

Message from the Coordinator...

...On Watersheds

Often a measure of community awareness about water resources is based on an individual's ability to define the term *watershed*. To someone like myself who has been involved in land use issues and water resources for nearly twenty years, it is easy to forget that *watershed* is actually not that common a term in everyday vernacular. Even many of my close friends cannot clearly describe *watershed* as the land area that drains to a common water body. Outside of river restoration planning, I've recognized one of the more common occurrences of *watershed* in speech and print is in the phrase *watershed moment*.

The phrase indicates an event in history that causes or marks the tipping of the social, intellectual, political, or other landscape in a common direction toward a unifying goal, school of thought, or level of understanding. It would be satisfying to think that this apt phrase derived from the successes in building community synergy toward whole basin water resource management by watershed councils. Instead, it is actually related to variations on the meaning of *watershed*, which include the dividing line (or ridgeline) between two separate drainages, as well as the slope originating at the ridgeline that sheds water toward a common area.

Most other English-speaking countries actually use *watershed* in the dividing line connotation and use *catchment* to describe the drainage basin. And here is yet another term, or actually two terms, synonymous with *watershed*: *drainage* and *basin*. The term *basin* is often used to refer to a larger watershed, such as that of a major river system.

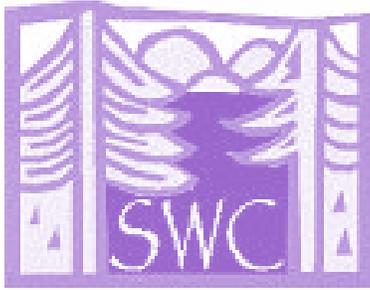
The United States Geology Survey (USGS) along with other agencies involved in water resource management have developed



nomenclature to help hydrologists use terms that are uniformly understood. The most technical of these are hydrological unit codes, commonly known as HUCs. The unit codes are a series of numbers (codes) representing descending drainage sizes. For easier reference in everyday planning, the more common HUC scales are referred to with English terms. These terms include *basin*, *sub-basin*, *watershed*, and *sub-watershed* in descending order of size, and relate to watersheds of the third-, fourth-, fifth- and sixth-field scale, respectively. Field? Yes, the term *field* is used to refer to the size of the land area draining to a specific waterbody. The field sizes cover a range of acreages. Our familiar Siuslaw Watershed is technically a sub-basin in this context. Our basin is the North Oregon Coast. Our technical watersheds, then, are the fifth-field basins on which most of our Leadership Board area representations are based (North Fork Siuslaw and Indian Creek, for example).

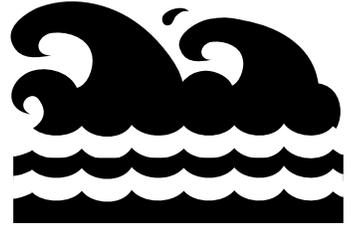
So can we expect the typical citizen to be able to define what a watershed is, let alone catchment, basin, or field? That will be a watershed moment.

Todd Miller



Water Quality Monitoring Corner

- Next Monitoring Day: Tuesday, March 21, 2007.
- There have been several requests for a sampling site on Deadwood Creek. We would be happy to add it, but we do not currently have the funds for a new site. Nancy Nichols and Tom Steinberg have kindly donated funds to help purchase equipment to set up a new site. We still need additional funds to purchase all the supplies for a new site. If you live in Deadwood and would like to help sponsor a WQ site on the creek, please make a donation to the SWC and specify "Deadwood WQ".
- Check the website for WQ data!
- Contact, Liz Vollmer-Buhl, monitoring@siuslaw.org, 541-268-3044, with any WQM questions.



Siuslaw Watershed Council

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Executive Committee

Chair: Steve Elliot

Vice Chair: Dave Eisler

Secretary: Wesley Voth

Treasurer: Nancy Nichols

Representatives:

Barbara Beers

Paul Chapman

Jim Grano

Noland Huntington

Volunteers Make Project Successful

Wow, what an accomplishment! Over 11,000 riparian plants have been given to more than 110 Siuslaw and Coastal Lakes landowners this year through the Siuslaw Native Plant Distribution.



