

**APPENDIX D**

**Public Involvement**

**Eugene-Springfield  
Metropolitan Waterways Study**

# **Citizen Involvement Summary Report**



**March 2005**



## **Table of Contents**

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Key Citizen Involvement Findings</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Overall Citizen Involvement Strategy</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Public Workshop Summary</b>
5	News Release
6	Newspaper Advertisement
6	Register Guard Article
7	Metro Waterways Study Flyer
<b>8</b>	<b>Comments Received During the Metro Waterways Workshops</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Questionnaire Responses</b>
10	Amazon Creek Priority Planning Corridor Responses
21	Cedar Creek Priority Planning Corridor Responses
24	Responses for Other Waterways
<b>28</b>	<b>Metro Waterways Web Site (<a href="http://www.metrowaterways.org">www.metrowaterways.org</a>)</b>



# Introduction

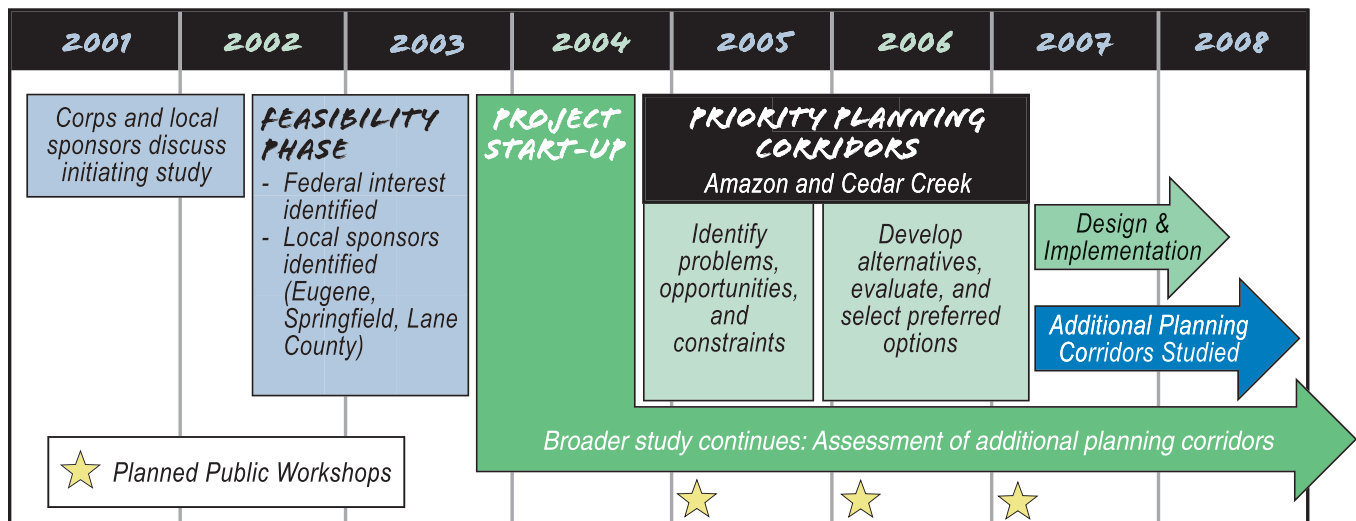
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lane County, and the cities of Eugene and Springfield have begun a multi-year study of the function and health of waterways in the greater metropolitan area. The study will help provide a better understanding of existing problems while identifying potential projects and other opportunities to improve metro waterways. Two locations have been selected for immediate study: Amazon Creek in the Eugene area and Cedar Creek/McKenzie River in the Springfield area.

Involving the public in a meaningful way throughout the study is critical in assuring that the study produces not only a scientifically sound and technically feasible plan, but one that is widely accepted and implementable. The overall purpose of the public outreach program is to keep the public up to date on the progress of the study and to seek direct input and feedback from the public that will be used to shape the study. Public input will be specifically sought on the study scope; feedback on the identification of problems, opportunities, and issues; and evaluation of options.

The citizen involvement strategy to be used for this study will combine a number of techniques and will likely vary somewhat from one priority project area to the next depending on the conditions within the specific study area and the local partner jurisdiction's preference. A key to the success of this strategy is the built in flexibility that will allow the study to seek varying levels of input in addition to responding to requests for project information.

This report includes a summary of the first phase of citizen involvement for the study and includes an overview of the study's citizen involvement strategy, a summary of the public workshops, questionnaire responses, and supporting materials such as the study flyer, newspaper advertisements and articles, web site, and key citizen involvement findings.

## Study Timeline



**Note:** Planned public workshop dates are approximate and additional outreach events may be added as needed.

## Key Citizen Involvement Findings

Listed below are some of the key findings from the citizen involvement effort for the Metro Waterways Study through February 2005. A complete record of questionnaire responses and workshop comments is listed later in this report.

- The majority of the questionnaire respondents and workshop participants for the Cedar Creek planning corridor own property in close proximity to the creek and approximately half indicated that they have had problems with their property directly attributable to the waterway. Only about one-third of the questionnaire respondents and workshop participants for the Amazon planning corridor indicated that they owned property near the waterway and most indicated they did not have problems with their property that were directly attributable to the waterway.
- The majority of questionnaire respondents indicated that the waterways running through the Metro area provided *large* or *very large* benefits for high quality of life (71 percent), scenic enjoyment (59 percent) and access to natural areas (71 percent). Amazon planning corridor respondents also indicated that waterways provided *large* or *very large* benefits for increased access to parks and hike/bike trails (84 percent).
- 76 percent of all questionnaire respondents *strongly disagreed* to the statement: “the Metro area waterways have no particular importance to me personally”. Only 4 percent of the respondents agreed with this statement.
- The majority of questionnaire respondents for both priority planning corridors *agreed* or *strongly agreed* with the following statements:
  - The waterways are important to me in knowing they are there (90 percent).
  - The waterways are important to me because of their prominence in our history and culture (79 percent).
  - The waterways are important to me because of their value to commerce, industry, and agriculture (68 percent).
  - The waterways are important to me because they offer many types of recreation (86 percent).
  - The waterways are just inviting to me (90 percent).
  - The waterways’ ambience and aesthetics are important to me (94 percent).
  - It is important to take care of the waterways so that we are able to pass them along to future generations for their enjoyment (97 percent).
  - The waterways are important to me for their fish, wildlife, and natural features (96 percent).
  - The waterways are important to me because of their economic value to our communities (73 percent).
- When asked if the environmental quality of the waterways concerns you, 83 percent of the Amazon Creek corridor respondents, 77 percent of the Cedar Creek corridor respondents, and 100 percent of the general respondents answered *very much*.
- When asked to rate the current efforts to improve environmental quality in the Metro area waterways, 85 percent answered *too little*, one percent answered *too much*, and 14 percent answered *about right*.
- When asked if they would support measures to improve the health of waterways enforced through laws enforced by the government, 73 percent of respondents answered that they would strongly favor.
- Comments and questions from the Cedar Creek planning corridor public workshop generally focused on issues such as flooding, erosion, water rights, accuracy of floodplain mapping, and biological health.
- Comments and questions from the Amazon Creek planning corridor public workshop generally focused on issues such as recreation, habitat restoration, water quality, headwater stream protection, and fish passage. In addition, there was a great deal of interest at this workshop in the details of the study work program and how existing water quality and habitat data was going to be incorporated into the study.
- In general, participants at both workshops were supportive of the study and anxious to see projects on the ground.

# Overall Citizen Involvement Strategy

This study will use several distinct outreach techniques that will be used in varying combinations depending on the local jurisdiction's preference, available resources, project area conditions, and citizen interest:

## Interested Parties

Central to the citizen involvement strategy will be the development of an *interested parties list*. The list will be initially established via input from local sponsors and participating watershed councils, and is expected to incrementally grow over the course of the planning process. The list will consist of a wide array of watershed interests and have no limit on size. The interested parties list will be kept up to date on project activities through mailings and will receive individual invitations to the study workshops. As of February 2005, approximately 600 names and organizations have been added to the interested parties list.

## Public Outreach Events

A minimum of three outreach events, or public workshops, are planned during the plan formulation phase:

- **Outreach event one** was held on January 19 in Springfield and January 20 in Eugene and focused on introducing the public to the study and to the priority planning corridors as well as seeking feedback on the project scope, issues, and opportunities. The two workshops had a similar format, but each focused on a specific planning corridor (Cedar Creek and Amazon Creek). A total of 122 participants attended these two workshops and the results are summarized later in this report.
- **Outreach event two** will consist of two planning corridor specific workshops. The purpose of these workshops will be to present problems, opportunities, and constraints specific to each of the priority planning corridors and seek feedback. In addition, a preliminary goal setting exercise will be conducted. The target date set for these workshops is January 2006.
- **Outreach event three** will again consist of two priority planning corridor specific workshops. The purpose of these workshops will be to present and seek public feedback on evaluation results and the preferred option. The target date for these workshops is June 2007.

The interested parties group and the general public will be invited to each of these outreach events through direct mailings and newspaper advertisements. In addition, approximately 6,000 potentially *affected property owners* received a study informational flyer and questionnaire and were asked if they would like to be added to the interested parties list. Potentially affected property owners included property owners and residents within 300 feet of Cedar Creek, Amazon Creek, Lower Willow Creek, and the A-3 Channel. The comments received at each of these workshops are listed later in this report.

