for their cooperation. In order to continue our partnership, we are required to include: 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.

WATERSHED COUNCIL MEMBER SELF-EVALUATION

A Watershed Council is made up of individuals. Please use this first page to identify your own priorities. You might also use this checklist to make up your own personal plan of action to address any concerns or build on successes that you have identified through the watershed council self-evaluation process. Please return this to the SWC office, either in person, or mail to SWC, PO Box 422, Mapleton, OR 97453. Please make and keep a copy of this page (with your personal goals) for yourself.

MY ROLE IN THE WATERSHED COUNCIL

Why do I participate?

What am I proud of?

<i>Effective groups are diverse and dynamic. Please give an accurate depiction of your activity at this stage of your involvement.</i>	This is important to me			I am doing this well		
	Very	Somewhat	Not really	Most times	Sometimes	Not sure / never
	1 I understand and can explain our council's purpose and mission.					
2 I am aware of the status and purpose of our current projects.						
3 I am actively involved in a project or committee.						
4 I understand our basic organization and governing rules/bylaws.						
5 I participate in council discussions and contribute to finding solutions to problems.						
6 I act as a liaison to the community by collecting and sharing information.						
7 I advocate for the council's vision and evaluate proposals with regard to the mission.						
8 I listen to other council members and respect our decision-making process.						
9 I play an active role in helping our council define and respect ground rules.						
10 I help ensure that council decisions are respected and supported in outside meetings and in the community.						
11 I encourage others to be involved with our council and help look for ways to continue bringing in new participants.						

Comments:

MY PERSONAL "TO DO" LIST FOR MY WATERSHED COUNCIL

1

2

3

WATERSHED COUNCIL SELF-EVALUATION

PURPOSE: The self-evaluation tool is a means for watershed councils to assess their organizational capacity. OWEB has asked each council support grant recipient to complete a self-assessment and to address the results of the evaluation in a program action or work plan for the council. Once the evaluation is complete, your council will need to report the results and a plan of work to OWEB.

INSTRUCTIONS: Each council member should fill out this form on their own. We will be compiling the responses and will use them both for the Council Self-Evaluation and to guide and inform the Strategic Planning process which the SWC will be going through this year. If you are unsure about a specific question, please leave the question blank.

Oregon Revised Statutes (541.351 to .415) define a watershed council, the interests that shall be represented on a watershed council, and a reporting requirement to a county governing body. The following sets of questions were designed to help council members evaluate how they are addressing and meeting these requirements.

I participate in the Council in the following ways: ___ Member ___ Leadership Board Representative ___ Executive Committee Member ___ Tech Team Member ___ Other: _____

MEMBERSHIP	How important is this to the Council's effectiveness?			How is the Council doing?			
	Very	Somewhat	Not really	Doing Great	Doing enough	Let's do better	Unknown/ Not Appl. to My Role
1 Our council has a broad, diverse membership which represents most interests in the watershed.							
2 Our membership requirements are clearly defined and communicated.							
3 Leadership Board members understand their responsibilities and roles.							
4 New Leadership Board members are provided orientation and materials.							

PARTICIPATION	How important is this to the Council's effectiveness?			How is the Council doing?			
	Very	Somewhat	Not really	Doing Great	Doing enough	Let's do better	Unknown/ Not Appl. to My Role
5 Our council actively involves key people and community leaders in projects and/or activities.							
6 Our council members share a common vision and purpose in the Council Mission.							
7 Members are aware of and involved in projects and/or activities.							

Comments/Ideas:

ACCOUNTABILITY

	How important is this to the Council's effectiveness?			How is the Council doing?			
	Very	Somewhat	Not really	Doing Great	Doing enough	Let's do better	Unknown/ Not Appl. to My Role
8 The council reports progress and results to our county governing body.							
9 The council reports progress and results to all stakeholders.							
10 Community members know how to contact our group.							

Watershed Councils generally have bylaws and a mission-statement to guide their operations. Operations generally include meetings, relationships to staff and decision-making policies. The following sets of questions are intended to help your group review its operational procedures.

DECISION-MAKING

	How important is this to the Council's effectiveness?			How is the Council doing?			
	Very	Somewhat	Not really	Doing Great	Doing enough	Let's do better	Unknown/ Not Appl. to My Role
11 Council members understand and use our chosen method of decision-making.							
12 Council policy decisions are made fairly.							
13 Decisions are evaluated with regard to our mission and vision.							
14 Members know when a policy decision has been made.							

MEETINGS

	How important is this to the Council's effectiveness?			How is the Council doing?			
	Very	Somewhat	Not really	Doing Great	Doing enough	Let's do better	Unknown/ Not Appl. to My Role
15 Meetings are well-organized and productive.							
16 Our process is fair, open and honest.							
17 Members advocate for the Council vision.							
18 Members feel free to contribute in meetings and activities.							

Comments/Ideas:

STAFF MANAGEMENT

	How important is this to the Council's effectiveness?			How is the Council doing?			
	Very	Somewhat	Not really	Doing Great	Doing enough	Let's do better	Unknown/ Not Appl. to My Role
19 Executive Committee members understand the role of staff and their relationship to staff.							
20 Council has and uses an objective methodology for evaluating staff performance and compensation.							
21 Council staff work with members in a supportive and professional environment.							

Many watershed councils also implement or manage projects and grants. The following questions address how your group handles these responsibilities and allows you to assess your capabilities related to fiscal and project management.

FISCAL & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

	How important is this to the Council's effectiveness?			How is the Council doing?			
	Very	Somewhat	Not really	Doing Great	Doing enough	Let's do better	Unknown/ Not Appl. to My Role
22 Executive Committee members are aware of the council's contractual commitments and understand their responsibility.							
23 Steering Committee members are aware of recordkeeping procedures and have access to records.							
24 Our council has a process for tracking project implementation and performance.							
25 Our council effectively carries out projects within schedules and budgets.							
26 Our council practices open and fair competition for goods and services.							
27 Our council gets involved in grant writing and developing strategies for funding operations and projects.							