This is a record year, and it could not have happened without the efforts of many people, organizations, government agencies, and businesses. Project funding comes mainly from the USFS Siuslaw Stewardship Fund. Many landowner participants contribute donations directly to the project. So far this year, Roseburg Forest Products, Campbell Group/PacWest Timber, ODF, David Eisler, and Terra Tech have donated trees and planting supplies. Sundance Natural Foods and Market of Choice contributed distribution materials. Paul Reed of East Lane Soil and Water Conservation District, Tom Kartrude of the Port of Siuslaw, John Scott of the Florence Rotary, and Ron Vesty of the Florence Kiwanis, and many more helped to recruit new participants. Deadwood Community Services and the Lorane Family Store donated the use of the Deadwood and Lorane distribution sites. The hardworking prep and distribution volunteers and staff included; H V Alley, Kaki Burruss, Greg Kennedy, Fred Mentzer, George Uriona, Tom Steinberg, Mary Lou Goertzen, Jeff Jones, Melanie and Dylan Little, William Morrison, Vernon VanCurler, Mike Bonnell, Steve Elliot, Cindy Chambers, Dave Rankin, Noland Huntington, Brian Vollmer-Buhl, Satory Fincher, Ginger Fincher, Nancy Nichols, Wesley Voth, and Todd Miller. Much appreciation to all landowner participants, thank you for planting native riparian plants!

And we're not done yet! Nurseries, agencies, and businesses may still donate more plants throughout the next couple of months. And we have lots of protective tubes and poles. If you want to receive plants or protective

January Meeting Highlights...



New Leadership Board Elected

At the January 31 general council meeting, the membership agreed by consensus to the roster of nominees presented as candidates for our twenty-seven Leadership Board positions. The current Board is listed on page 4. Several positions were filled by both a primary and an alternate representative, bringing our current total Board membership to 36 people. However, vacancies still exist and are subject to being filled at any future council meetings. We are pleased to learn that Fred Mentzer has expressed a desire to continue as Lake Creek representative; we will confirm Fred's role at the February 28 meeting. Meanwhile, the Commercial Fishing and Upper Siuslaw positions, ironically representing our ocean and headwaters communities on distal ends of the river, remain vacant.

2007 Executive Committee

At the Executive Committee meeting on February 15, the new committee selected 2007 Council officers. Welcome Steve Elliot as the new Council Chair! Vice-Chair is Dave Eisler, Secretary is Wesley Voth, and Treasurer is Nancy Nichols.

January Presentation to be on Website

Also at the January 31 meeting, Council Coordinator Todd Miller delivered a 2007 State of the Watershed address to present past year accomplishments and upcoming projects slated for 2007. At the request of several Board members, Todd will be converting his Power Point slide show and written notes into PDF documents that will be available on the Web site soon. When ready, they will be posted to the "For the

It is Due Time...

One of the requirements of being on the Leadership Board is that the Representative will be a member of the Siuslaw Watershed Council. Here's a friendly reminder that it's time to renew memberships and make sure that dues are up to date. It's very easy to renew your membership...use the form on page 7 and mail it to the Council or fill one out at the meeting and give to Nancy Nichols along with your check or cash. Also, please consider an extra donation either now or later in the year. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Herbicide Forum is Being Planned for March and April Meetings

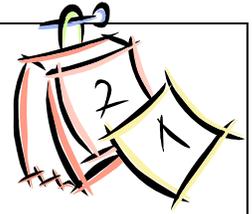
Mark your calendars...in pencil. The long-discussed community herbicide forum sponsored by the Siuslaw Watershed Council is in the serious planning stages. We will be inviting a wide spectrum of professionals to present various topics related to the understanding of the use, chemistry, methods, regulations, and environmental residency of herbicides in the Siuslaw Watershed. The forum is planned to occur as a two-part series during our usual monthly meeting time on March 28 and April 25 in Mapleton.

The forums are tentatively planned to be held at Mapleton High School, pending availability and space considerations. A trained, neutral facilitator will direct the evening's presentations and discussions. We anticipate extensive audience questions; to maintain efficiency and full representation of audience interests, questions will be written and submitted to the facilitator during the course of the evenings.