## Speakers Bureau

It is highly likely that the study will get requests for presentations from individual groups throughout the length of the study. A Speakers Bureau, made up of designated members of the Study Management Team, will be formed to respond to these ad-hoc presentation requests. A PowerPoint presentation has been developed for use in Speakers Bureau presentations and will be updated throughout project duration.

## Priority Planning Corridor Field Trips

Field trips to the various planning corridors will be offered to interested parties throughout the study. This will promote better visualization and understanding of the issues, opportunities, and proposed projects.



**Project Web Site ([www.metrowaterways.org](http://www.metrowaterways.org))**

A study web site has been developed and will be maintained as a key element of the citizen involvement strategy. Project maps, fact sheets, summary reports, and other related materials will be posted on this site as they are produced. The site was also be used to advertise the workshops and a questionnaire has been posted and can be filled out electronically directly on the web site. In the two month period between the creation of the web site in late December 2004 and late February 2005, the study web site received a total of 641 visits and 331 unique visitors. The content of the web site is included later in this report.

**Study Informational Flyer**

A total of 6,000 informational flyers were printed in December 2004 and distributed by mail to approximately 5,500 interested potentially affected property owners and residents. In addition the flyer was distributed at the January 2005 workshops. A copy of this flyer is included later in this report.

**Questionnaire**

A study questionnaire was created and sent out as part of the 5,500 piece mail-out to the interested parties and potentially affected parties list as well as posted on the web site in the beginning of January 2005. A total of 194 completed questionnaires were returned as of mid-February 2005. The results of this questionnaire are included later in this report.

## Public Workshop Summary

The study's first public outreach event was held in January 2005 with two three-hour public workshops. The first workshop was held on January 19 at the Thurston Middle School in Springfield with a Cedar Creek planning corridor focus and was attended by a total of 37 people. The second workshop was held on January 20 at the Eugene Public Library with an Amazon Creek focus. A total of 85 people attended this workshop.

### Workshop Advertisement

The two public workshops were publicized in a number of ways. A direct mailing went out to a total of 5,500 interested parties and potentially affected property owners and residents in early January. A large format color newspaper display advertisement announcing the workshops went into the Eugene Weekly (January 13), the Springfield News (January 15), and the Register Guard (January 13). In addition, a news release was distributed on January 12 and an article about the workshops appeared in the Register Guard City-Region section on January 20.

### News Release



## News Release

January 12, 2005

**Contact:** Eric Bluhm, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 503-808-4759  
Scott Duckett, City of Eugene, 541-682-4842  
Ed Black, City of Springfield, 541-726-3616  
Stephanie Schulz, Lane County, 541-682-3958

#### For Immediate Release

#### WORKSHOPS INTRODUCE METRO WATERWAYS STUDY TO COMMUNITY

Community workshops will be held January 19 and January 20 on a major new study to examine local creeks and rivers in the metropolitan area.

Two waterways have been selected for immediate study: Cedar Creek in the Springfield area, and Amazon Creek in the Eugene area. The community workshops run from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. with scheduled presentations at 5:30 p.m. Each workshop focuses on a specific priority planning corridor:

- Wednesday, January 19, Cedar Creek planning corridor focus, Thurston Middle School, 6300 Thurston Road, Springfield.
- Thursday, January 20, Amazon Creek planning corridor focus, Eugene Public Library, 100 West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Eugene.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the cities of Eugene and Springfield, and Lane County are participating in the metro waterways study, a multi-year effort to look at the function and health of waterways in the greater metropolitan area. Cost of the study is estimated at \$3.4 million, with half coming from the Corps of Engineers and the other half from local partners using existing funds and in-kind services.

The study will help provide a better understanding of existing problems while identifying potential projects and other opportunities to improve local waterways. The study area encompasses approximately 240,000 acres and includes portions of the watersheds that drain to the Long Tom River, Coast Fork of the Willamette River, Middle Fork of the Willamette River, and the McKenzie River. Eight local communities are within the study area: Coburg, Creswell, Eugene, Goshen, Junction City, Marcola-Mohawk, Springfield, and Veneta.

The outreach effort includes a survey, which can be accessed on the metro waterways study web site at [www.metrowaterways.org](http://www.metrowaterways.org). The web site also includes maps, detailed information on the priority planning corridors, and contacts for more information.

###

## Newspaper Display Add

(Register Guard, Eugene Weekly, and Springfield News)



### New Study Focuses on Local Creeks and Rivers

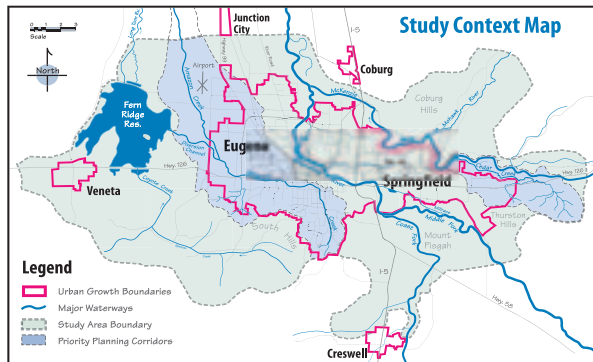
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lane County and the cities of Eugene and Springfield have begun a multi-year study of the function and health of waterways in the greater metropolitan area. Two locations have been selected for immediate study: Amazon Creek in the Eugene area and Cedar Creek/McKenzie River in the Springfield area.

### Study Goals and Needs

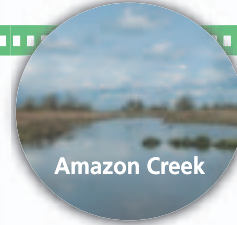
Well-managed waterways provide flood protection, fish and wildlife habitat, clean water, recreation benefits, and safe and aesthetically pleasing areas for community development.

Certain human activities and some natural processes can diminish these functions.

The metro waterways study will help by identifying cost-effective and environmentally sensitive methods for reducing flood risks and damages, restoring habitats, improving water quality, and providing high-quality places for public recreation and community development.



Cedar Creek



Amazon Creek

### Public Workshops

Two public workshops will provide opportunities for people to learn more and identify key issues related to local waterways. Both workshops are a drop-in format with a presentation at 5:30 p.m.

#### Workshop One: Cedar Creek Planning Corridor Focus

Date: Wednesday, January 19, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Thurston Middle School, 6300 Thurston Road, Springfield

#### Workshop Two: Amazon Creek Planning Corridor Focus

Date: Thursday, January 20, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Eugene Public Library, Bascom-Tykeson Room, 100 West 10th Avenue

Dates, times and locations of future public meetings will be posted on the website and publicized in local newspapers

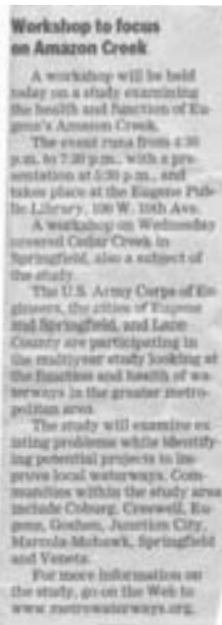
### Here's How You Can Learn More

Please fill out this form if you would like to receive information about the metro waterways study and future opportunities to be involved:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Clip, place in an envelope and mail to:  
Lane Council of Governments, 99 E. Broadway, Suite 400, Eugene, OR 97401

For more information on the study and workshops go to:  
[www.metrowaterways.org](http://www.metrowaterways.org)



**Register Guard**  
(City-Region Section,  
January 20, 2005)

# Metro Waterways Study Flyer

3. People may or may not benefit from the waterways running through the Metro area.

Circle ONE number for each type of benefit listed below to indicate TO WHAT DEGREE the waterways in this area have benefited YOU. For benefits you do not receive at all, circle "1".

DEGREE OF BENEFIT RECEIVED	Not at all	Slight	Moderate	Large	Very Large
A high quality of life	1	2	3	4	5
Recreational opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Scenic enjoyment	1	2	3	4	5
Improved community services (police protection, roads)	1	2	3	4	5
High property values	1	2	3	4	5
Employment	1	2	3	4	5
Increased access to parks and hike/bike trails	1	2	3	4	5
Access to natural areas	1	2	3	4	5
Good access to entertainment	1	2	3	4	5
Meeting people from other areas	1	2	3	4	5

4. Would you say that the environmental quality of the waterways concerns you: very much, somewhat, not very much, or not at all?

Very much ☐ Somewhat ☐ Not very much ☐ Not at all ☐ Don't know ☐

4a. Why is that?

5. Listed below are some statements about the Metro area waterways. Do you agree with these statements? Mark ONE answer for each statement: Strongly Agree ☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Strongly Disagree ☐ Don't Know ☐

The Metro area waterways have no particular importance to me personally.

The waterways are important to me in knowing they are there.

The waterways are important to me because of their prominence in our history and culture.

The waterways are important to me because they offer many types of recreation.

The waterways are important to me because of their value to commerce, industry, and agriculture.

The waterways are important to me because they offer many types of recreation.

The waterways are just inviting to me.

The waterways' ambience and aesthetics are important to me.

It is important to take care of the waterways so that we are able to pass them along to future generations for their enjoyment.

The waterways are important to me for their fish, wildlife, and natural features.

The waterways are important because of their economic value to our communities.

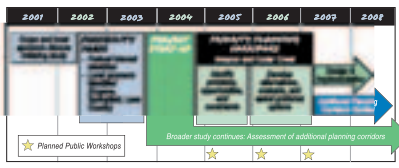
10. Please complete this section if you would like to continue receiving information about the metro waterways study and future opportunities to be involved.