Comments/Ideas:

Watershed Councils address the goal of sustaining natural resource and watershed protection, restoration, and enhancement in a number of ways (ORS 541.351(15)). The following sets of questions focus on the tasks a council may do to accomplish this goal and is intended to help you evaluate how you are working to meet that goal.

WATERSHED PLANNING & PROJECTS

	How important is this to the Council's effectiveness?			How is the Council doing?			
	Very	Somewhat	Not really	Doing Great	Doing enough	Let's do better	Unknown/ Not Appl. to My Role
28 Our council's Technical Team identifies key issues, limiting factors, and/or watershed conditions (assessments).							
29 Our council's Technical Team identifies and evaluates the major restoration priorities in our watershed (action plans).							
30 Activities and projects address the concerns identified and move us towards our desired outcomes.							
31 Our council actively involves stakeholders in watershed-level planning & proj. development.							
32 Our council annually evaluates its priorities & plans.							
33 Projects implemented by the council are monitored for their effectiveness.							
34 Our plans identify outcomes for the next three to five years.							

Comments/Ideas:

CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT & SUPPORT

	How important is this to the Council's effectiveness?			How is the Council doing?			
	Very	Somewhat	Not really	Doing Great	Doing enough	Let's do better	Unknown/ Not Appl. to My Role
35 Our council and its projects are actively supported by:							
local people							
local government							
industry and business							
community groups							
landowners							
conservation interests							
36 Citizens understand the SWC's purpose.							
37 Community members feel our council is successful and effective.							
38 Our council works to increase citizen understanding of watershed conditions and concerns.							

Comments/Ideas:

Calendar of Events

Please check our website at www.siuslaw.org for more info.



- Wednesday, May 25: **SWC General Meeting.** 6:30—8:30 PM, Mapleton Grange, E. Mapleton Rd, Mapleton.
- Thursday, June 2: **SWC Technical Team meeting.** 9:30—11:30AM, Siuslaw Watershed Council office, Upper U.S. Forest Service Compound, Mapleton.
- Thursday, June 2: **Siuslaw Stewardship Group meeting.** 1—3 PM, Siuslaw Watershed Council office, Upper U.S. Forest Service Compound, Mapleton.
- Monday, June 6: **Siuslaw SWCD Board meeting.** 6:30 PM, Contact SWCD for information (541-997-1272).
- Wednesday, June 8: **SWC Executive Committee meeting.** 5:30 PM, Siuslaw Watershed Council office, Upper U.S. Forest Service Compound, Mapleton.
- Wednesday, June 29: **Annual Upper Lake Creek SWC General meeting.** 6:30—8:30 PM, , Triangle Lake Grange, Blachly Grange Rd., Blachly.
- Thursday, July 7: **SWC Technical Team meeting.** 9:30—11:30 AM, Siuslaw Watershed Council office, Upper U.S. Forest Service Compound, Mapleton.
- Thursday, July 7: **Siuslaw Stewardship Group meeting.** 1—3 PM, Siuslaw Watershed Council office, Upper U.S. Forest Service Compound, Mapleton.
- Monday, July 11: **Siuslaw SWCD Board meeting.** 6:30 PM, Contact SWCD for information (541-997-1272).
- Wednesday, July 13: **SWC Executive Committee meeting.** 5:30 PM, Siuslaw Watershed Council office, Upper U.S. Forest Service Compound, Mapleton.

Siuslaw Watershed Council Membership Form

May 2011

Type of Membership:

- Landowner Community Member Industry Local Business Student Tribal
 Government Agency Non-Governmental / Non-Profit Organization

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

- I would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically.

Please choose and circle any of the following:

- Tax-deductible membership enclosed (\$25 supporting, \$10 regular, \$0 students).
- **Additional tax-deductible donation enclosed!** Amount \$ _____
- Please direct my additional donation to
 - Where ever it can be used the most
 - Water Quality Monitoring
 - Siuslaw Estuary Water Trail
 - Summer Watershed Camp
 - Native Plant Distribution
 - Outreach Events & Road Signs
 - Dirk-Edmunds Gift Fund
- Please check if you do not wish to be acknowledged in our newsletter.

Siuslaw Watershed Summer Exploration Camps 2011

Summer is on the way, and we are excited to once again be able to offer the Siuslaw Watershed Exploration Camps to youth entering grades 4-12. The Camps are a great way to spend enjoyable time outside exploring, learning, and playing in a variety of locations within the Siuslaw Watershed and Coastal Lakes. We offer the following fun and educational camps:

Introductory Day Camp—June 27 to June 30, 2011: This camp is for youth entering grades 4-6. Activities will include stream investigations, a watershed science-inspired art project, native plant identification and more.

Intermediate Day Camp—July 11-14, 2011: For youth entering grades 6-8. Activities for this Camp include stream snorkel surveys, mountain biking, water quality testing, kayaking and more.

Advanced Camp—July 18-22: For youth entering grades 8-12; includes a one-night overnight camp. Advanced Camp participants will have demonstrated a strong interest in and knowledge of watershed science and natural resource careers. Campers will further explore restoration and watershed management issues. Leave No Trace skills will be taught to the advanced camp participants during the overnight.

Please visit www.siuslaw.org/camps for applications and registration materials. Call 541-268-3044 for more information, or email camp@siuslaw.org. Made possible through grants from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, the Western Lane Community Foundation and private donations and support.



2010 Campers canoeing on Cleawox Lake

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What's Happening In Your Watershed?