

# Siuslaw WATERSHED COUNCIL NEWS

APRIL 2007

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watershed@siuslaw.org

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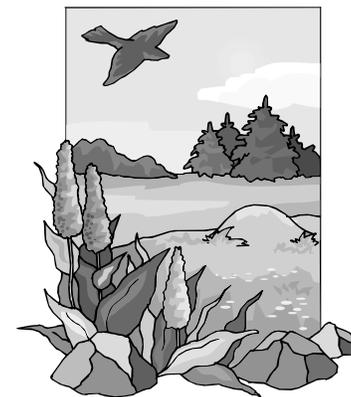
• Community • Economy • Environment

## Message from the Coordinator...

### Community Herbicide Forum Continues in April

Approximately 90 people attended the Herbicide Forum hosted by the Siuslaw Watershed Council at Mapleton High School on March 28. We have received many compliments on the success of the forum on all counts, including caliber and knowledge of presenters, scope of material covered in a relatively short amount of time, and audience respectfulness and interest. All of the presenters thanked me and returned compliments to the Siuslaw community for engaging in such a neutral, proactive way. I owe all of the attendees, especially the audience, my gratitude for helping make this important event such a resounding success. Thank you!

The only critical comments I received, as well as the few audience outbursts, came from individuals who missed my opening remarks. Key among my comments were: 1) We do not expect to be able to adequately cover such a comprehensive and multi-faceted topic as the use and impact of herbicides in one or even two evenings. However, we have arranged to provide an important foundation of information to help understand the topic of herbicide use and effects in a watershed context. 2) All presenters are specially invited guests of the Siuslaw Watershed Council and are attending as a courtesy to the Siuslaw community. No one asked to be a presenter, and most individuals requested specific information about the goals of the forum before agreeing to attend. 3) Not all invitees were able to attend or felt they could offer useful or appropriate input on the subject, given the context. The presence or absence of any particular individual or group as a presenter does not indicate the catering to, nor omission of, any particular viewpoint by the Council. And 4) The focus of the herbicide forums is on aquatic health and watershed management. We have neither the time nor appropriate breadth of experts present to address human health issues. There are many other organizations specifically focused on human health issues; some of those that I invited could not speak on the subject of

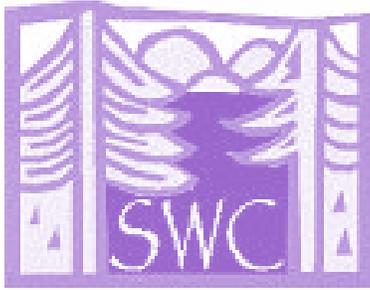


aquatic health or wildlife impacts, and declined to attend as a presenter.

I was heartened to witness so many people I know to be primarily concerned about human health impacts of herbicide use engage with such interest and focus on the watershed context of the forums. Part of the mission of the Council is to educate the community on issues related to watershed health. Solid ecological health is a cornerstone of community health, but is often overlooked amidst the other concerns of society. These forums allow us to come together on the focal topic of watershed health. Human communities are an undeniably important component of watersheds and certainly are not ignored in this context. Rather, we appreciate the community's interest in learning about herbicides from the watershed management context.

That said, I am looking forward to Part II of our forum series: *Herbicide Environmental Fate and Toxicology in Aquatic Ecosystems – seeking solutions to healthy watershed resources*. In March, we learned about what the predominant herbicides in use are in our area, what the regulatory framework directing their use is, and how and why different land managers, from timber to roads to conservation goals, apply herbicides. This month we will expand on that foundation of knowledge and learn more about monitoring efforts and research on herbicide presence in the environment and toxicological effects on aquatic wildlife, current trends in regulation and management of herbicides, and sources of

Continued on page 2...



**Siuslaw Watershed  
Council**

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**Staff**

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**Monitoring Coordinator:**

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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

**Forum... continued from page 1**

information and input for the informed citizen to pursue further.

We will be dedicating more time this month to audience question and answer by the panel of presenters. We expect that this month's topic, in addition to the breadth of information shared at both forums, will generate many more questions. The questions and answers from the March forum are being compiled and will be shared at the April forum. The full Q&A and summaries of presentations will be compiled and offered on our Web site at a future date, along with other information about herbicides and links to sources of further information. Look in our May newsletter for details.

I hope to see you all on April 25<sup>th</sup> at Mapleton High School.

***Todd Miller***

**Stream Assessment Interns Needed**

The Siuslaw Watershed Council is seeking a team of up to four qualified interns to be trained on and provide survey services for a summer 2007 stream assessment project to gather data for Relative Bed Stability Index (RBSI) development. Qualified interns must be studying geomorphology, stream restoration, or similar course of study, preferably at University of Oregon and/or Oregon State University. Interns will be trained in field methodologies including EPA's Environmental Monitoring Assessment Protocol (EMAP) for Physical Habitat Characteristics by an experienced consultant who has previously completed RBSI assessments.