2007 Siuslaw Watershed Council Leadership Board

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>
Area Representatives		
North Fork Siuslaw	Noland Huntington	Juanita Kirkham
Lower Siuslaw	Hayden Sears	
Middle Siuslaw	Steve Elliot	
Upper Siuslaw (Incl. Wolf)	VACANT	
Indian Creek	Barbara Beers	
Wildcat Creek	Dave Eisler	David Webb
Deadwood Creek	Nancy Nichols	Greg Kennedy
Lake Creek	Fred Mentzer	
No. Coastal Lakes & Siuslaw Bay	Gus Gates	Jay Vilhenna
South Coastal Lakes	Lori Robertson	Mark Chandler
At Large	Jeremy Monroe	Dana Monroe
Interest Group Representatives - Elected		
Academic/Scientific	Tom Steinberg	
Commercial Fishing	VACANT	
Federal Land Management	Ralph Lampman	
Public Education	Jim Grano	Cricket Crowder
Small Woodlot	David Rankin	Vernon VanCurler
SWCD	Ray Kinney	Johnny Sundstrom
Agriculture/Ranching	Bill Cirino	
Industrial Timber	Paul Chapman	Phil Adams
Environmental	Andy Reasoner	
State Government	John Spangler	
Ecosystem Workforce	Jeff Jones	
Resource Recreation	Jeff Jackson	Sean Johnston
Interest Group Representatives		
Tribes CTCLUSI	John Schaefer	Beth Tanner
Port of Siuslaw	Tom Kartrude	
Lane Co. Government	Mary Moffat	
City of Florence	Suzanne Roberts	
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE		
Position 1	Steve Elliot, Chair	
Position 2	Dave Eisler, Vice-Chair	
Position 3	Nancy Nichols, Treas.	
Position 4	Wesley Voth, Sec.	
Position 5	Paul Chapman	
Position 6	Noland Huntington	
Position 7	Jim Grano	
Position 8	Barbara Beers	
Position 9	VACANT	

Siuslaw Watershed Council Calendar



**February 28—Siuslaw Watershed Council General Meeting: 6:30 pm,
Mapleton Grange, E. Mapleton Road.**

March 1—SWC Technical Team Meeting: 9:30 am, Upper Compound, Mapleton.

**March 5—Siuslaw Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting: 7:00 pm, SWCD
office, Florence Business Center, 1525 12th Street, Florence** *(Use main
entrance, please call 997-1272 before coming so that the main door can be opened for you.)*

March 14—SWC Exec. Committee Meeting: 5:30 pm, Upper Compound, Mapleton.

March 20—Monthly Siuslaw Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Day.

**March 28—Siuslaw Watershed Council General Meeting: 6:30 pm,
Mapleton Grange, E. Mapleton Road.**

Coastal Conference Returns to Florence in March

Everything from the broad coastal impacts of climate change to the details of land use planning will be under consideration when Coast Conference Central comes to Florence March 2-3.

The free public conference is sponsored by the CoastWatch Program of the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, and co-sponsored by Lane Community College at Florence, where the event will be held. A grant from REI, the outdoor equipment company, helped to underwrite conference costs.

Featured speakers include environmental educator Nancy Steinberg on intertidal ecology, geologist Roger Hart on Oregon's sandy shoreline and possible changes due to global warming, and Sea Grant marine educator Vicki Osis, surveying the current state of research on climate change. Workshops will focus on invasive species of the shoreline, protecting water quality, and the basics of the land use planning process.

Coast Conference Central kicks off Friday afternoon, March 2, at 4 p.m., with "Land Use 101," a basic, how-to workshop on citizen involvement in land use planning led by Cameron La Follette, Oregon Shores' land use director, joined by John Stead, a member the Dunes City Water Quality Control Committee. The emphasis of this workshop, held in Room 158 at the college, will be on step-by-step, practical advice to citizens wishing to participate in land use decision-making.

The conference's main event, on Saturday, March 3, begins at 10 a.m. (registration at 9:30) in the college's large hall, Room 103. First speaker will be Nancy Steinberg, with "Connections: A Tale of Rocky Shores and the Ocean Next Door." This slide presentation, specially commissioned by CoastWatch, explores the ecological links between tidepools and other rocky shorelines and the nearshore ocean.

Also speaking during the morning session will be Vicki Osis, recently retired Sea Grant educator at the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport and professor of marine education at Oregon State University. Her slide talk, "An Update on Climate Change," is a review of the current state of knowledge about "global warming" and other shifts in climate, with a particular emphasis on impacts to coastal areas and possible development of "dead zones" such as the one that has formed off the central Oregon coast.

