

Message from the Coordinator

Shiloh and I have been running. It gets us out of the office, taking a break from those occasional long days of staring into a computer screen. The runs allow me some time to enter into more casual conversation with Shiloh, who is our AmeriCorps intern working on our education and outreach programs. Getting outside this way also gives us the opportunity to view some great scenery: the estuary from Riverview Avenue, down onto Mapleton from the utility road high above the high school, the creek and farms along Sweet Creek Road, and the logging roads above the Forest Service compound.

As we talked, Shiloh developed an idea for his AmeriCorps independent project – a fun run in Mapleton. I was all ears. I had personally been thinking about such an event, realizing it could be a great way to have a watershed and community gathering, but the planning seemed daunting. The short story is, to use a pun, we ran with it. The details will be months in the forming, but we hope to host a 5-kilometer footrace somewhere in Mapleton. Shiloh will organize the run, and I will organize other watershed activities – such as weed control demonstrations, fish recovery informational displays, wetland prioritization mapping, and so on. Undoubtedly it will be a lot of fun and a lot of hard work. If you want to get involved in the planning, please let me know – I would love to have your help. Meanwhile, keep posted for future information.

On a recent run, we started talking about the geology of the Siuslaw watershed. As a trained geologist, geomorphology (the shape of the landscape) is often at the root of my concepts for how people, wildlife, and the ecosystem in general, use and function with the land. Moreover, consideration for why the peaks and valleys are where they are and what they are always gives me respect for the unique nature and long history of a landscape. If current popular theory holds true, our portion of the coast range was once seafloor headed for subduction (that massive action of two plates overriding one another and the cause of the Indonesian earthquake that triggered the recent Asian tsunami). Our section of seafloor appears to have been saved from being down-thrust and perhaps melted and regurgitated as volcanic lava; instead the crust stuck, the subduction zone jumped to the west, and we live upon that stubborn piece of rock known as the Tyee Sandstone today.

The Tyee Sandstone is the prevalent rock formation in the Siuslaw watershed and is readily seen at road cuts along Highway 126, where its gently dipping layers are viewed. Volcanic rock intrusions have cut through the Tyee in east-west trending rifts. This basaltic rock is much harder and resistant to erosion and therefore forms most of the higher peaks in the watershed. For example, the ridge running from Walton to Mapleton between Highways 126 and 36 is capped by such rock, as is Roman Nose and the head of Kentucky Falls. Most if not all quarries, rock pits, and waterfalls you see in the basin are indicative of this more resistant rock. The sandstone, however, easily erodes into its sandy components. And here is the heart of the geologic interest of salmon.

MANY THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

The Siuslaw Watershed Council 2005 riparian planting went well thanks to all the donations and volunteer help. On February 12th, we distributed almost 8000 plants to over 80 landowners. They planted the trees and shrubs along area waterways and made a commitment to keep their plants free of competing vegetation until they outgrow the brush and grass.

The Siuslaw National Forest Stewardship Fund provided funding for many aspects of this program, but without all the community support this project could have never reached so many miles of stream.

Donations

BLM- postage to mail announcements

Dave Eisler – 150 alder trees

Balance Restoration Nursery – 150 Douglas hawthorn and 20 alder

Mapleton Schools' Nursery – various trees and shrubs

Roseburg Forest Products –2000 cedar trees and 120 grand fir

Siuslaw National Forest - use of the Mapleton cooler

Terra Tech - supplies

Siuslaw SWCD - technical help

Distribution Volunteers

Mapleton - Noland Huntington, Teri Myers, Don and Jackie Allen, Jeff Jones, Dave Eisler, David Webb (Also our coordinator Todd Miller and administrative assistant Robin Combest)

Deadwood - Bill Cirino, Tom Steinberg, Cricket Crowder, Aera and Daniel, Sophia & Melody Rowe (Also project manager Nancy Nichols, Americorps volunteer Shiloh Sundstrom, and monitoring technician Wes Voth)

Lorane – Janet Martin

2005 Siuslaw Watershed Council

Leadership Board Representatives

Area Representatives:

North Fork Siuslaw: Noland Huntington

Upper Siuslaw: Steve Elliot

Lower Siuslaw: David Rankin

Indian Creek: Barbara Beers/Dick Beers

Wildcat: David Eisler/Steve Kriegh & Linda Redmon

Deadwood: Nancy Nichols/Bill Cirino

Lake Creek: Tony Humphreys

Wolf Creek: _____

At Large: Andrew Morohl

Interest Group Representatives:

Academic/Scientific:

Paul Burns/Tom Steinberg

Commercial Fishing: _____

Federal Land Management:

Karen Geary, BLM/Johan Hogervorst, USFS

City of Florence: (appointed) Dianne Burch

Lane Co. Government: (appointed) _____

Resource Recreation: Lynn Hood

Public Education:

