



Protecting Special Lands in Western Oregon

CURRENTS

Summer 2015



The places your gifts protect

Field report from Tenmile Creek by Joe Moll

On an overcast summer's day three years ago, four of us hovered in three feet of water, snorkeling the lower end of Tenmile Creek near Yachats. My boys and I had donned wetsuits against the cold water to spend the day exploring the pools and riffles, log jams

and gravel beds. We watched coastal cutthroat trout feed on caddis flies and other aquatic insects. We marveled at the palette of stones on the bed of the stream, and the splash of light that dispersed with the cascading water.

But most memorable, so much so that my youngest son reminded me of it this week, was our chance encounter with an ammocoete, a young lamprey, that emerged from a silty area we discovered.

My son reminded me of our good luck when I told him I was heading back down to Tenmile to meet with landowners and monitor the conservation easements we'd secured in 2006. Those voluntary agreements protected 60% of the remaining private land in the basin.

On this monitoring visit, I was stunned to see how the creek had shifted naturally over the years. Pools on one side now had moved to the other. A log jam that began with one tree we could crawl over had now grown to a height of 15 feet, piled deep and wide with many other limbs, logs, and trees.

But I was most surprised by the good fortune of finding an adult lamprey, spawned out and dead, on the bottom of the stream. Thinking back to the young ammocoete, this adult was its reflection; their lives formed a complete loop.

Tenmile Creek provides remarkably diverse habitat, and the array of fish and wildlife that use it are a testament to its health. **These are the places you protect**, from the ammocoetes that emerge this year, to the adults they become, returning to the watershed years down the road. May each one always be there to complete that cycle. And may we always be around to enjoy it.

JOE MOLL



Inspired by your generosity: We're launching the Confluence Legacy Club

Two significant planned gifts in 2014 encouraged us to create a special group to recognize our visionary supporters. Members of the Confluence Legacy Club make a lasting commitment to protect and care for the lands that cradle our rivers and streams by planning to make a gift to MRT through their estate.

You'll hear more about planned giving from us in the months and years ahead. But first, meet three people who have chosen to be founding members of the Confluence Legacy Club. Here are their reasons for choosing to make a planned gift to MRT.

To learn more about planned giving to MRT, visit our website or call 541-345-2799.

Time for a river float!

Summer events made for you

Your support for MRT helps keep our rivers free flowing. This summer, get a duck's eye view of that clean water when you join us for a kayak or raft tour. Jump in a boat and see what your gifts have helped to accomplish.

Prefer a stroll through the tall grasses where the coast range hills rise up from the Willamette Valley? Or a floodplain exploration with butterfly net in hand? Join a walking tour and check out special plants and insects unique to our region.

The incredible natural abundance of western Oregon is protected thanks to you. Sign up for a tour on our website or by calling the office, and get out there to experience it.

Saturday, July 18 All day
Siuslaw Estuary Kayak Tour
Guide: Ken Rodgers from Oregon Paddle Sports

Thursday, July 30 6 - 8pm
Beers Made by Walking Nature Tour at the Hagens' Confluence Farm
Guide: Heiko Koester

Saturday, August 8 9:30am - noon
Dragonfly & Damselfly Field Course on Green Island
Guide: Cary Kerst

Saturday, August 15 8am - 3pm
Mainstem Willamette River Raft Tour
Guides: City of Eugene Outdoor Program

Sign up today:
mckenzieriver.org
or 541-345-2799



Gerald Morsello,
Confluence Legacy Club member

"Sharing the planet with other forms of life implores us to care for their wellbeing as well as our own. A strong organization like MRT is one of the best ways to fulfill that responsibility. I feel privileged to be able to be a part of MRT's worthwhile endeavors by including a bequest in my will."



Bev and Mike Hollander,
Confluence Legacy Club members

"We believe that MRT is doing a tremendous job in protecting lands to keep our plants and wildlife in a healthy state. This is difficult work. It takes special skill to recognize these lands, time and patience to obtain and manage them and, yes, money to keep the ball rolling. When we die, we hope to leave a ripple in the pond that supports the ongoing and effective action of MRT. It is our honor to donate a portion of our estate to do this important work and keep the ripples and rivers flowing."

Anyone can make a planned gift.

You can support the things you care about in life by making a planned gift to the McKenzie River Trust. Planned gifts come in many forms, and many sizes.

Each gift makes a difference.

Will you make a planned gift to MRT? Return this coupon to share your decision with us. We would like to express our gratitude, and if you desire, welcome you as a founding member of the Confluence Legacy Club.



- I have included a gift to MRT in my will or estate plans and...
 - I would like to join the Confluence Legacy Club.
 - I prefer to be anonymous.
- I would like more information about making a planned gift. Please contact me.

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Return this form in the enclosed envelope. Please include your return address.

Staff & Board Update



Cale Bruckner, *new Board member*

MRT is thrilled to welcome Cale to the Board of Directors. Cale is Vice President of Concentric Sky, a local software consultancy. He leads a campaign to strengthen and grow the Eugene-Springfield technology industry and increase its visibility by branding it the Silicon Shire. Cale is also an avid fly fisherman, photographer, and drone designer/builder.



Alayna DuPont, *Land Protection Manager*

Alayna moved to Eugene and joined the Trust in January 2015. Her previous position was with the US Forest Service working on the Montana Legacy Project. Alayna and Bear (who is shown in the photo and found frequently asleep in the office) enjoy spending their time running steep trails and adventuring outdoors as often as possible. Alayna has dived right in and is moving some exciting conservation projects forward. Welcome Alayna!



Amy Wolfsen, *Office Manager/Bookkeeper*

Amy is a Eugene native who is proud to still call Oregon home. She graduated from the University of Oregon in 1985 and loves exploring nature, gardening and dancing of any kind (even in her living room!). Amy has an extensive background in administration, accounting and customer service all with locally owned businesses and is thrilled to bring that experience to MRT.



Liz Lawrence, *Associate Director*

After 5 years with MRT, Liz was recently promoted to Associate Director. In this new position, Liz continues to manage financial, communications, and administrative matters for MRT, while also assuming leadership of MRT's development team and taking a greater behind-the-scenes role in revenue strategies.



TIM GRAUDIER - BEAUTIFUL OREGON

Imagine munching on a burger, sipping a cold beer, and watching the Willamette River flowing by... this could be you on September 15 at McMenamins Friends and Family Night!



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Joe Moll *Executive Director*
Chris Vogel
Green Island Project Manager
Amy Wolfsen
Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Mark your calendars!

Tuesday, September 15
5 - 11pm

McMenamins North Bank's Friends and Family Night

McMenamins is donating 50% of all sales to MRT this night, so bring your friends and family. Join us along the Willamette for a great evening on behalf of the lands and rivers you cherish.



MCKENZIE RIVER TRUST

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COME AND EXPLORE! Living River Celebration ON GREEN ISLAND



Saturday, June 27
Gates open at 7am and close at 5pm

FREE and family friendly!
Donations welcome. No pets, please.

You're invited to come and explore Green Island, an incredible natural area where the Willamette and McKenzie Rivers come together. Green Island is protected thanks to MRT members' generous support!

Join your neighbors, family, and friends to find birdsong and music, fresh water and cold beverages, naturalist guides and spots to gather in the shade of trees.

Get the details and pre-register for a chance to win a \$100 REI gift card!
mckenzieriver.org



The Coeta and Donald Barker Foundation

