

# News & Notes

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## Hello members of the Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council -

Please join us for this month's General Council meeting. This meeting will focus on exciting projects in the upper watershed, join us upriver. Come learn about what is swimming in the upper watershed!

## February General Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 15  
Oakridge High School Library  
(47997 West 1st Street, Oakridge)  
6:30 - 8:30 pm

This month we feature two presentations: Vince Tranquilli, a fish biologist with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, has great news to share on bull trout spawning in the upper watershed. Following the report on bull trout, we will have an update from Greg Taylor, fish biologist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on the study of spring Chinook in the North Fork of the Middle Fork Willamette River.

Bull Trout in the upper Willamette: Bull trout once inhabited the mainstem Middle Fork Willamette River, Salt Creek, and the North Fork of the Middle Fork Willamette River. The last confirmed bull trout sighting was in 1990. Despite extensive electrofishing and snorkel surveys conducted from 1993 through 1997, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Forest Service were

### General Council Meeting Agenda

- 6:30 Welcome & Introductions
- 6:33 Review and Approve Meeting Agenda
- 6:35 Approve January Council Meeting Minutes
- 6:38 Call for Public Comments and Announcements
- 6:48 Coordinator's Report
- 6:53 Steering Committee Report
- 6:58 *Bull Trout in the upper watershed: Vince Tranquilli, ODFW*
- 7:35 Break
- 7:50 *Spring Chinook Study of the North Fork of the Middle Fork Willamette: Greg Taylor, US Army Corps of Engineers*
- 8:25 Closing Public Comments
- 8:30 Adjourn

unable to find any bull trout. It was thought that bull trout had a very low probability of persistence. In 1998, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Forest Service drafted a Rehabilitation and Monitoring Plan. Additionally, the Plan called for transferring bull trout fry from the McKenzie Basin to the Middle Fork Willamette, continued monitoring of both the donor and recipient populations, and on-going habitat restoration and enhancement activities. Over the last nine years, we transferred more than 10,000 bull trout fry to the Middle Fork Willamette and the U.S. Forest Service completed numerous habitat projects. In 2005, we documented twelve sexually mature bull trout spawning above Hills Creek Reservoir. What can we expect to see in the coming years?

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TREE PLANTING

Spend a Saturday morning getting some fresh air and exercise while helping to improve fish and wildlife habitat! Volunteers are invited to help plant trees at landowner restoration projects in the Middle Fork Willamette Watershed. Please contact Eve at 937-9800 for information about the event and carpooling!!

**When: Saturday, February 18  
(9:00 am-1:00pm)**

**Where: Meet at 9:00 am at the  
Middle Fork Ranger District parking  
lot in Westfir (46375 Highway 58).**

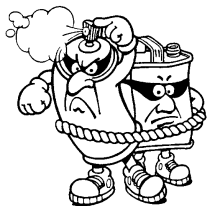
**When: Saturday, February 25  
(9:00 am-1:00pm)**

**Where: Meet at 9:00 am in front of  
Dexter Hardware (38903 Dexter Rd,  
Dexter).**

## What to Bring?

**Please bring; rain gear, boots, gloves, shovels, sack lunch,  
water, and smiles!**

## ***Put Household Hazardous Waste in its place!***



**When: Saturday, March 18 (9 a.m. - 2 p.m.)**

**Where: Oakridge Fire Station (47592 Highway 58)**

Watershed residents, it is that time again- time to clean out your household hazardous waste!!! We have just the place for you to bring that waste and dispose of it safely. On Saturday, March 18 hazardous waste will be collected at the Oakridge Fire Station by Lane County Waste Management. This event provides you with a conveniently-located, legal, safe, and cost-free way to dispose of unwanted household chemicals that can't be disposed of in the regular trash. Please spread the word and help keep our water supply safe and healthful! Call 682-4120 for more information .

# EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **Willamette Flow Management Project:** A full-day orientation workshop is scheduled for Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 9:00- 4:00pm in the Commission Room, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Headquarters, 3406 Cherry Avenue NE, Salem. The Nature Conservancy, in partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers and Willamette Partnership, is launching the Willamette Flow Management Project, part of a national program that uses an inter-disciplinary, science-based process for establishing environmental flow recommendations. The workshop on the 27<sup>th</sup> will begin the process of developing environmental flow recommendations for the Willamette River and its tributaries, focusing initially on the Middle and Coast Fork Willamette Rivers. For more information about the national program visit <http://nature.org/success/dams.html> and please contact Marcia Sinclair at 503-661-6152 or [marcia@willamettepartnership.org](mailto:marcia@willamettepartnership.org) for more information about the workshop.
- ❖ **Free Ecology Workshop:** April 6, 9:00-4:30 pm at the Salem BLM office (1717 Fabry Road, Salem). The Northwest Oregon Ecology Group and Central Cascades Adaptive Management Partnership are holding their 5<sup>th</sup> annual information sharing workshop on April 6. The target audience for this workshop is botanists, ecologists, foresters, and biologists involved in resource management. Some topics of discussion include forest gap ecology, wetland ecology, Oak/pine savannah ecology, prairie seed banks, and valley meadow and prairie butterflies. Please contact Cheyl Ann Friesen at 541-822-7226 or [cfriesen@fs.fed.us](mailto:cfriesen@fs.fed.us) for more information.
- ❖ **Willamette River Water Trail Planning Meeting:** Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-12:00 pm at the Amazon Community Center, Studio B (2700 Hilyard Street, Eugene). Come help plan for and learn about the Willamette River Trail Project. The meeting will focus on the Concept Plan, and provide brief updates on the inventory work and event planning. Please contact Jan Houck at [Jan.Houck@state.or.us](mailto:Jan.Houck@state.or.us) or 503-986-0742 for more information.

## Introducing the MFWWC 2006 Steering Committee

At our January General Council meeting, we affirmed three Steering Committee members, one returning and two new, to fill seats for 2006-2008. The eleven Council members serving on the Steering Committee for 2006 are:

### Designated Seats

Stephanie Shroeder, Environmental Interests  
Peggy Marcus, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Fred Sperry, Private Timber Industry  
Chip Weber, Willamette National Forest

### At-Large Seats

Michael Beitz	Barb Hazen
Pat Burns	Dan Hurley
Nancy Swatelle	Adam Urley
Chuck Davis	

*Steering Committee meetings, usually the fourth Wednesday of the month, are open to anyone interested in attending.*

**Questions or comments? Contact the MFWWC at 937-9800 or [mfwwc@efn.org](mailto:mfwwc@efn.org)**



## Mark Your Calendars...

February 15: General Council meeting (6:30 – 8:30 pm; Oakridge High School, Oakridge).

February 18: Tree Planting Party (9:00-1:00pm; meet at the Middle Fork Ranger District on Hwy 58)

February 22: Steering Committee meeting (6:30 – 8:30 pm, Council office, Lowell)

February 25: Volunteer tree planting along upper Lost Creek (9:00 am – 1:00 pm; meet at 9:00 am in front of Dexter Hardware).

March 15: General Council meeting (6:30 – 8:30 pm, Lowell). *Topic: TBA.*

March 18: Household Hazardous Waste Round-up (9:00 am – 2:00 pm, Oakridge Fire Station).

FOR A REGULARLY UPDATED CALENDAR OF EVENTS, GO TO [WWW.MFWWC.ORG](http://WWW.MFWWC.ORG)