

Mid Coast Watersheds Council

What your watershed council does for you

- What's going on:
 - General types of projects we do
 - Projects in the Yaquina Watershed
 - *New Yaquina Watersheds Council*

We monitor watersheds , restore habitats, and provide education.

**Mid Coast
Watersheds
Council**

*a local non-profit
organization
dedicated to
improving health of
streams and
watersheds in the
mid-coast area*



What is a watershed?

- an extent of land where water from rain and melting snow or ice drains downhill into a body of water, such as a river, lake, reservoir, estuary, wetland, sea or ocean.

Why healthy watersheds are important:

- Good water quality
- Habitat for wildlife
- Flood control
- Erosion control
- Pollution control
- Ecosystem functions

Healthy watersheds nutrient cycle



Fish-eating
birds

Leaf litter
and plants
on logs



Aquatic
insects
(shredders)



Insect-
eating birds
& fish



Fish-eating
fish



All components are important for a healthy functioning ecosystem, especially trees and logs.

Monitoring and Assessment



Monitoring for:

- Specific areas of concern for habitat restoration



Assessment to:

- Evaluate watershed conditions
- Determine limiting factors for salmon habitat
- Limiting factors focus restoration plans

Monitoring Equipment:

- Turbidity meters (right) measure suspended sediments and other materials in the water.
- Turbidity affects water quality and light penetration into the stream.



Projects: Large Wood Placement

- We place logs in stream channels to:
 - build up the streambed
 - trap leaves and nutrients to improve watershed health
 - help salmon over-wintering in streams



Projects: Streamside Planting

We plant native trees and shrubs that will :

- shade the stream
- trap silts and prevent erosion
- provide structure
- provide cover against predators
- leaf litter



These trees continue the cycle of growth and add logs to the system.

Projects: Monitoring

- We monitored trends in abundance of beaver dams:
 - Beavers provide critical slow-water habitat for salmon
 - Number of beaver dams declining



Photo courtesy of Craig Hayslip
DO NOT DUPLICATE

We sought funding to plant more beaver edibles based on our monitoring results.

Invasive Species Removal

Our Natural Resource Crews remove invasive plants.

- Invasive species are non-native organisms that can:
 - Outcompete native species
 - Degrade habitat
 - Shade out or “choke” natives
 - Prevent forest succession

Himalayan blackberry



reed canary grass



Himalayan knotweed



English Ivy



Yaquina Projects

Feagle's Creek

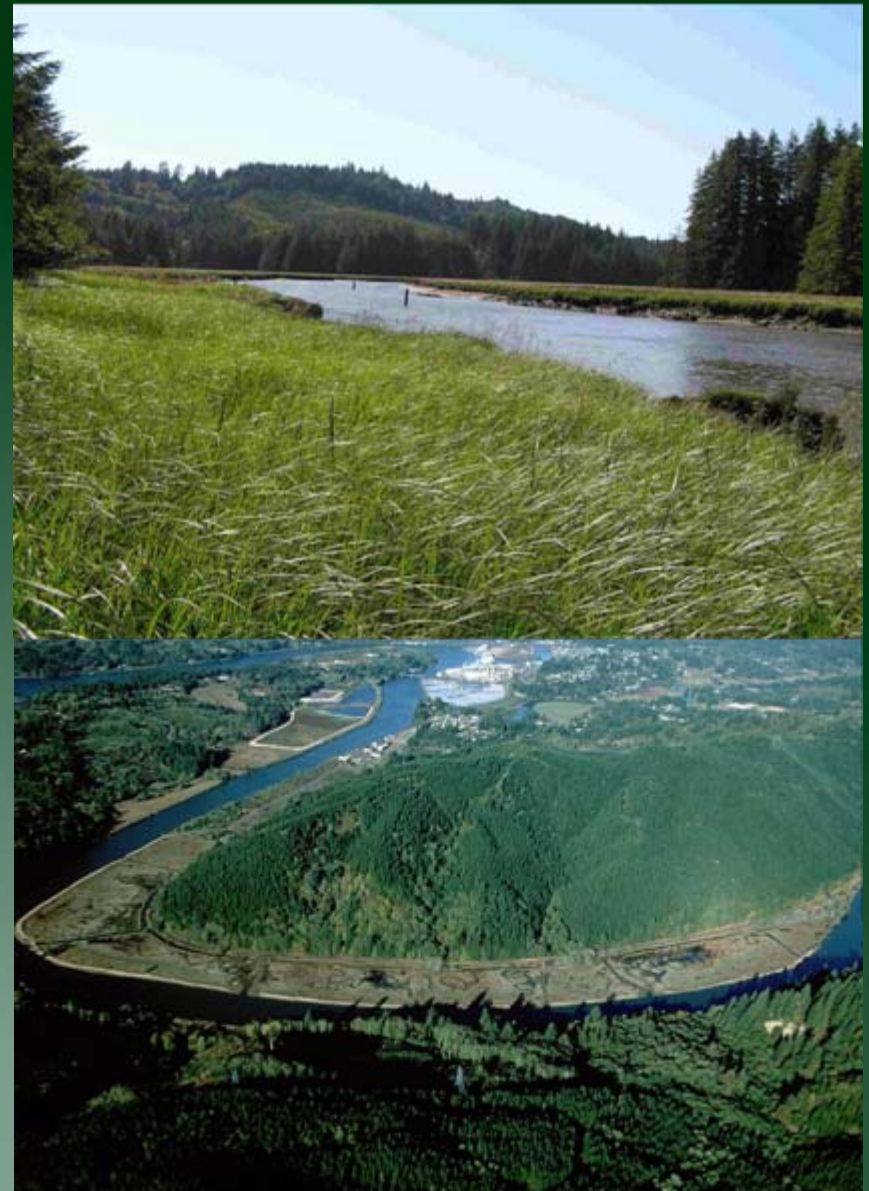
- Streamside planting
- Channel restoration

Little Beaver Creek

- Culvert replacement
 - to help fish passage

Beaver Habitat Improvement

- Planting beaver edibles



Educates the public about watersheds

Youth

- In-class studies with field trips
- After-school programs/ summer school
- Outdoor Camps : Beaver Creek



Contact Virginia Tardaewether at mcwceduc@midcoastpartners.org for more information.

Educates the public about watersheds

Teen Natural Resource Crews

- Habitat surveys
- Invasive species removal
- Debris mapping
- Assisting researchers
- Animal population sampling



Our natural resource crews are available for scientists/community groups. *Contact Virginia Tardaewether at mcwceduc@midcoastpartners.org for more information.*

Adult public education & discussion

- Mid Coast Watersheds Council

Meets the first Thursday of every month @ 6:30

Central Lincoln PUD in Newport across 101 from Safeway

Yaquina Watershed Council

Now forming

Contact Lisa Mulcahy at:

yaquinawatershedcouncil@gmail.com













Photo Credit: NOAA



Photo Credit: Oregon Archive