Name  Address

City  State  Zip Code

e-mail (optional)

## Timeline



**Funding**  
The multi-year study is estimated to cost \$3.4 million. Half of the funding will come from the Corps of Engineers, and the remaining 50% will come from the local partners using existing funds and in-kind services. No additional taxes or fee increases are proposed to fund the study.

## Public Workshops Scheduled

Two public workshops will provide opportunities for people to identify key issues related to local waterways. Both workshops are a drop-in format with a presentation at 5:30 p.m.

**Workshop One**  
**Cedar Creek Planning Corridor Focus**  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 19, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Thurston Middle School, 6300 Thurston Road, Springfield

**Workshop Two**  
**Amazon Creek Planning Corridor Focus**  
**Date:** Thursday, January 20, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Eugene Public Library, Bascom-Jykeson Room, 100 West 10th Avenue  
**Dates, times and locations of future public meetings will be posted on the website and publicized in local newspapers.**

For more information on the study and workshops go to: [www.metrowaterways.org](http://www.metrowaterways.org).

## Public Involvement

There are many ways you can stay informed and involved over the course of the study:

- Check the project website: [www.metrowaterways.org](http://www.metrowaterways.org)
- Sign up as an interested party on the website or by filling out the questionnaire in this brochure
- Participate in surveys and other research efforts (check the website for current opportunities)
- Contact project staff  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Eric Bluhm 503-808-4759, [eric.bluhm@mwpp01.usace.army.mil](mailto:eric.bluhm@mwpp01.usace.army.mil)  
Eugene Public Works  
Scott Duckett, 541-682-4842, [scott.duckett@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:scott.duckett@ci.eugene.or.us)  
Springfield Public Works  
Ed Black, 541-726-3616, [edblack@ci.springfield.or.us](mailto:edblack@ci.springfield.or.us)  
Lane County Land Management  
Stephanie Schulz, 541-682-3958, [stephanie.schulz@ci.lane.or.us](mailto:stephanie.schulz@ci.lane.or.us)

## METROWATERWAYS

### New Study Focuses on Local Creeks and Rivers

January 2005

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lane County and the cities of Eugene and Springfield have begun a multi-year study of the function and health of waterways in the greater metropolitan area.

The study will help provide a better understanding of existing problems while identifying potential projects and other opportunities to improve metro waterways.

Two locations have been selected for immediate study: Amazon Creek in the Eugene area and Cedar Creek/McKenzie River in the Springfield area.

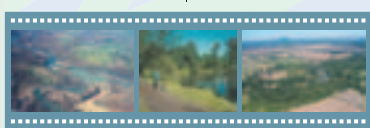
**Study Goals and Needs**  
Well-managed waterways provide flood protection, fish and wildlife habitat, clean water, recreation benefits, and safe and aesthetically pleasing areas for community development.

Certain human activities and some natural processes can diminish these functions, resulting in problems such as flooding, erosion and stream bank failure, poor water quality, and loss of natural habitat.

The metro waterways study will help by identifying cost-effective and environmentally sensitive methods for reducing flood risks and damages, restoring habitats, improving water quality, and providing high-quality places for public uses and community development.

#### Did you know?

- There are nearly 600 miles of waterways in the study area, including the McKenzie and Willamette rivers, smaller streams such as Amazon, Spencer and Coyote creeks and the Mohawk River, and numerous tributaries to these waterways.
- One of the oldest water rights on the McKenzie River system permits the diversion of water for irrigation directly from the McKenzie River into Cedar Creek.
- Nearly 64% of the area in Eugene drains to Amazon Creek.
- There are ten miles of bike and pedestrian trails along Amazon Creek.
- From the 1850s to the early 1900s, steamboats traveled as far upriver as Eugene. Smaller steamboats even ventured up smaller rivers such as the Long Tom and McKenzie.



### Amazon Creek

Amazon Creek is Eugene's second-largest waterway (the Willamette River is the largest). It provides many vital benefits including:

- Flood protection
- Water quality
- Wildlife habitat
- Recreation opportunities
- Enhanced community vitality

Amazon Creek starts at the top of Spencer's Butte and flows through south and west Eugene, eventually emptying into Fern Ridge Reservoir. Along the way it changes in character, reflecting the surrounding land use. Some portions of the creek were placed in concrete-lined channels in the 1950s while in other areas the creek more recently has been widened, creating more than 800 hundred acres of wetlands and floodplains.

Through the metro waterways study, problems and opportunities will be identified, and a list of projects and recommendations will result. These potential actions will be reviewed and prioritized for possible implementation dependent on a variety of factors including funding resources.

### Study Context Map

### Cedar Creek

Cedar Creek, a tributary of the McKenzie River, has been identified as a high priority element of the metro waterways study for the City of Springfield. Cedar Creek is an important resource to many living in our community. It provides drainage for the rural residential and developing urban areas to the east and north of the city, as well as the majority of the developed area east of 64th Street.

Improving rural development and urban areas within the 11-square-mile Cedar Creek drainage basin has increased the potential for flooding in the lower reaches of the creek.

Development and implementation of a management plan for these water resources will help Springfield achieve its long-term water resource management objectives, including:

- Flood-hazard protection
- Adequate drainage service
- Water quality protection
- Public uses of the City's waterways

This study will look for opportunities to improve this vital community resource.

### Waterways Study Area

The study encompasses approximately 240,000 acres and includes portions of four watersheds: Long Tom River, Coast Fork of the Willamette River, Middle Fork of the Willamette River, the McKenzie River, and all the natural streams, mill races, islands, backwaters and sloughs, ponds, wetlands, and other aquatic features in the study area.

Eight local communities are within or adjacent to the study area: Veneta, Junction City, Coburg, Marcola, Mohawk, Creswell, Goshen, Springfield, and Eugene.

### Priority Planning Corridors

The metro waterways study is being conducted at two levels:

- Watershed – the entire complex set of rural and urban waterways, ranging from small headwater streams to the mainstem Willamette and McKenzie rivers.
- Priority planning corridors – waterways prioritized for detailed analysis to resolve specific corridor problems. Amazon Creek and Cedar Creek have been selected as the first two priority planning corridors.

Bicycle and pedestrian paths run along urban portions of Amazon Creek.

Though affected by nearby urban areas, much of Cedar Creek still possesses a very natural character.

Lane Council of Governments  
99 East Broadway, Suite 400  
Eugene, OR 97401-311

Public workshops  
January 19 & 20  
See details inside.

**Metro Waterways Questionnaire**  
OMB number 0705-0061  
Eugene November 30, 2005

The responses from this survey will help the participating agencies understand the community's interests and awareness about these waterway resources. Under law, this survey cannot be conducted without a current OMB control number, and replies by the public are voluntary and individual responses are kept confidential.

Please fill out survey place in an envelope and mail to:  
Lane Council of Governments, 99 E. Broadway, Suite 400, Eugene, OR 97401

You can also fill out the survey online at [www.metrowaterways.org](http://www.metrowaterways.org)

The following questions can refer to specific waterways in the Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan ("Metro") area. Please specify which waterway your answers address:

☐ Amazon Creek ☐ Cedar Creek ☐ Other ☐

1. How familiar are you with the waterways in the Eugene-Springfield Metro area?

☐ Very familiar ☐ Somewhat familiar ☐ Not very familiar ☐ Not at all familiar ☐ Don't know

2. Do you rent or own property near any of these waterways?

☐ No; if no, go to 3. ☐ Yes; if yes, go to 2a.

2a. Have you had any problems with this property that you think are attributable to the waterway?

☐ No; if no, go to 3. ☐ Yes; if yes, go to 2b.

2b. What sort of problems have you had?

## Comments Received During the Metro Waterways Workshops

During the public workshops, participants had the opportunity to provide comments in several ways. The study questionnaire was made available at the workshops and the comments provided using that format have been incorporated with the other study questionnaires. In addition, blank comment cards and flip charts were provided for participants to record comments and study area maps were provided for participants to indicate specific issue and opportunity areas. Comments from the question and answer period at each workshop were also recorded. All recorded workshop comments are listed below (verbatim):

### **January 19 workshop (in Springfield with Cedar Creek/McKenzie River focus):**

- The Cedar Creek revetment needs to be a focal point of the study to prevent the McKenzie River from changing its course into the Cedar Creek Channel.
- Is a longitudinal study on the biota of the study area being conducted or has one already been done? It should be part of the study.
- Water rights on Cedar Creek should be addressed in this study. There is a need to keep the water flowing into Cedar Creek.
- Interviews with long-time residents are a really good way to identify issues (like extent of flooding) and change over time.
- What is the cost of the overall study and when will it be done?
- The irrigation district needs landowner participation to help address the water rights issue (a sing-up sheet was passed around).
- How is the County involved in the study?
- How will pollution be looked at in this study?
- The City of Springfield has an interest in the Cedar Creek area for flood control and stormwater/water quality function even if much of it lies outside of UGB.
- Flooding and flood erosion is a key concern on Cedar Creek.

