

SIU SLAW WATERSHED COUNCIL NEWS

January 2008

www.siuslaw.org
watershed@siuslaw.org

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

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

Message from the Coordinator...

Happy New Year! The New Year brings changes to the Siuslaw Watershed Council. I was honored that the Executive Committee selected me, Liz Vollmer-Buhl, to serve the SWC as Council Coordinator. My work history with the SWC began in 2004 as the Monitoring Coordinator. I have served the council most recently as Interim Coordinator and Projects Manager. I look forward to working with council members and project partners in my new capacity. We are currently working to fill the Projects Manager position that I'm vacating. The council is happy to have Ginger Cloutier remain with us as the Office and Program Assistant.

SWC staff moved back into the office building in Mapleton with the start of the New Year. The Forest Service remodel of the office building includes USFS offices both up and downstairs. You will find the SWC staff in the north portion of the upper story. The remodel provides the SWC with a self-contained conference room, which will make it easier for the simultaneous meetings and office work to run more efficiently. Our Water Quality Lab remains on the lower level, although it has moved to a new room and received the welcome addition of an exhaust fan.

A sad change for many in the watershed and beyond is the death of Andy Reasoner, McKenzie River Trust's Conservation Director. Andy lost his brief battle with cancer in December. Andy's work in the Siuslaw Basin focused on estuary restoration and land acquisition through the Siuslaw Watershed Restoration Initiative. Our sympathy goes out to Andy's family and co-workers.

The storms of earlier this month provided the SWC with a new unique opportunity for collaboration with a neighboring watershed council. Mid-Coast Watersheds Council shared their materials acquisition



funds with the Siuslaw, enabling at least one truckload of large wood to be collected from storm damaged roads. The large wood will be placed in streams as part of salmonid habitat restoration projects throughout the Siuslaw.

In 2008, we continue to pursue watershed restoration, enhancement, education, and monitoring projects. We'll see the eighth annual Free Native Plant Distribution for riparian landowners in the Siuslaw and Coastal Lakes basins in February. The Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program maintains its monthly sampling schedule, with local volunteers of all ages tracking stream health. In addition to habitat improvements through LWD placements, the SWC continues to be involved with fish passage improvements, including one at Holland Creek this summer. We persist in combating invasive plant species, through education and removal, including involvement in the Meadow Knapweed Working Group focused on the Blachly area. The SWC is working with watershed councils and Soil and Water Conservation Districts all along the Mid-Coast on TMDL development for our stream segments which are listed as limited. The TMDL development work will continue through 2010.

Many new projects and continuations are pending funding or will be proposed for funding in 2008, these include the Lower Deadwood Aquatic Restoration project, Mid-Coast Sediment TMDL Development, and Siuslaw Watershed Exploration Camps 2008. In response to council members' requests we have several thought-provoking General Meeting presentations already scheduled for the coming months. John Spangler, Oregon Department of

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Siuslaw Watershed Council

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Staff

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Office and Program Assistant



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Executive Committee

Chair: Steve Elliot

Vice Chair: Dave Eisler

Secretary: Wesley Voth

Treasurer: Nancy Nichols

Representatives:

Barbara Beers

Paul Chapman (resigned)

Jim Grano

Noland Huntington

Fish and Wildlife, presents on fall 2007 salmon returns and potential fishery closures, at the January General Council Meeting. Leadership Board elections will also take place at the January meeting. In February, BLM silvaculturists will speak about forest monitoring and recovery at the Alma Fire. Check-out the calendar inside for more details. You will receive a postcard next month, to remind you of the February General Council Meeting. We're switching to a bi-monthly newsletter, with reminder postcards on the alternate months. Our new newsletter schedule will be a more effective use of our resources (both time and paper).

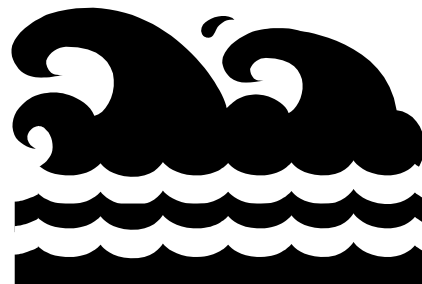
Thank you to everyone for your involvement in the SWC in 2007. Welcome, to new residents and members. If you have a long history with the council or, if you are a "fresh-face," please consider running for a position on the Leadership Board. You will find election details in an article within this newsletter. Thank you to those who have paid their 2008 membership dues and those who made additional donations to support council programs. 2008 will be a great year to be part of the Siuslaw Watershed Council. I look forward to working with you to enhance the watershed!