The scope of work will be used for Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) development for sedimentation on water bodies listed as water-quality impaired (303(d) List) within the Mid-Coast Basin. Work will also include collection of samples for macroinvertebrate biotic index (MBI) assessment and collection of other field parameters. Interns must be able to work long days in the field, carry equipment over uneven terrain, and spend long periods of time wading and floating streams to gather data. Most of the work will be conducted in the North Fork Siuslaw River watershed; other areas to be covered included portions of Indian Creek in the Siuslaw Watershed and Elk Creek in the Yaquina Watershed.

More information will be posted to our Web site as it becomes available. Interested candidates are encouraged to contact us and provide us with a statement of interest, qualifications, and references. We will accept preliminary statements of interest at this time with more detailed information to be provided by the applicant later.

For more information contact:

Todd Miller, 541-268-3044, coordinator@siuslaw.org

Liz Vollmer-Buhl, 541-268-3044, monitoring@siuslaw.org

## ***Culvert Engineering and Construction Services Needed***

The Siuslaw Watershed Council will be issuing Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) and Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for culvert replacement projects that are currently funded for replacement this summer. Detailed information will be coming soon via our Web site and will be advertised via the Daily Journal of Commerce. Potential respondents are encouraged to contact us now to get on the mailing list for final RFQ/RFP packets.



Work may entail any or all of the following projects. A separate bid on each project will be required for funding and administration purposes.

### **FUNDED PROJECTS - Construction**

**Knapp Project:** replace two CMP culverts at one site and one CMP culvert at another location with concrete modular arches set on concrete footings on Nelson Mountain Road in Walton. Provide dewatering and stream bed restoration per engineering plans, and regrade the gravel road to specifications, including emplacement of new guardrails.

**Walker Project:** replace two large CMP culverts at nearby project sites on Walker Creek Road, a gravel surface BLM-controlled road in Walton, with concrete modular arches set on concrete footings. Provide dewatering and stream bed restoration per engineering plans, and regrade the gravel road to specifications.

**Holland Project:** Replace CMP culvert on county-maintained portion of Siuslaw River Road near Alma with open-bottom metal arch set on concrete footings. Provide dewatering and stream bed restoration per engineering plans, and repave the road to specifications.

### **FUNDED PROJECTS- Engineering**

Summer 2007 Culvert Replacements: We are in need of final engineering work to finalize draft design documents and incorporate county roads engineering requirements for our summer 2007 culvert replacement projects. We also need an engineer and fluvial geomorphologist to inspect culvert construction activities to advise project managers on construction progress to ensure implementation is going according to specifications and final product will perform as designed.

### **POTENTIAL PROJECTS - Engineering**

**Conger Project:** Engineer the culvert design, stream bed restoration, and road resurfacing for two culvert replacement sites in Alma on county-maintained Siuslaw River Road. Preliminary design and survey work has been previously completed.

**Cleveland Project:** Engineer the culvert design for replacement of a failing railroad bed culvert on Cleveland Creek in Tide. Offer design recommendations to ODOT for a downstream culvert replacement on Highway 36. Provide streambed and channel restoration plans at and between the culvert sites.

**Schoolhouse/Hanson Project:** Engineer the culvert replacement designs for two CMP pipe culverts beneath Highway 126 near Cushman. ODOT will be resurfacing the roadway and may provide some aspects of the culvert replacement design specifications. The replacements will need to be designed to incorporate ODOT specs and also provide for any stream bed or channel restoration.

For more information contact Todd Miller, SWC Coordinator, 541-268-3044, [coordinator@siuslaw.org](mailto:coordinator@siuslaw.org)

# Pond School 2007

## Creating and Maintaining Healthy Ponds

Saturday, May 5th, 2007  
8:30 am -4:30 pm



LaSells Stewart Center  
Corvallis, Oregon

### Sponsors:



### Co-Sponsors:

- Bend Tarp & Liner, Bend, OR
- Desert Springs Trout Farm, Summer Lake, OR
- Ewing Irrigation, Vancouver, WA
- Silver Cup Fish Food, Nelson & Sons, Inc., Murray, UT
- G.I. Joe's, Wilsonville, OR

### About This Workshop and Who Should Attend

This workshop is intended for anyone interested in ponds, ornamental and pond fishes, or the distribution of information about pond management and fish health.



### Location and Directions

The workshop will be held at LaSells Stewart Center at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon. Parking is free and available in the Reser Stadium parking lot across the street from LaSells Stewart Center and in the parking garage at the corner of 26th and Western.

**From I-5:** Highway 34 to Corvallis, left on 4th Street, right on Western Boulevard, right on 26th Street

Participants are responsible for arranging their own lodging. For information on lodging, contact Corvallis Tourism at [www.visitcorvallis.com](http://www.visitcorvallis.com) or call 800-334-8118.



### Registration and Fees

Registration is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis.