### **January 20 workshop (in Eugene with Amazon Creek focus):**

- Save and restore habitat below the Fern Ridge Reservoir dam.
- Extend the bike path along the Amazon Diversion Channel west of Greenhill Road.
- Extend the ridgeline trail along the upper Amazon basin (south hills) and tie into the Amazon Creek greenway.
- Great opportunities for habitat and floodplain restoration exist on Coyote Creek both above and below the reservoir.
- The Amazon headwaters are the keystone for the health of the overall system.
- Headwater and upland habitat owned by eager developers need protection soon.
- Concrete channel ideas: Remove one side of the concrete channel and widen there where space constraints exist or reconstruct with a bioengineered retaining wall on one side and a shallow bank on the other. Where the widening is not possible, notch the bottom of the concrete channel to create a low flow channel. This will prevent the formation of large algae mats and may also keep water temperatures down.
- Widen the channel and add trees to the banks of Amazon Creek where opportunities exist.
- Protect buffers along Amazon headwaters, Willow Creek, etc.
- Implement the “Jefferson Greenway” concept at the fairgrounds and vicinity. This could include channel widening and planting.
- The McKenzie-Willamette confluence should be added to the study.
- Restore the vegetation along the Roosevelt Channel and create a “tree screen” along the north side of the channel.
- Focus attention on restoring habitat at the Golden Garden ponds.
- Channel widening and enhancement opportunities exist on Amazon Creek (“A” Channel) to the north of the Diversion Channel.
- Save Bertelsen Nature Park and improve water quality in the A-3 Channel.



- Consider the connection of the Millrace and Amazon Creek over time (Emerald Canal).
- Develop a phased approach to replace the concrete channel with a stepped structure that allows trees and seating opportunities.
- A Main Stem Willamette Watershed Council is needed.
- The term “well managed” is used in the survey. How does long-term management happen and who’s responsible.
- Who makes decisions about the final list of projects?
- Update the web site to show project progress.
- Can we get EWEB involved as a partner?
- Will the large culverts flowing into Amazon Creek be considered as part of this project?
- Please put the Maps and PowerPoint from the workshop onto the web site.
- How do we address activities on adjacent properties?
- How was the workshop notification done?
- Will the study look at headwater areas?
- How will the stormwater plan address some of the issues?
- Are there existing stormwater standards for commercial uses (permeability and increased run-off)?
- What is the design frequency for a storm event that will be used in the modeling (normal is 10-year)?
- How can we make sure projects aren’t negatively impacted by large storm events?
- What are the sources and methodology for the baseline report? Wildlife, hydrology, water quality, plant communities, and recreation (a combination of new and existing data).
- Can the results from the “Citizen Nature Project” be incorporated into this study? Many volunteers provided great input.
- What type of water quality data will be collected? Existing city sampling, volunteers from UO, DEQ data, USGS water quality data and other existing sampling reports should all be looked at.
- Churchill High School has been gathering water quality data on Amazon Creek for 7-years. Can we incorporate that into the study?
- The Veneta area has significant wetland resources and should be included in upcoming study.
- Will the Willow Creek headwaters be considered? There are significant erosion problems upstream that are affecting the creek below.
- How will priorities be set? Public input and cost benefit analysis will be done; the project must meet a federal interest; and must be justified in cost.
- How were priority areas chosen?
- Will fish passage be considered as the Fern Ridge Dam is repaired?
- Are riparian buffers an option for restoration?
- Can the baseline report outline and report be reviewed by the public?
- How would the West Eugene Parkway impact hydrology if constructed?
- We appreciate the process. Thank you for doing the study.

# Questionnaire Responses

## Amazon Creek Priority Planning Corridor Responses

Respondents were given the choice of providing input specific to Amazon Creek, Cedar Creek, or another specified waterway. The following responses are from those who selected Amazon Creek.

**1. How familiar are you with the waterways in the Eugene-Springfield Metro area? Are you: very familiar, somewhat familiar, not very familiar, or not at all familiar with these waterways?**

54 Very familiar    49 Not at all familiar    4 Somewhat familiar    1 Don't know    0 Not very familiar

**2. Do you rent or own property near any of these waterways?**

41 No (if no, go to 3)    84 Yes (if yes, go to 2a)

**2a. Have you had any problems with this property that you think are attributable to the waterway?**

61 No (if no, go to 3)    21 Yes; if yes, go to 2b.

**2b. What sort of problems have you had?**

- Three things along the Amazon Bikeway : 1) the chambers underpass floods occasionally 2) at the next underpass west of chambers, the soil bank beside the bridge appears to have eroded away, although the underside of the footing may not yet be exposed, 3) the west 11th underpass is a muddy mess every winter
- Indigents camping on or near the creek which includes my property is a source of some concern but more importantly, the trash and pollution, and grocery carts are unsightly and broken glass in the creek (AMAZON) is a problem for kids and animals that get into it. Finally, I have not understood why the city persists in mowing the grass almost down to the waterline rather than to leave at least the banks to grow full flora to provide natural habitat.
- Odors in the vicinity of 15<sup>th</sup> and Lawrence
- Too much urban impact as a result of not enough adequate protection programs
- I think the Tugman Park is an old dump where the city allowed toxic materials to be buried. I am afraid it might impacting groundwater, where we have a garden – has there ever been any water quality testing done, to assure citizens that the new creek that cuts thru the park isn't exposing us to old toxics in the aquatic environment?

3. People may or may not benefit from the waterways running through the Metro area. Select one category for each type of benefit listed below, to indicate **TO WHAT DEGREE** the waterways in this area have benefited **YOU**.

**DEGREE OF BENEFIT RECEIVED**

	<b>Not at All</b>	<b>Slight</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Large</b>	<b>Very Large</b>
<i>A high quality of life</i>	5	9	21	38	<b><u>41</u></b>
<i>Recreational opportunities</i>	9	12	22	35	<b><u>39</u></b>
<i>Scenic enjoyment</i>	2	3	15	34	<b><u>58</u></b>
<i>Improved community services (police protection, roads)</i>	<b><u>53</u></b>	22	27	5	4
<i>High property values</i>	<b><u>38</u></b>	20	30	10	10
<i>Employment</i>	<b><u>62</u></b>	13	18	3	7
<i>Increased access to parks and hike/ bike trails</i>	4	5	7	34	<b><u>62</u></b>
<i>Access to natural areas</i>	4	6	11	29	<b><u>56</u></b>
<i>Good access to entertainment</i>	25	20	<b><u>33</u></b>	12	18
<i>Meeting people from other areas</i>	27	<b><u>37</u></b>	29	12	7



**4. Focusing on the Metro area waterways as a whole, listed below are some statements about the waterways. Do you agree with these statements? Mark ONE answer for each statement:**

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>
<i>The Metro area waterways have no particular importance to me personally</i>	2	3	19	<b>89</b>	0
<i>The waterways are important to me in knowing they are there.</i>	<b>62</b>	41	5	6	1
<i>The waterways are important to me because of their prominence in our history and culture</i>	26	<b>67</b>	8	4	7
<i>The waterways are important to me because of their value to commerce, industry, and agriculture.</i>	22	<b>48</b>	22	7	14
<i>The waterways are important to me because they offer many types of recreation.</i>	49	<b>55</b>	1	6	3
<i>The waterways are just inviting to me.</i>	<b>61</b>	44	6	3	0
<i>The waterways' ambience and aesthetics are important to me.</i>	<b>85</b>	22	2	3	0
<i>It is important to take care of the waterways so that we are able to pass them along to future generations for their enjoyment.</i>	<b>98</b>	14	0	3	0
<i>The waterways are important to me for their fish, wildlife, and natural features</i>	<b>88</b>	22	1	2	1
<i>The waterways are important because of their economic value to our communities.</i>	28	<b>61</b>	9	7	8

**5. Would you say that the environmental quality of the waterways concerns you: very much, somewhat, not very much, or not at all?**

**104** Very much      **19** Somewhat      **1** Not very much      **0** Not at all      **1** Don't know

**5a. Why is that?**

- We bird watch and my daughter plays near the water. We wish it were safe to play in it. It is our taste of nature. Fish, nutria, herons, ducks, seagulls, etc.
- Slow, low flow, yard chemicals, etc. I've seen pictures of the Amazon deep enough to canoe. Can we have that again please?

- The pollution and the many people that choose to throw bottles or garbage in the water or leave them behind
- Amazon has some of the lowest quality of all water in area
- Because it supports wildlife and plants and because eventually winds up in a major waterway. For example, the storm drain that empties into the Willamette at the VRC bike bridge is really frightening...garbage, oil, God knows what....
- Flooding and wildlife issues enhance livability
- I would like my son to be able to access the creek
- Pollution...wildlife preservation – eye appeal
- Health and aesthetics
- I like watching plants and animals near and in the stream
- As Eugene continues to grow we need to keep some natural habitat to combat urban sprawl
- I'm an environmentalist – but also a business owner
- If we don't have it, we don't have much
- Amazon Creek is toxic with yard chemicals from runoff
- I want nature in my back yard
- Healthy Ecosystem
- Runoff contaminates from streets, homes, lawns, etc.
- They are an amenity that makes our community unique
- The garbage in the creek is disturbing
- Clean water vital to community health
- They are especially vulnerable to non-point source urban pollution which affects both nature and human health
- Clean water = Healthy fish for eating
- swimming areas for humans
- Health home for wildlife
- River water quality – Fern Ridge and general eco system health
- Clearance of brush along creek bank
- My physical/mental/spiritual health depends directly on the health of the environment around me
- The waterway carries run-off which can contain a lot of toxins, trash, etc. – Willamette, Fern Ridge, Long Tom River
- Affects all aspects of the environment and aesthetic enjoyment and general quality of life
- Flood control and clean downstream flow
- There was a dead deer floating in Mill race two years ago at Hilyard and 10<sup>th</sup> between Hilyard and Sorority house
- Oil from dead cars and garbage in roadway
- We use the waterways, so #1 = personal health; Also, health of flora and fauna
- Overall appearance of area
- I regularly ride my bike along Amazon, and enjoy the beauty and wildlife; Conversely, the ugly bits aren't pleasant; It has a lot of potential to be so much better
- The environmental quality of the planet concerns me and I live close to the Amazon Creek; More wildlife will be there; Dogs and animals enter it, etc.
- Water is essential to life
- Greenery/water/Oregon lifestyle . . . all connected
- I'm concerned with water quality in the Willamette Basin
- The environmental quality reflects the community's interest in maintaining habitat for the benefit of future generations
- It's good for the wild things which are fun to see when I walk along the canal. It's a visual joy. It's a healthy place for runoff
- I am very interested in Eugene's quality of life
- Areas of Amazon Creek seem polluted
- I have lived in areas with almost no environmental protection and know how bad it can get
- Water quality effects all living systems
- Trash in Creek from Fairgrounds to Chambers St. Especially behind Albertsons
- Quality of life
- I don't want to live in an unhealthy environment
- I live across the street from Amazon Creek and travel along it frequently
- Would like more water flowing – not just street run off, so would be cleaner
- It's my world and I want it to be safe and long lasting