Thank You,
Liz Vollmer-Buhl
Council Coordinator

Changes at the Siuslaw Soil and Water Conservation District

Gus Gates, the Siuslaw SWCD Watershed Conservationist from 2006 through December 2007, moved on to a new opportunity as the Central Coast field organizer working in partnership with the Oregon Marine Stewardship coalition. Gus's expertise in conservation, landowner outreach, and restoration will be missed at both the SWCD and SWC. We are privileged though, to continue working with Gus in his new position. With Gus's dedication to watershed health from the headwaters through off shore reefs, he plans to remain involved with the council. Expect to see Gus presenting about Ocean Reserves at a spring General Council Meeting.


In other news about the Siuslaw SWCD: Jeanne Dunn, has been promoted to the position of District Administrator. Congratulations, Jeanne! The District office moved down the hall at the Florence Business Center to Suite 10A. The Siuslaw Soil and Water Conservation District has a full time opening for the position of Watershed Conservationist. Please call Jeanne Dunn at 541-997-1272 for more information on the position.



2008 Elections

Thank you to everyone who served on the Leadership Board and Executive Committee in 2007. Your service has benefited council members and the watershed. Elections for 2008 will take place at the January 30, General Council Meeting. Please review the list of positions below; it contains 2007 representatives and 2008 nominees. If you were on the Leadership Board last year, want to serve again, and your name is not in the nominee section, please contact Ginger at watershed@siuslaw.org, or 541-268-3044. If you would like to be placed on the ballot or nominate someone for a position, you may do so by contacting Ginger as directed above. We will be accepting nominations at the January 30 meeting and elections will follow during the meeting.

One of the requirements of Leadership Board members is that they are paid members of the SWC. You will find a membership and donation envelope attached to the newsletter this month. If you have questions about your membership status, please contact Ginger at the SWC office. Thank you to everyone who has already paid their 2008 membership dues.

No.	POSITION	2007 REPRESENTATIVES	2008 Nominees
Area Representatives			
1	North Fork Siuslaw	Noland Huntington	Noland Huntington
2	Lower Siuslaw	Hayden Sears	
3	Middle Siuslaw	Steve Elliot	Steve Elliot
4	Upper Siuslaw (Incl. Wolf)	VACANT	
5	Indian Creek	Barbara Beers	Barbara Beers
6	Wildcat Creek	Dave Eisler	Dave Eisler
7	Deadwood Creek	Nancy Nichols	Nancy Nichols
8	Lake Creek	Fred Mentzer	
9	No. Coastal Lakes & Siuslaw Bay	Gus Gates	
10	South Coastal Lakes	Lori Robertson	
11	At Large	Jeremy Monroe	Cindy Chambers
Interest Group Representatives - Elected			
12	Academic/Scientific	Tom Steinberg	
13	Commercial Fishing	VACANT	
14	Federal Land Management	Ralph Lampman	Ralph Lampman
15	Public Education	Jim Grano	Jim Grano
16	Small Woodlot	David Rankin	
17	SWCD	Ray Kinney	Ray Kinney
18	Agriculture/Ranching	Bill Cirino	
19	Industrial Timber	Paul Chapman	Mark Wall
20	Environmental	Andy Reasoner (deceased)	
21	State Government	John Spangler	John Spangler
22	Ecosystem Workforce	Jeff Jones	Jeff Jones
23	Resource Recreation	Jeff Jackson	
Interest Group Representatives - Appointed			
24	Tribes CTCLUSI	John Schaefer	John Schaefer
25	Port of Siuslaw (Appointed)	Tom Kartrude	Mark Freeman
26	Lane Co. Government (Appointed)	Mary Moffat	Mary Moffat
27	City of Florence (Appointed)	Suzanne Roberts	
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE			
1	Chair	Steve Elliot	
2	Vice Chair	Dave Eisler	
3	Secretary	Wesley Voth	
4	Treasurer	Nancy Nichols	
5	Position 5	Barbara Beers	
6	Position 6	Noland Huntington	
7	Position 7	Paul Chapman (resigned)	
8	Position 8	Jim Grano	
9	Position 9	VACANT	

**Siuslaw Watershed Council
General Meeting Agenda
January 30, 2008**

6:00-6:30 Open for set-up

6:30-6:35 Welcome and Introductions

6:35-7:35 Presentation: 2007 Fall Salmon Returns & Potential Fishery Closures- John Spangler, ODFW

7:35-7:40 Q & A

7:40-7:45 Break

7:45-8:05 Leadership Board Nominee and Elections

8:05-8:15 Coordinator Report and Tech Team Report

8:15-8:20 Executive Committee Report

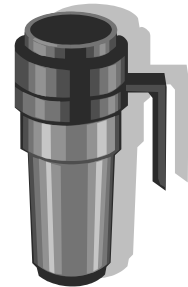
8:20-8:25 Open Mic

8:25-8:30 Announcements

8:30 Adjourn

BYOM

To encourage reduction in waste, we are requesting that folks bring their own coffee mugs to the meeting. Thanks!