- If you register by April 30, the cost for the work-shop is \$75. One additional family member can register for \$65. (Family member is defined by same household)
- Cost for registration after April 30 is \$85, and \$75 an additional family member.
- The cost for Oregon Aquaculture Association members and OSU Extension personnel is \$55.
- The registration fee includes workshop handouts, lunch and refreshment breaks.
- For those unable to attend the workshop, hand-outs will be available for \$25 including shipping by contacting Kathy Bridges, Oregon Aquaculture Association at 503-743-2931.

### On-line registration is preferred.

Please link to Pond School 2007 at:  
[www.oregonaquaculture.org](http://www.oregonaquaculture.org)

For Registration Information, call:  
Pond School 2007 Workshop Coordinator  
OSU Conference Services  
Telephone: 800-678-6311  
Fax: 541-737-9315  
E-mail: [conferences@oregonstate.edu](mailto:conferences@oregonstate.edu)

## Siuslaw Watershed Council Calendar



**April 25—Siuslaw Watershed Council General Meeting: 6:00 pm,  
Mapleton High School Gym, E. Mapleton Road.**

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

**May 7—Siuslaw Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting: 7:30 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.*)

**May 9—SWC Exec. Committee Meeting: 5:30 pm, Upper Compound, Mapleton.**

**May 15—Monthly Siuslaw Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Day.**

**May 30—Siuslaw Watershed Council General Meeting: 6:30 pm, Mapleton Grange,  
East Mapleton Road.**



### *Native Plant Appreciation Week*



April 29 through May 5, 2007 is Native Plant Appreciation Week throughout much of the Pacific Northwest. Native plants provide optimal habitat for indigenous organisms from butterflies to salmon. In addition to the many ecological services, such as nutrient and water cycling provided by native plants, they serve landowners well. Indigenous trees and plants require less watering and little to no fertilizer, therefore saving landowners time and money, as opposed to planting ornamentals. Native riparian plants help hold in stream banks and provide shade for salmon and other aquatic species. Planting native plants can assist in keeping out invasive plant species. Invasive plant species decrease biodiversity and alter nutrient, water, and fire cycles.

There are many reasons to appreciate native plants, here's how to show your appreciation: Mark all the plants that you received through the Siuslaw Native Plant Distribution with flagging tape, colorful rags, protective tubes, and/or bamboo poles. Clear brush and grasses away from new native seedlings. The plants that were distributed need to all be in the ground by now—summer is coming fast. If you had health problems and were unable to plant the seedlings that you received, please contact Liz Vollmer-Buhl, we may be able to get you planting assistance.

Appreciation for native plant donors continues to grow. Thank you to Balance Restoration Nursery, the BLM, and Roseburg Forest Products for native tree and shrub seedlings in March and April.

Please contact Liz Vollmer-Buhl, with any Native Plant Distribution questions, at [nativeplants@siuslaw.org](mailto:nativeplants@siuslaw.org), or 541-268-3044.



The Siuslaw Watershed Council invites you to  
a community forum on  
**Herbicides in a Watershed Context**

Part II: Herbicide Environmental Fate and Toxicology in  
Aquatic Ecosystems seeking solutions to healthy watershed resources

**Wednesday, April 25, 2007**

Mapleton High School, East Mapleton Road, Mapleton

**from 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm**

Hosted by Todd Miller, coordinator, Siuslaw Watershed Council  
& Caroline Estes, professional facilitator

Please be our guest at this 2nd of our special community forums on herbicides. Our invited speakers will present valuable information and answer formally submitted audience questions. We encourage everyone to understand issues involving herbicides and how they inform our decisions related to watershed restoration and stewardship. Our first forum was held March 25 and covered the subject of herbicide uses, regulations, and applications.

Tentative Agenda

- 6:00 Doors Open & Refreshments
- 6:15 Introductory Comments & Welcome
- 6:30 Presentations on:
  - Herbicide Aquatic Toxicology
  - Monitoring Programs
  - Landscape Concerns
  - Management Trends
- 8:00 *Refreshment Break – Question Submittals*
- 8:30 Panelist Q&A facilitated with submitted audience questions
- 9:30 Adjourn

**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 entities to promote awareness and understanding of watershed functions by adopting and implementing a total watershed approach to natural resource management and production.**

Jan 1—April 10, 2007

**Treasurer's Report** *Nancy Nichols, Council Treasurer*

**YEAR TO DATE**

**INCOME**

Dues	\$840.00
Grants	\$56,102.35
Interest	\$64.95
Donations	\$779.00

**TOTAL INCOME** **\$57,786.30**

**EXPENSES**

Grant Expenses	\$50,306.69
Other	\$3,811.68

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$54,118.37**

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

April 2007

## Upcoming Water Quality Monitoring Dates:

Tuesday, May 15, 2007

Tuesday, June 19, 2007

- ★ Check out the website for monitoring data, [www.siuslaw.org](http://www.siuslaw.org)
- ★ If you have any WQ Monitoring questions, please contact Liz at [monitoring@siuslaw.org](mailto:monitoring@siuslaw.org), or at 541-268-3044.



### 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?*