- Because I love the ducks and it's their home
- Kids play in it (concern for their health – it's great that they can play in it). I see foam in it – possibly from detergent or other pollutant
- Healthy waterways are very important to all life
- We are all only as healthy as our water and our air
- The water is not clean – but we don't drink it or swim in it so we don't have much contact with it
- I just think that it is important for the environment
- Animal habitat and human health
- Quality of life for myself, other people in community, and ecosystem and creatures that use Amazon Creek
- Because healthy waterways are part of a healthy ecosystem
- Riparian areas are the most important ecological areas for a wide variety of species
- I enjoy a good waterway
- "Circle of Life"
- The Amazon is highly degraded; I want to see it restored and the water quality improve
- Aesthetics, city design quality, design with nature, learn from nature, flood control
- Over the years I've noticed a decrease in wildlife: fewer ducks, nutria, birds, raccoons . . . I used to enjoy watching them, but they are disappearing! ☹
- The health of the waterways affects animals and humans
- I am concerned that the ecosystems of the waterways are at high risk. Indicators of Water Quality: Fresh, clean appearance. Diverse, thriving plant and animal life. Lack of measured pollutants. Efforts to Improve EQ: Too little Obstacles to Restoration: Lack of political will to make environmental restoration a higher priority
- They're the lifeblood of the local ecosystem. Indicators of Water turbidity. Efforts to Improve EQ About right Obstacles to Restoration
- I am concerned about sustainable land use and restoring what we can to a naturally functioning state. Indicators of Water Quality: native vegetation insect life. wildlife use; vitality of a natural waterway; Efforts to Improve EQ: Too little Obstacles to Restoration: people are uninformed, not interested, not willing to admit the huge role they play in overall WQ through their own daily actions; We are not separate from the natural world but we choose to live like we are
- a healthy environment is pleasing and allows me to have a more active lifestyle without going out of town
- Quality of waterways and natural areas are a good indicator of the quality of life in our community. Indicators of Water Quality: The health of the flora and fauna which live in and around the body of water. The diversity of life supported by the flow
- It concerns me because of the ongoing degradation that I observe and the continued discharge of pollutants including sediment to Amazon Creek
- The quality of the waterways is a metric of our health well being and a reflection of the footprint of our society; Indicators of Water Quality: temperature, low turbidity, presence of native fish and wildlife, prominent native vegetation, stable slopes and stream banks, connectivity with adjacent wetlands, channel complexity Efforts to Improve EQ: Too little Obstacles to Restoration: more effort to grow local small business in conjunction with promotion of landscape stewardship and sustainability
- They are part of the water cleansing and purification system and provide habitat for young fish, invertebrates and other birds and wildlife Indicators of Water Quality: Purity, stream movement, fish and other wildlife are living in and around the body of water
- It concerns me because of the ongoing degradation that I observe and the continued discharge of pollutants including sediment to Amazon Creek
- Organizational Issues: Mid and upper-level city managers do not provide support for the goals of the stormwater program related to water quality, riparian areas, and habitat; Indeed, I don't believe that many of them even believe in the concept; This is not so much a criticism as much as relates to the fact that their backgrounds and rolls are more traditionally related to city services; This split has led to frustration at the operational level in the stormwater program. The "city" often seems to believe that it is too far on the cutting edge of the stormwater issue. This is reinforced by the business community, and the continued media coverage of the fact that Eugene is not open for business; In fact, many cities have surpassed us long ago in protecting riparian habitat and water quality; I do support regulation, but do not believe that it is viable in the current political climate
- With the onset of the budget problems besetting all public entities, the city stormwater budget has been seen as a way to provide funding for programs if any relation to stormwater can be made
- There is a major disconnect between city departments when implementing the stormwater program. A good example is the recent construction at Kinney Park on upper Amazon. The city stormwater program

always focused on protection of headwater streams. One could question whether construction of a park with traditional plantings, bark mulch, and irrigation on the banks of the creek complies with headwater stream protection. Erosion control at the site was lacking, and there was drag out onto the street. Materials were stockpiled in the street. The fabric cover over the storm drain to Amazon Creek was removed for several days. When it was replaced, it was folded down in the center to allow for good drainage. Notification to the city received no response. After a second complaint, they indicated that an inspector would be sent out. As part of this project, a new grated drain was installed at the one-quarter mile sign on the trail on the east side. It was installed below grade in a muddy, wet area for drainage. It does not seem like the city would allow a developer to do this as it drains perhaps 15 feet onto the bank of Amazon Creek although there are bank stability problems throughout the creek. It appears that several drains have been installed in this manner as part of this project. Even the white pipes protruding from the bank are pollution. These installations reinforce the fact that our thinking about Amazon Creek has not changed. Ironically, the construction sign indicates that further stormwater enhancement projects will be completed at the site this year.

- The city should set an example for construction projects. However, this is not the case, and city project managers exert pressure very like private business because they do not want costs incurred by their projects.
- Vegetation: Trees were removed from the headwaters above Martin Street in the last year or so and I assume that it is private property; The area appears to be very susceptible to erosion to the creek now
- City Maintenance crews removed vegetation from upper Amazon Creek, but they did a good job of opening the center of the channel to allow for drainage while removing a limited amount of vegetation
- Residents: In the area where I live, all of the stormwater drains discharge to upper Amazon Creek. I routinely see residents washing cars, applying zinc-based moss killer to driveways and sidewalks, using caustic to clean driveways and sidewalks, and pressure washing. All of these discharges are going to Amazon Creek. I know the city has been involved for years in educational programs. I do not know whether these issues result from a lack of knowledge or if people simply do not believe that the little bit of sediment or chemicals are important. We always want to blame industry for pollution rather than ourselves.
- Basin Plans, Goals, Studies; the Metro agencies have plans, goals, and studies, and we continue to pursue these activities; The challenge continues to be translating these to everyday operational decisions and activities
- Resources not available to be privately owned are always exploited by narrow interests that have no care or responsibility for the care of a resource; When is the last time you heard about timber loss to wild fire on International Paper or Georgia Pacific timberland? Indicators of Water Quality: being able to drink it
- I am concerned that the ecosystems of the waterways are at high risk. Indicators of Water Quality: Fresh, clean appearance. Diverse, thriving plant and animal life. Lack of measured pollutants
- Surface water is one of the more obvious indicators of the health of the ecosystem. So many species rely on good water quality and healthy riparian areas - it is shortsighted and arrogant to **think we can** monopolize the use of waterways solely for human benefit.
- Indicators of Water Quality: Presence/absence of native plants and animals; presence/absence of non-native invasive plants and animals; visible pollution (trash, oil), sedimentation and erosion, odd color and/or smell
- Amazon, particularly in the city is really dirty. I feel particularly sad for the animals that are marginalized to live there. Indicators of Water Quality: Clean and full of habitat Efforts to Improve EQ: Too little Obstacles to Restoration: Some of the areas in the city are too canalized. Please need more education in their role pollution the water
- Both humans and wildlife depend on our local waterways. Indicators of Water Quality: Whether water appears clean, flowing. Whether it is posted as dangerous for any reason. Birds and other wildlife prolific and freely using the body of water. Native plants growing in abundance. Efforts to Improve EQ: Too little Obstacles to Restoration: Lack of resources. Not enough people in policy positions actually spending time regularly in the proximity of the waterways
- Need healthy ecosystem
- Indicators of Water Quality: Variety and health of native bugs, fish and wildlife Efforts to Improve EQ: Too little Obstacles to Restoration: More money would always help; given what we have, I believe we're doing a good job
- I live right on the banks of the Amazon and am familiar with the animals that also live there; They are my neighbors and like me, we all want a clean and natural environment to enjoy and care for; Indicators of Water Quality: Cleanliness, diversity of native flora and fauna
- Trash (trash cans along the bike path that borders the Amazon Creek would be a good first step) and a more rapid pace toward restoration of the natural environment which has been remarkably good on some sections of the creek and lacking on others.