Jim Grano/Cricket Crowder

Small Woodlot:

Vernon VanCurler

Tribes CTCLUS:

Howard Crombie/ JR Herbst

SWCD: Ray Kinney/Johnny Sundstrom

Agriculture/Ranching: Bill Cirino

Industrial Timber:

Paul Chapman, Campbell Group

Environmental: William Fleenor

Port of Siuslaw: (appointed) Ken Miller

State Government: John Spangler, ODF&W

Ecosystem Workforce: Lori Robertson

FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 4 IS NOXIOUS WEED AWARENESS WEEK

SPECIAL TOPIC: ENGLISH IVY (*Hedera helix*)

English ivy is increasingly being recognized as a highly dangerous invasive that is present throughout the Siuslaw Watershed. English ivy is a non-native plant that was originally imported to North America in 1797 for use in landscaping and gardening because it was cheap, fast growing, shade tolerant and stayed green all year. English ivy is a hardy plant that has two forms, a juvenile form called ramulose which is typified by the familiar lobed leaves and aerial roots that allow it to climb up walls and trees. (See drawing at right) Ivy can remain in the juvenile form indefinitely until ample amounts of resources (water, light, etc.) allow it to mature into the adult form called arborescent. This form is typified by oval-shape leaves and the presence of flowers and berries. Since it was introduced, ivy has escaped into the wild where it takes over and kills whole trees, smothers native ground vegetation, and creates conditions where other invasive species can thrive as well.



This path of destruction creates a monoculture that severely disrupts natural functions of the landscape and destroys wildlife habitat. It is especially damaging to riparian areas because it prematurely kills trees that provide shade and has shallow roots that do little to prevent bank erosion. It is thought by some that left unchecked, ivy could destroy Pacific Northwest Forests within this century. This highly invasive species is currently listed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture as a noxious weed and thus cannot be imported, exported, propagated, or cultivated commercially, retailed, or wholesaled in Oregon.

You have probably noticed large patches of English ivy spreading throughout the Siuslaw Watershed where the ground is completely covered by a thick layer of ivy vines and complete trees are covered in vines. While it is probably impossible to rid the entire watershed of English ivy, with a lot of hard work and patience we can limit the damage done to the ecosystem. The priorities of ivy removal are to prevent ivy from killing trees and to prevent ivy from spreading into ivy-free areas by removing ground ivy and removing flowers to prevent the spread of ivy seeds. On the next page you will find information on ivy removal. The information for this article and tips on ivy removal were taken from the No Ivy League website at www.NoIvyLeague.com

ENGLISH IVY TAKING OVER?

LOOK FOR OUR IVY REMOVAL DEMO DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 7TH

PICNIC AND HANDS-ON REMOVAL

Removing Tree Ivy: Lifesaver Method

1) Assess the tree

-**Take note** of native ground vegetation around the tree: do not trample it while you save the tree!

-**Get ready to cut** the ivy at **shoulder height**.

-**Choose** the **most appropriate tool**.

Loppers work best for vines
Under 1" in diameter.
Use pruning saws for bigger
Vines.

2) Girdle the tree ivy

-**Cut** all vines at shoulder height around the circumference of tree.

-**Be careful** not to damage the bark of the tree.

-**Check** for thin vines that may have snaked under the bark.

-**Do not** try to **pull down** big vines, they could bring down branches.

-**Leave** the vines on the tree; they will die cut off from their roots.

3) Pull ivy away from base of tree

-Work **away** from tree, clearing wedge-shaped sections.

-**Lift and tug** ground ivy vines to a 6 foot radius around tree

-**Pull up** as much of the large ivy **roots** at base of tree as possible.

-This will **prevent** ivy from immediately climbing back up the tree.

Tips for Pulling Ground Ivy

-Gently lift and tug in the **opposite direction** of vine growth, focusing on pulling up intact roots.

-**Never yank** vines, they will snap off at the root.

-Always **clear all** the ivy from within an area-it will grow right back if you pull isolated bits here and there.

-**Be careful** not to damage native plants: watch where you step, and watch out for ivy vines tangled up with native plants.

-**Use loppers** to help free up plants before clearing dense ivy

Once you remove the ivy...

DO NOT

Pile it on top of areas that have not been pulled.

Leave it in huge piles that will not decompose well.

Leave vines on hiking trails to snag the feet of unsuspecting hikers.

DO

Cut vines into 3-5 foot lengths and scatter them.

Disperse large piles to hasten decomposition.

Toss vines into air-they tend to fall on the leaves and the nodes will dry quickly in the air.

All Ivy Removal Methods Require Follow-up

MANICURE recently cleared areas.