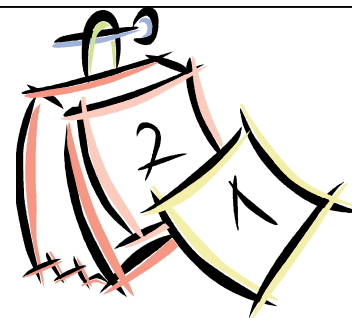
Upcoming Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Dates

Tuesday, February 19, 2008

Tuesday, March 18, 2008

Note to WQM Volunteers: If you need supplies or have a time conflict with a monitoring date, please let Liz know ASAP. Thank You!

Calendar of Events



Wednesday, January 30: SWC General Meeting. 6:30 – 8:30 PM, Mapleton Grange Hall. East Mapleton Road, Mapleton.

Monday, February 4: Siuslaw SWCD. 6:30 PM, Contact SWCD for information. 541-997-1272.

Thursday, February 7: SWC Tech Team meeting. 9:30 – 11:30 AM, Siuslaw Watershed Council office, Upper US Forest Service Compound, Mapleton.

Thursday, February 7: Siuslaw Stewardship Meeting. 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Siuslaw Watershed Council office, Upper US Forest Service Compound, Mapleton.

Wednesday, February 13: SWC Executive Board meeting. 5:30 PM, Siuslaw Watershed Council office, Upper US Forest Service Compound, Mapleton.

Lane County Announcement

The Lane County Board of Health (County Commissioners) has directed Public Works staff to open a 60 day public comment period regarding Lane County's Integrated Vegetation Management Program, for roadside vegetation control. Two specific questions were posed by the Commissioners that they are requesting public comment on.

Question #1: Should Lane County be in the business of Noxious and Invasive Plant Control?

Question #2: Should Lane County use limited herbicides for the County approved Permitted Products List as part of our integrated Vegetation Management program, for management activities listed in the 2007 Lane County Annual Report.

Lane County Commissioners are requesting that interested parties, public members, agencies, watershed councils and others provide comment on this very important topic. After the 60 day public comment period, County Commissioners will evaluate the responses / comments and provide direction to County staff as to the future direction of our IVM program. Will we be in the business of managing noxious and invasive plant species on County maintained rights-of-way and will herbicides be a part of the Lane County IVM program in the future?

This is a very important issue and we are seeking as much input as we can achieve, so take the time to respond to this request if you are able, and please forward this along to other groups, agencies, public members and others you think would have an interest in these issues. Lane County Department of Public Works thanks you in advance for your time and energy in responding to this request.

Public Comment Timeline:

Start of Public Comment Period: January 2, 2008

End of Public Comment Period: March 3, 2008

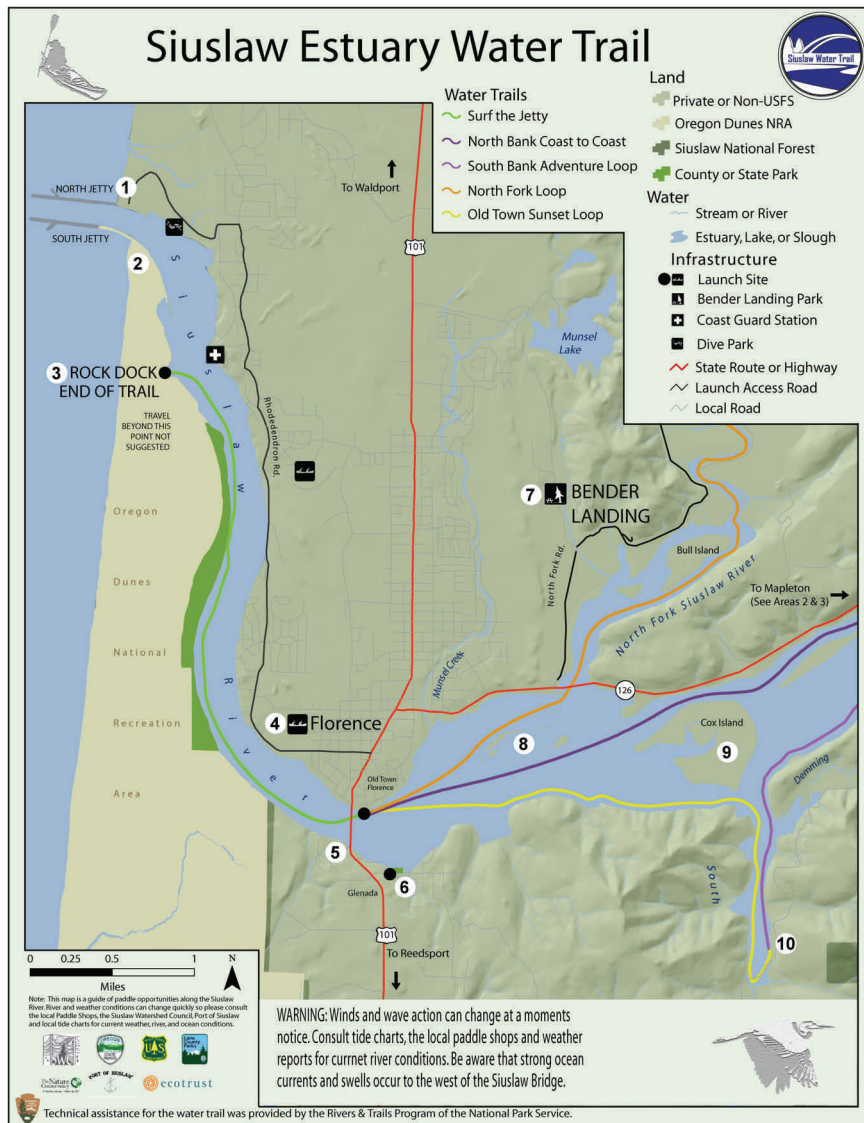
Public Comment / Responses :Please send all letters or e-mails to Lane County Department of Public Works. 3040 N. Delta Hwy. Eugene, OR. 97408 ATTN: VEGETATION COORDINATOR. E-mails can be sent to orin.schumacher@co.lane.or.us. We are attempting to direct all public comment to one location, so we track/ monitor and tally all responses during the 60 day public comment period.

Siuslaw Water Trail

The Siuslaw Watershed Council partnered with the Port of Siuslaw and regional contractors, Jay Vilhena and Jordan Sexter, on a Oregon State Parks grant to launch the Siuslaw Water Trail. Check out the Port of Siuslaw in Florence for a kayak launch and informational sign describing the entire Siuslaw Estuary Water Trail. Bender Landing, the Mapleton Dock, and more launch sites in the estuary have or will have Siuslaw Water Trail signs. Maps of the Water Trail are available from the Port of Siuslaw, Central Coast Watersports, and the Siuslaw Watershed Council. Visit www.siuslawwatertrail.com for more information and downloadable maps.



Interested in helping the Siuslaw Water Trail to grow? Email Liz at coordinator@siuslaw.org or call 541-268-3044.





Native Plant Distribution: Saturday, February 9, 2008

If you placed a request for native riparian trees or plants, plan to pick-up your plants on Saturday, February 9, 2008! Head to the distribution site nearest your planting site. If you are unsure about which distribution location to visit, contact SWC staff at watershed@siuslaw.org or call (541) 268-3044.

Please note the new distribution site and changes to the distribution sites↓

- **Mapleton Distribution**—For Coastal Lakes, Florence, Mapleton, North Fork Siuslaw, Walton, Swisshome, and nearby residents: **10am-12pm. SWC Office**, Upper Forest Service Compound, 10961 Hwy 36, Mapleton. Visit our website for directions (<http://www.siuslaw.org/directions/>).
- **Blachly Distribution**—For Deadwood, Blachly, Triangle Lake, Horton, and nearby residents: **12pm-2pm. The Humphreys**—17782 Hwy 36. (mile post 20.3)
- **Lorane Distribution**—For Lorane, Goudyville, Wolf Creek, and nearby residents: **4pm-4:30pm. Lorane Family Store** parking lot, by the metal awning/carport.
- Plants may still be available, call for more information!

Siuslaw Watershed Council Mission Statement

The Siuslaw Watershed Council supports sound economic, social and environmental uses of natural and human resources in the Siuslaw River Basin. The Council encourages cooperation among public and private watershed entities to promote awareness and understanding of watershed functions by adopting and implementing a total watershed approach to natural resource management and production.

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What's Happening In Your Watershed?

January 2008