- Waterways are to the Earth what the circulatory system is to the human body. If they are polluted, dammed, drained, channel zed, or rip-rapped, the health of all life on Earth will be damaged. Indicators of Water Quality: High diversity of native species, few or no non-native species, complex natural habitat both in the water and near the water, no garbage, little or no pollution.
- Efforts to improve environmental quality
- Obstacles to Restoration: Lack of funding
- Concerned that runoff chemicals, etc harm waterways Indicators of Water Quality: Visible garbage, oil slicks, dead wildlife and current quality Efforts to Improve EQ: About right Obstacles to Restoration:
- Amazon Creek offers a safe, clean accessible area for kids and adults to explore and learn; Indicators of Water Quality: Diversity of species, native species, clear water; Efforts to Improve: Too Little Obstacles to Restoration: Much stewardship is on a volunteer basis; Luckily, we a strong volunteer force in Eugene but the City should be more involved.
- The quality of the waterways affects all of the #4 questions that I agree with. Indicators of Water Quality: aquatic animals, aerated water, clear, not invasive plants or destructive wild life, looks natural
- Amazon Creek flows through the neighborhoods, into Fern Ridge, into the Long Tom, into the Willamette – we MUST have a healthy Willamette Indicators of Water Quality: diverse native plants and wildlife throughout the year, absence of trash and contaminants, natural banks and channels; Efforts to Improve EQ: Too little Obstacles to Restoration: Under appreciation of the value of these resources, not enough regular clean-up efforts, lack of funding for restoring the Amazon to it's original native banks
- Its one tiny planet, clean water, strong balanced eco-system; No garbage/toxic runoff
- The ability to interact with the streams would be very nice. I don't think it is safe to do so now.
- Ability to support native wildlife and safe to swim in (if large enough)
- I would guess money
- A community understanding of the importance of the waterway health
- Funding, public awareness and opinion
- Concerned that runoff chemicals, etc. harm waterways
- Visible garbage, oil slicks, dead wildlife and current quality
- Plant and wildlife health, clean water, lack of pollution and litter
- Funding, public awareness and opinion
- Healthy waterways mean healthy community
- Because it has a direct impact on water quality, wildlife habitat, recreational and aesthetic value
- If it ever floods, it'll flood my rental! I hope the water will not be toxic; Also, I love seeing the (little) wildlife supported by Amazon Creek, and wish there were more. If the quality of the water decreases there will be fewer animals living off of it.
- The quality of the waterways affects all of the #4 questions that I agree with
- Concerned that runoff chemicals, etc harm waterways
- Our primary interest in the waterways is the natural habitat and wildlife
- Wildlife habitat near urban areas
- Amazon Creek flows through the neighborhoods, into Fern Ridge, into the Long Tom, into the Willamette – We must have a healthy Willamette
- I am concerned about sustainable land use and restoring what we can to a naturally functioning state
- The environmental quality of the waterways are important in that it adds a certain degree of integrity to the waterway; In the absence of high environmental quality, the waterways are just that ways for water; I believe the urban community as a whole benefits from incorporating nature into their lives. These waterways represent one of the incorporations
- We drink from our waterways;. If we kill our rivers, we will kill our civilization
- Clean Water
- We're all downstream health of waterways impacts us all
- Part of the environment in which we live and exist
- Resources not available to be privately owned are always exploited by narrow interests that have no care or responsibility for the care of a resource; When is the last time you heard about timber loss to wild fire on International paper of Georgia Pacific Timberland?
- Clean water is extremely important to salmon, other wildlife and aquatic organisms; Because waterways are connected, polluted water in one place often mean contamination of larger waterbodies including the Willamette; Some of these larger waterbodies are home to Endangered Salmon; The City has a legal responsibility to take measures to insure that Endangered Salmon are protected
- Healthy waterways means healthy community
- The ability to interact with the streams would be very nice, I don't think it is safe to do so now



- It's one tiny planet
- Because it has a direct impact on water quality, wildlife habitat, recreational and aesthetic value
- In think we've modified the environment too much and we need to restore it that it serves its ecological services better (as well as for its own sake)
- I recreate in/near them, my children play in/near them, and the wildlife I enjoy depend on the health of he waterways
- Because we don't have adequate setback regulations or tree cutting regulations or enforcement programs to ensure that our waterways are protected from development and urban uses
- I am concerned that the ecosystems of the waterways are at high risk
- The quality of the waterways is a metric of our health well being and a reflection of the foot prints of our society
- It concerns me because of the ongoing degradation that I observe and the continued discharge of pollutants including sediment to Amazon Creek
- Quality of waterways and natural areas are a good indicator of the quality of life in our community
- Water is the basis of life; Life cannot be sustained without sustaining our waterways
- Plant and wildlife health, clean water, lack of pollution and litter
- The aquatic environment is more than just water and trees, it can represent a DIRECT HUMAN HEALTH PROBLEM
- Waterways are to the Earth what the circulatory system is to the human body. If they are polluted, dammed, drained, channelized, or rip-rapped, the health of all life on Earth will be damaged
- Amazon Creek offers a safe, clean, accessible area for kids and adults to explore and learn
- Quality of life fro people as well as animals and plants
- Both humans and wildlife depend on our local waterways
- For the health of the ecosystem rivers and watersheds support
- High quality=good habitat=natural amenity=quality of life.
- They Flow into major rivers/lakes and thus affect a wide habitat area. I also believe that we are stewards of these natural resources for future generations.
- A healthy environment is pleasing and allows me to have a more active lifestyle without going out of town

#### **6. *What kinds of things indicate to you environmental quality in a body of water?***

- Particular species of plants and wildlife, diversity of species, developed canopy cover, course woody debris, boulders, cool water temps in summer, absence of litter.
- Clarity, Wildlife (fish), drinkability.
- Clarity, lack of harmful bacteria. Lack of yucky green slimy stuff. Fish in streams, herons nesting nearby, presence of badgers, beavers, etc.
- Lack of exotic species
- High water quality
- Clarity, complexity of vegetation structure, presence of fish, birds, wetlands presence
- Appropriate vegetation and wildlife, including invertebrates and vertebrates
- Open space
- Too much trash, shopping carts, etc.
- Clearness, smell, animal & plant life
- Clear water, intact riparian area, supporting a diverse population of aquatic species including sensitive species;
- Too little Obstacles to Restoration: I will address what I see as the roadblocks to environmental restoration efforts in the City only because that is where I reside; I live near upper Amazon Creek and walk the path every day
- Indicators of Water Quality: Clear water, intact riparian area, supporting a diverse population of aquatic species including sensitive species. Efforts to Improve EQ: Too little Obstacles to Restoration: I will address what I see as the roadblocks to environmental restoration efforts in the City only because that is where I reside; I live near upper Amazon Creek and walk the path every day
- High quality regarding physical and chemical characteristics, good abundance of native plants and animals
- Water temperature, levels of ph and dissolved oxygen, turbidity, odor, vegetation, stream flow, bed and bank content
- Presence of fish and wildlife, smell, cleanliness
- Intact native riparian vegetation and banks, low volume of invasive plants, good water quality (sediments, contaminants), presence of native wildlife in the water and riparian zone

- Physical parameters (pH, DO, etc.); chemical and microbiological parameters, habitat & wildlife & people's willingness & ability to safely use
- Particulate load; aquatic life, esp. Invertebrates; full ecosystem food web, including top predators; results of water quality monitoring; absence of trash
- Aquatic animals, aerated water, clear, no invasive plants or destructive wild life, looks natural
- Visible garbage, oil slicks, dead wildlife and current quality
- Wide range of wildlife; smells good
- Water quality
- Wildlife
- Too little Obstacles to Restoration: A community understanding of the importance of the waterway health
- Aesthetics
- Plant and wildlife health, clean water, lack of pollution and litter; Too little Obstacles to Restoration: Funding, public awareness and opinion
- Clean Water; Lots of native plants and wildlife
- Diverse native plants and wildlife throughout the year, absence of trash and contaminants, natural banks and channels
- Native vegetation and insect life. Wildlife use vitality of a natural waterway
- Wildlife (terrestrial, avian and aquatic), natives. Absence of trash in the waterway (i.e. grocery carts, tires plastic bags)
- Wildlife abundance
- Amount of trash, evidence of wildlife, diversity of vegetation, recreational use Efforts to Improve
- Lots of native plants and wildlife
- Wildlife diversity, presence of native flora an fauna, low levels of heavy metals and pollutants
- Smell, movement, clarity, wildlife activity, lack of algae and soapy looking foam
- Being able to drink it
- We are specifically concerned about pesticide contamination of the Metro waterways
- Amount of trash, evidence of wildlife, diversity of vegetation, recreational use
- Ability to support active wildlife and safe to swim in (if large enough)
- Clean water, strong balanced eco-system; No garbage/toxic runoff
- Intact native riparian vegetation and banks, low volume of invasive plants, good water quality (sediments, contaminants), presence of native wildlife in the water and riparian zone
- Active floodplain, natural hydrological cycle (peak/low flows etc), clean water, structural diversity, species diversity, connectivity to habitats, free passage of animals up and down stream, shade, cool water temperature
- Health of habitat, native plants and wildlife, lack of pollutants; lack of invasive species; presence of a functioning flood plain; normal sediment loads
- Clearness, smell, animal and plant life
- Clean water is extremely important to salmon, other wildlife and aquatic organisms. Because our waterways are connected, polluted water in one place often means contamination of larger water bodies including the Willamette. Some of these larger water bodies are home to Endangered Salmon. The City has a legal responsibility to take measures to insure that Endangered Salmon are protected
- Indicators of Water Quality: We are specifically concerned about pesticide contamination of the Metro waterways

**7. Do you think that the current efforts to improve environmental quality in the Metro area waterways are too little, too much, or about right?**