Crisscross a cleared area from perimeter to perimeter to locate and pull any remaining vines or protruding roots.

Check for vines hiding under ferns and other native plants.

MONITOR the site on a long-term basis.

Ivy will **not** be eradicated **overnight**: **every bit** of ivy pulled **makes a difference**, but only if the site is kept clear.

Ivy will grow right back over an area without **follow-up**.

Revisit restoration sites in 6 months to a year, to clear missed vines and re-sprouts.

Every year, continue **pushing out boundaries** of cleared area.

Additional Tips for Private Property Owners

Solarization using mulch, paper, plastic, or a combination to deprive ivy of light

Mowing regular mowing exhausts the root system

Pull and Plant plant desirable plants in cleared patches to motivate you to keep the area clear

Paint it for roots coming up under fences or rocks, make a fresh cut and paint on an herbicide for woody plants

Barn-raising get together friends, family, and good food and have an ivy-pulling party

ENGLISH IVY TAKING OVER?
LOOK FOR OUR IVY REMOVAL DEMO DAY
SATURDAY, MAY 7TH
PICNIC AND HANDS-ON REMOVAL

From Africa to the Siuslaw: The Value of Planting Trees Here and There...

By Shiloh Sundstrom

I asked the seventh graders if they understand what they were doing, that the willow cuttings they were pounding into the banks of Bailey Creek were something that would last, part of a legacy they were creating by helping with the Forest Service's effort to restore the Enchanted Valley watershed that feeds Mercer Lake north of Florence. One of the kids replied "Yeah, maybe we can win the Nobel Peace Prize!" I thought for a second and then realized he was referring to the recent announcement that the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Wangari Maathai of Kenya.

This event was substantial, not only because she was the first African woman to be awarded the prize but because it was the first time that the Nobel committee recognized that a healthy environment is necessary for peace. Maathai is a lifelong activist who for years stood up to Kenya's oppressive regime and worked tirelessly fighting for democracy, human rights, and women's rights in Kenya and across Africa. With the peaceful election of a new government in 2002 she was elected to the Parliament and selected by the new president to be Assistant Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife. According to the Nobel committee, she was given the award because she "stands at the front of the fight to promote ecologically viable social, economic and cultural development in Kenya and in Africa" and "has taken a holistic approach to sustainable development that embraces democracy, human rights and women's rights in particular." Maathai founded the Greenbelt movement almost thirty years ago partly in response to, as she put it, the "needs identified by rural women, namely lack of firewood, clean drinking water, balanced diets, shelter and income." The cornerstone of this movement was planting trees and since its inception in 1977 over 30 million trees have been planted across several African countries. The benefits of this reversal in deforestation for Africa and women in particular have been astounding. In her own words:

"So, together, we have planted over 30 million trees that provide fuel, food, shelter, and income to support their children's education and household needs. The activity also creates employment and improves soils and watersheds. Through their involvement, women gain some degree of

power over their lives, especially their social and economic position and relevance in the family. This work continues."

Maathai's work goes beyond just protecting the environment. The Nobel Committee recognized that by restoring the landscape and engaging local people in the projects "her strategy is to secure and strengthen the very basis for ecologically sustainable development."

I think back to that day in Enchanted Valley and our own efforts to restore the ecology, economy, and community here in the Siuslaw Watershed. The Siuslaw Watershed Council is proud to have our own tree planting program. In the last 6 years, the Siuslaw Riparian Restoration Project has given away approximately 60,000 native trees and shrubs to over 250 riparian landowners throughout the Siuslaw Watershed and Coastal Lakes area. Additional plantings, including those done by seventh graders in Enchanted Valley and elsewhere on federal land and private timberlands have numbered in the many thousands. The planting of these trees along the banks of our creeks and rivers is an integral part of a greater initiative to restore the natural productivity of this watershed and bring back the abundant stocks of salmon and large trees that have sustained our community and economy since the day the first Native American set foot in the Siuslaw River Basin.

Working for the council this year I have had the opportunity to see the work that is involved with such a project and have been lucky enough to be involved in distributing the trees to landowners this past month. Like similar efforts in Africa and throughout the world many people have been involved in making our own tree planting project a reality. However, like the case of Kenya's Wangari Maathai, it is very important to recognize the substantial involvement of one

Continued on Page 7...

person in particular. That one person is Nancy Nichols. Nancy owns land in Deadwood and has been a member of the Siuslaw Watershed Council for many years and has served on the Council Executive Committee where she currently holds the office of Treasurer. As project manager for the Siuslaw Riparian Restoration project she has worked very hard to make the project a continuing success. From applying for grants and contacting landowners to acquiring trees from nurseries and organizing volunteers for the giveaway, Nancy has done it all. **Nancy, thanks to your tireless effort many of us have come together to plant trees that continue to make this a better place for all. What life in the Siuslaw doesn't benefit from a tree? Trees protect our fresh waters and provide food and habitat for fish and wildlife and provide us with the lumber and firewood that allows us to live comfortably here in the Siuslaw. Keep up the good work! Thank you.**

- Shiloh Sundstrom is currently Education and Outreach Specialist for the Siuslaw Watershed Council through a placement from the Ameri-corps Program. While in college, Shiloh spent several months in Kenya working with local communities and studying natural resource management.