See **Conference....continued on page 7**



**Siuslaw Watershed Council
General Meeting Agenda
February 28, 2007
Mapleton Grange Hall
6:30 p.m.**

- 6:00-6:30** **Open for set-up**
- 6:30– 6:35** **Welcome and Introductions**
- 6:35-7:30** **Presentation:** *2006 Siuslaw Juvenile Salmon Snorkel Surveys, Charley Dewberry of Ecotrust (see description below)*
- 7:30-7:45** **Break**
- 7:45-8:05** **Reports and Updates**
- 8:05-8:20** **Open Mic** *(3-5 speakers, 3-5 minutes each)*
- 8:20-8:30** **Announcements**
- 8:30** **Adjourn**



February Presentation:

Results of the 2006 Siuslaw Juvenile Salmon Snorkel Surveys

Long time council partner and stream ecologist Charley Dewberry of Ecotrust will present the results from the 2006 snorkel surveys, including what was learned from the most recent survey as well as a discussion of what has been learned from the surveys beginning in 1992 on Knowles Creek. Mr. Dewberry is the project manager for the current three-year snorkel survey known as rapid bio assessment. The study is done over three years to capture the three returning spawning classes of coho salmon. The 2006 survey, the second year of the current assessment, was funded by OWEB to ensure the full three years of the survey would be accomplished. The present Rapid Bio Assessment (RBA) project is part of the larger scale Siuslaw Watershed Restoration Initiative, funded by the EPA through Ecotrust. The Siuslaw Watershed Council sponsored a previous three-year RBA project starting in 1999 which was also conducted by Mr. Dewberry.

Council Members: Please look for the Council Evaluation Forms on our website (www.siuslaw.org), make a copy, fill it out and bring it to the February General Council Meeting. You may also mail or email it to the Council by March 1.

...Conference *continued from page 5*

Lead speaker in the afternoon, beginning at 1 p.m., is coastal geologist Roger Hart, who specializes in studying beaches and dunes, and is known for his discoveries concerning ancient forests buried on Oregon beaches. Hart's slide presentation will explore the question, "Where Has All the Sand Gone?" He will look at the evolution of Oregon's sandy shorelines over the millennia, and discuss possible impacts of rising sea levels and heightened storm impacts due to global warming.

CoastWatch Director Phillip Johnson will speak briefly on ways in which citizens can get involved in protecting intertidal and ocean habitats.

The conference will conclude with two workshops, beginning at 2:25 p.m. One, led by marine ecologist Cynthia Trowbridge, will focus on invasive species of the shoreline. Workshop participants will be given detailed training in recognizing these exotic species, enabling them to help scientists and resource agencies keep watch for new invasions.

The other workshop, led by Cameron La Follette, deals with protecting water quality through land use planning efforts. La Follette, Oregon Shores' land use director, will be joined by Paul Robertson, Manager of the Devils Lake Water Improvement District in Lincoln City, and one other speaker, not yet confirmed. This workshop will explore in detail ways in which citizens can make use of the land use planning process to address water quality concerns.

"This conference is designed for everyone who loves the coast," says organizer Phillip Johnson. "It includes a lot of fascinating information about coastal natural history, and also some practical, how-to-do-it training in methods concerned citizens can use to help make a difference in protecting these critical resources. We're glad to be able to provide this event at no charge, and invite the entire community, thanks to the sponsorship of REI and Lane Community College."

Lane Community College at Florence is located at 3149 Oak St. in Florence. Conference participants are on their own for lunch; brown-bagging is allowed at the college.

For information, contact Phillip Johnson, (503) 238-4450, orshores@teleport.com

The Treasurer's Report will return next month.

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:** _____

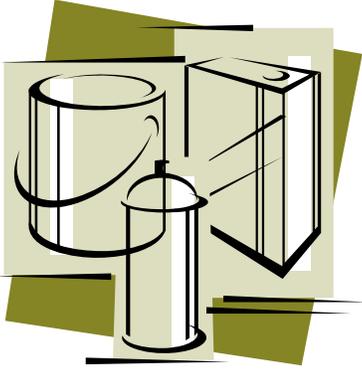
Address: _____

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 2007



House Hold Hazardous Waste Round Up

Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21, 2007
in Florence. Stay tuned for more info!

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.

• Community • Economy • Environment

S IUSLAW
WATERSHED COUNCIL

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What's Happening In Your Watershed?