**43** Too little      **1** Too much      **8** About right

**7a. If you answered "too little", what do you think is the MAIN problem which hampers environmental restoration efforts?**

- politics and political deference to special interest group whose bottom line is personal financial gain at the expense of the natural amenities of the community
- Lack of political will to make environmental restoration a higher priority.
- More effort to grow local small business in conjunction with promotion of landscape stewardship and sustainability

- Restoration is a relatively new concept, and needs time to become accepted by many. Providing opportunities to become more educated about restoration efforts and to participate as citizen volunteers in key demonstration projects may in the long run overcome much of the apparent apathy we see regarding restoration efforts.
- Lack of support from taxpayer; Lack of concern from the masses
- FUNDING!!!
- I will address what I see as the roadblocks to environmental restoration efforts in the City only because that is where I reside. I live near upper Amazon Creek and walk the path every day. Organizational Issues: Mid and upper-level city managers do not provide support for the goals of the storm water program related to water quality, riparian areas, and habitat. Indeed, I don't believe that many of them even believe in the concept. This is not so much a criticism as much as relates to the fact that their backgrounds and rolls are more traditionally related to city services. This split has led to frustration at the operational level in the storm water program. The "city" often seems to believe that it is too far on the cutting edge of the stormwater issue. This is reinforced by the business community, and the continued media coverage of the fact that Eugene is not open for business. In fact, many cities have surpassed us long ago in protecting riparian habitat and water quality. I do support regulation, but do not believe that it is viable in the current political climate.
- Budget: With the onset of the budget problems besetting all public entities, the city stormwater budget has been seen as a way to provide funding for programs if any relation to stormwater can be made.
- Disconnect: There is a major disconnect between city departments when implementing the stormwater program. A good example is the recent construction at Kinney Park on upper Amazon. The city stormwater program always focused on protection of headwater streams. One could question whether construction of a park with traditional plantings, bark mulch, and irrigation on the banks of the creek complies with headwater stream protection. Erosion control at the site was lacking, and there was dragout onto the street. Materials were stockpiled in the street. The fabric cover over the storm drain to Amazon Creek was removed for several days. When it was replaced, it was folded down in the center to allow for good drainage. Notification to the city received no response. After a second complaint, they indicated that an inspector would be sent out. As part of this project, a new grated drain was installed at the one-quarter mile sign on the trail on the east side. It was installed below grade in a muddy, wet area for drainage. It does not seem like the City would allow a developer to do this as it drains perhaps 15 feet onto the bank of Amazon Creek although there are bank stability problems throughout the creek. It appears that several drains have been installed in this manner as part of this project. Even the white pipes protruding from the bank are pollution. These installations reinforce the fact that our thinking about Amazon Creek has not changed. Ironically, the construction sign indicates that further stormwater enhancement projects will be completed at the site this year.
- The city should set an example for construction projects. However, this is not the case, and city project managers exert pressure very like private business because they do not want costs incurred by their projects.
- Vegetation: Trees were removed from the headwaters above Martin Street in the last year or so and I assume that it is private property. The area appears to very susceptible to erosion to the creek now. City maintenance crews removed vegetation from upper Amazon Creek, but they did a good job of opening the center of the channel to allow for drainage while removing a limited amount of vegetation.
- Residents: In the area where I live, all of the stormwater drains discharge to upper Amazon Creek. I routinely see residents washing cars, applying zinc-based moss killer to the driveways and sidewalks, using caustic to clean driveways and sidewalks, and pressure washing. All of these discharges are going to Amazon Creek. I know the city has been involved for years in educational programs. I do not know whether these issues result from lack of knowledge or if people simply do not believe that the little bit of sediment or chemicals is important. We always want to blame industry for pollution rather than ourselves. Basin Plans, Goals, Studies; The Metro agencies have plans, goals, and studies, and we continue to pursue these activities. The challenge continues to be translating these to everyday operational decisions and activities.
- Lack of political leadership and funding. Pressure from commercial, industrial, and agricultural interests.
- Funding, public awareness and opinion.
- Your bureaucratic framework could make this very hopeful effort merely an exercise in making comments on wastewater and stormwater - instead of using the opportunity to create a strong citizen-ownership effort, that will carry on the future, as a watchdog for good water quality
- Lack of funding
- Much stewardship is on a volunteer basis. Luckily, we have a strong volunteer force in Eugene, **but the city** should be more involved.
- Lack of public demand, i.e. education on this topic
  - Lack of resources. Not enough people in policy positions actually spending time regularly in the proximity



of the waterways.

- I'm not sure, but I have learned that the water in the amazon is terribly polluted and even those who test the quality have contracted hepatitis.
- Land value for other purposes. The City has lots of land adjacent to Amazon that is not being used and could be used to reshape the canal to a more natural, braided state with better vegetation.
- Some of the areas in the city are too channelize. Please need more education in their role pollution the water.
- Control of Amazon Creek by the Army Corps of Engineers.
- The concrete channel is aesthetically unpleasing. Concern about flooding. Low summer flows, algae and odors. Poor water quality associated with street runoff.
- Under appreciation of the value of these resources, not enough regular clean-up efforts, lack of fund for restoring the Amazon to it's original native banks.
- People are uninformed, not interested, not willing to admit the huge role they play in overall EQ through their own daily actions. We are not separate from the natural world but we choose to live like we are.
- Funding and coordination of efforts
- Street drainage dumps directly into streams and rivers
- Money
- Apathy from some community members and some businesses along the waterways.
- Home and business use of pesticide chemicals and other toxics which end up in our waterways are significant concern. There are not measures in place to insure that these waterways are protected from pesticide chemicals and other toxics used by individuals and businesses nearby.
- A community understanding of the importance of the waterway health.
- I would guess Money.
- Lack of support form taxpayers, lack of concern from the masses
- Funding
- Lack of money to do major restoration projects lack of will to let natural processes occur (e.g. floods).  
Historic channelization and current fear of flooding if it is put back to a more natural state.

**8. To be effective, some measures to improve the health of these waterways might have to be made into law and enforced by government. Generally, how would you feel about this?**

- 0 I would be strongly opposed.  
1 I would be somewhat opposed.  
12 I would be somewhat in favor.  
38 I would be strongly in favor.

**9. If you wanted more specific information on waterways, where would you be most likely to get it: from newspapers, from magazines, radio, television, the Internet, newsletters, from other people, or from some other source?**

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <u>24</u> Newspapers   | <u>34</u> The Internet |
| <u>7</u> Magazines   | <u>16</u> Other people |
| <u>11</u> Radio  | <u>25</u> Newsletters  |
| <u>7</u> Television  |                        |
| <u>17</u> Other: Stream Team; Neighborhood Association; Long Tom Watershed Council; visiting waterways; technical journals; regulatory agency reports; town hall meetings; workshop/classes; posted information at waterway; library; environmental organizations; city government; neighborhood boards; flyers; Friends of Eugene; Southeast Neighbors; city planners; NWS Coe; watershed councils. |                        |

**10. Please complete this section if you would like to continue receiving information about the Metro Waterways Study and future opportunities to be involved:**

*Names were added to the Metro Waterways interested parties list*

## Cedar Creek Priority Planning Corridor Responses

Respondents were given the choice of providing input specific to Amazon Creek, Cedar Creek, or another specified waterway. The following responses are from those who selected Cedar Creek.

**1. How familiar are you with the waterways in the Eugene-Springfield Metro area? Are you: very familiar, somewhat familiar, not very familiar, or not at all familiar with these waterways?**

17 Very familiar    1 Not at all familiar    9 Somewhat familiar    4 Not very familiar    0 Don't know

**2. Do you rent or own property near any of these waterways?**

6 No (if no, go to 3)    25 Yes (if yes, go to 2a)

**2a. Have you had any problems with this property that you think are attributable to the waterway?**

15 No (if no, go to 3)    16 Yes; if yes, go to 2b.

**2b. What sort of problems have you had?**

- Transients camping
- Well water quality
- Trespass
- Flooding

**3. People may or may not benefit from the waterways running through the Metro area. Select one category for each type of benefit listed below, to indicate TO WHAT DEGREE the waterways in this area have benefited YOU.**

### DEGREE OF BENEFIT RECEIVED

	<i>Not at All</i>	<i>Slight</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Large</i>	<i>Very Large</i>
<i>A high quality of life</i>	2	2	5	9	<u>13</u>
<i>Recreational opportunities</i>	3	5	4	<u>9</u>	8
<i>Scenic enjoyment</i>	0	2	6	8	<u>15</u>
<i>Improved community services (police protection, roads)</i>	<u>15</u>	5	4	2	1
<i>High property values</i>	8	4	<u>10</u>	5	1
<i>Employment</i>	<u>13</u>	5	3	1	2
<i>Increased access to parks and hike/ bike trails</i>	<u>10</u>	3	5	<u>10</u>	3
<i>Access to natural areas</i>	4	2	6	4	<u>11</u>
<i>Good access to entertainment</i>	<u>11</u>	2	7	6	2
<i>Meeting people from other areas</i>	8	<u>9</u>	6	3	3

**4. Focusing on the Metro area waterways as a whole, listed below are some statements about the waterways. Do you agree with these statements? Mark ONE answer for each statement:**