Source: Nobelprize.org. "The Nobel Peace Prize 2004". 2004. <http://nobelprize.org/peace/laureates/2004/index.html>

Would you like to help study the health of our watershed?

For a couple of hours, one day a month, you will take water samples at local sites in our watershed. Monitoring sites are available both close to home and deep within the watershed. There are also some volunteer opportunities processing the samples in the lab. We'll train you on sampling procedures and provide you with the necessary equipment. All you need to provide is your time and transportation.

If you are interested in volunteering, or if you would like more information, please email Liz Vollmer-Buhl at monitoring@siuslaw.org or leave a message at the council office 268-3044.

Schedule of Events

February 23—Siuslaw Watershed Council General Meeting: 6:30 pm, Mapleton Grange, E. Mapleton Road.

March 3—SWC Technical Team Meeting: 9:30 am, Upper Compound, Mapleton.

March 3—Siuslaw Stewardship Group Meeting: 1-3 pm, Upper Compound, Mapleton.

March 7—Siuslaw SWCD Board Meeting: 7:30 pm, Meeting Room, Florence Business Center, 1525 12th Street, Florence.

March 9— SWC Executive Committee Meeting: 5:30 pm., Upper Compound, Mapleton.

March 31—Siuslaw Watershed Council General Meeting: 6:30 pm, Mapleton Grange, E. Mapleton Road.

**Siuslaw Watershed Council
General Meeting Agenda
February 23, 2005
Mapleton Grange Hall
6:30 p.m.**

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

- 6:30– 6:35** **Welcome and Introductions**

- 6:35-7:05** **Presentation:** A representative from “Habitats”...homes, landscaping and ecological planning organization, will showcase projects that they have done with landowners.

- 7:05-7:35** **Presentation:** Jason Kirchner, OR Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODF&W), will showcase projects that have been done on private land

- 7:35-7:50** **Break and Refreshments**

- 7:50-8:05** **Coordinator Report**

- 8:05-8:20** **Open Mic** *(3-5 speakers, 3-5 minutes each)*

- 8:20-8:30** **Announcements and Raffle Drawing**

- 8:30** **Adjourn**

Upcoming Presentations...March

Celia Barry of Lane County Parks and Recreation will give an update of the Lane County Parks and Open Spaces Master Plan (last updated in 1980).

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Monthly Raffle

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* To help raise funds for the Council, we are holding a raffle of donated items at each General Council meeting. Tickets are a suggested donation of \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The winner will get to choose from available items.

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Treasurer's Report

Nancy Nichols, Council Treasurer

January 2005

Beginning Cash	\$87,723.76	
	JANUARY	YEAR TO DATE
INCOME		
Dues	\$490.00	\$490.00
Federal Grants		
State Grants		
Private Grants		
Interest	\$131.25	\$131.25
Donations & Misc.	\$230.00	\$230.00
Administrative Funds		
Reimbursements		
Other		
TOTAL INCOME	\$851.25	\$851.25
EXPENSES		
Grant Expenses	\$5,962.12	\$5,962.12
Other	\$10.00	\$10.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,972.12	\$5,972.12
 Ending Cash	 \$82,602.89	

The Siuslaw Watershed Council is a non-profit , 501c3, organization .

All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Siuslaw Watershed Council Membership Form

Type of Membership:

Landowner _____ Community Member _____ Industry _____

Government Agency: _____ Tribal: _____

Name: _____ **Today's Date:** _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

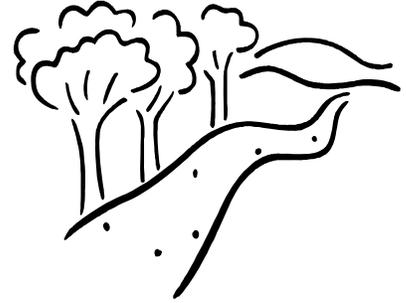
Please choose any of the following:

- Tax-deductible membership enclosed(\$10 regular, \$0 students).
- Additional tax-deductible donation enclosed. Amount \$ _____
- I am interested in volunteer opportunities with the Siuslaw Watershed Council

February 2005

Spirit of the Siuslaw Made Visible!

Thank you to everyone who enjoyed the Siuslaw's Community Celebration of winning the International Thiess Riverprize and made it a most memorable evening!



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?