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>
<i>The Metro area waterways have no particular importance to me personally</i>	3	2	7	<u>18</u>	1
<i>The waterways are important to me in knowing they are there.</i>	11	<u>18</u>	0	0	1
<i>The waterways are important to me because of their prominence in our history and culture</i>	7	<u>14</u>	0	0	0
<i>The waterways are important to me because of their value to commerce, industry, and agriculture.</i>	11	<u>12</u>	3	0	4
<i>The waterways are important to me because they offer many types of recreation.</i>	5	<u>19</u>	5	0	1
<i>The waterways are just inviting to me.</i>	9	<u>18</u>	1	1	2
<i>The waterways' ambience and aesthetics are important to me.</i>	<u>17</u>	13	1	0	0
<i>It is important to take care of the waterways so that we are able to pass them along to future generations for their enjoyment.</i>	<u>21</u>	9	0	0	1
<i>The waterways are important to me for their fish, wildlife, and natural features</i>	<u>22</u>	7	2	0	0
<i>The waterways are important because of their economic value to our communities.</i>	8	<u>12</u>	4	1	6

**5. Would you say that the environmental quality of the waterways concerns you: very much, somewhat, not very much, or not at all?**

24 Very much      6 Somewhat      0 Not very much      1 Not at all      0 Don't know

**5a. Why is that?**

- Water is the key to life
- Reduced water quality in Cedar Creek will affect ground water quality and impact important species
- I promote tourism in the McKenzie Valley

- Cleaner water will promote more wildlife species
- I think humans need to have close contact with healthy water systems for the biological need as well as the emotional health and delight that the beauty needs.
- DNA finger printing done to identify the source of the bacteria in Cedar Creek. I am sure that if the Corps decides to conduct a study specifically for bacteria source tracking they will get support from EWEB and hopefully the City of Springfield and maybe the County. This is something that really needs to be done. It would get people to stop fighting about who the bacteria is coming from and focused on what to do about it.
- Only by being environmentally conscious can we hope to maintain the beauty of this natural resource.

**6. *What kinds of things indicate to you environmental quality in a body of water?***

- Lots of water birds
- Macroinvertebrates, chemistry, riparian habitat, diverse species
- Native species. Riparian health
- The amount of wildlife, flow of the water, clarity of the water among others
- Habitat, clean and free of trash, fresh smelling, low numbers in test results from lab work look for pesticides, heavy metals, bacteria etc.
- Plant and fish life. Wildlife, water color and smell, water flow.

**7. *Do you think that the current efforts to improve environmental quality in the Metro area waterways are too little, too much, or about right?***

7 Too little                      0 Too much                      2 About right

**7a. *If you answered “too little”, what do you think is the MAIN problem which hampers environmental restoration efforts?***

- The problem is not “restoration” it is first protecting and maintaining environmental quality. Building in the floodplain, encroachment into the riparian zone and stormwater runoff are issues.
- Money
- The need to create awareness among people that the waterways are very important both to us and the animal who depend on them.

**8. *To be effective, some measures to improve the health of these waterways might have to be made into law and enforced by government. Generally, how would you feel about this?***

- 0 I would be strongly opposed.
- 1 I would be somewhat opposed.
- 2 I would be somewhat in favor.
- 6 I would be strongly in favor.

**9. *If you wanted more specific information on waterways, where would you be most likely to get it: from newspapers, from magazines, radio, television, the Internet, newsletters, from other people, or from some other source?***

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <u>4</u> Newspapers                                  | <u>4</u> The Internet |
| <u>1</u> Magazines                                   | <u>7</u> Other people |
| <u>1</u> Radio                                       | <u>5</u> Newsletters  |
| <u>1</u> Television                                  |                       |
| <u>2</u> Other: Agencies, McKenzie Watershed Council |                       |

## Responses for Other Waterways

Respondents were given the choice of providing input specific to Amazon Creek, Cedar Creek, or another specified waterway. The following responses are from those who selected Other Waterways.

**1. How familiar are you with the waterways in the Eugene-Springfield Metro area? Are you: very familiar, somewhat familiar, not very familiar, or not at all familiar with these waterways?**

8 Very familiar   8 Not at all familiar   0 Somewhat familiar   0 Not very familiar   0 Don't know

**2. Do you rent or own property near any of these waterways?**

5 No (if no, go to 3)   11 Yes (if yes, go to 2a)

**2a. Have you had any problems with this property that you think are attributable to the waterway?**

8 No (if no, go to 3)   6 Yes; if yes, go to 2b.

**2b. What sort of problems have you had?**

- I believe the Oxley Slough should be investigated by the Corps of Engineers. I think the slough is subject to flooding. I think it has been silting up for decades, and may need to be dredged. Another possibility would be to investigate the point where the slough enters the river. If the elevation of the slough is lower than the elevation of the river, physical control at that point would prevent back-flooding.
- City of Veneta has storm water streams that cross from west to east across potential new development sites. Past development has created flooding problems for existing residents upstream and downstream. New development must address these issues in the planning stage, prior to any further site developments in Veneta.

3. People may or may not benefit from the waterways running through the Metro area. Select one category for each type of benefit listed below, to indicate **TO WHAT DEGREE** the waterways in this area have benefited **YOU**.

**DEGREE OF BENEFIT RECEIVED**

	<b>Not at All</b>	<b>Slight</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Large</b>	<b>Very Large</b>
<i>A high quality of life</i>	1	0	1	2	<u>12</u>
<i>Recreational opportunities</i>	1	<u>5</u>	1	4	5
<i>Scenic enjoyment</i>	1	0	0	3	<u>5</u>
<i>Improved community services (police protection, roads)</i>	<u>8</u>	1	4	0	0
<i>High property values</i>	4	1	3	3	<u>5</u>
<i>Employment</i>	<u>8</u>	1	1	2	1
<i>Increased access to parks and hike/ bike trails</i>	2	1	1	2	<u>9</u>
<i>Access to natural areas</i>	4	2	6	4	<u>11</u>
<i>Good access to entertainment</i>	3	<u>4</u>	1	4	1
<i>Meeting people from other areas</i>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	1	2	2

**4. Focusing on the Metro area waterways as a whole, listed below are some statements about the waterways. Do you agree with these statements? Mark ONE answer for each statement:**

	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>
<i>The Metro area waterways have no particular importance to me personally</i>	0	0	1	<u>15</u>	0
<i>The waterways are important to me in knowing they are there.</i>	11	<u>4</u>	0	0	1
<i>The waterways are important to me because of their prominence in our history and culture</i>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	0	2	0
<i>The waterways are important to me because of their value to commerce, industry, and agriculture.</i>	11	<u>12</u>	3	0	4
<i>The waterways are important to me because they offer many types of recreation.</i>	5	<u>7</u>	2	0	0
<i>The waterways are just inviting to me.</i>	<u>10</u>	4	0	0	0
<i>The waterways' ambience and aesthetics are important to me.</i>	<u>15</u>	1	0	0	0
<i>It is important to take care of the waterways so that we are able to pass them along to future generations for their enjoyment.</i>	<u>16</u>	0	0	0	0
<i>The waterways are important to me for their fish, wildlife, and natural features</i>	<u>15</u>	1	0	0	0
<i>The waterways are important because of their economic value to our communities.</i>	<u>7</u>	2	1	0	4

**5. Would you say that the environmental quality of the waterways concerns you: very much, somewhat, not very much, or not at all?**

16 Very much      0 Somewhat      0 Not very much      0 Not at all      0 Don't know

**5a. Why is that?**

- I am a human being, dependent on the quality of my environment for my continued life.
- Storm water drainage crossed the zone of influence for 10 year time of travel in the aquifer surrounding the two city wells.

- The quality of our environment in general is of great importance to me. Clean water is an essential ingredient in the blend.
- The Mill Race requires additional water flow to assure healthy wildlife habitat.

**6. What kinds of things indicate to you environmental quality in a body of water?**

- Healthy ecosystem
- Riparian habitat and aquatic species, or lack thereof.
- Lack of contamination from pollutants. Banks are not threatened by nearby construction vegetation on disturbed
- Natural riparian settings without significant human impact. Clean, flowing water capable of supporting wildlife.
- Presence of contaminants and pollutants
- Ability to support fish and aquatic life.

**7. Do you think that the current efforts to improve environmental quality in the Metro area waterways are too little, too much, or about right?**

14 Too little      0 Too much      0 About right

**7a. If you answered “too little”, what do you think is the MAIN problem which hampers environmental restoration efforts?**

- Lack of money (all spent on bombs at the federal level)
- Lack of political will to fund projects through design, implementation, and monitoring. A twenty year plan.
- Indifference, too small a budget
- Lack of funding

**8. To be effective, some measures to improve the health of these waterways might have to be made into law and enforced by government. Generally, how would you feel about this?**

0 I would be strongly opposed.  
0 I would be somewhat opposed.  
2 I would be somewhat in favor.  
5 I would be strongly in favor.


**9. If you wanted more specific information on waterways, where would you be most likely to get it: from newspapers, from magazines, radio, television, the Internet, newsletters, from other people, or from some other source?**

<u>3</u> Newspapers	<u>5</u> The Internet
<u>0</u> Magazines	<u>4</u> Other people
<u>2</u> Radio	<u>5</u> Newsletters
<u>3</u> Television	
<u>1</u> Other: Long Tom River	



## Metro Waterways Web Site ([www.metrowaterways.org](http://www.metrowaterways.org))





A study web site has been developed to provide a place to post basic information about the study and the priority planning corridors, maps, reports, and study updates. The site has been used recently to advertise for the January 2005 workshops and to post the study questionnaire. In the two month period between the creation of the web site in late December and late February, the site received a total of 641 visits and 331 unique visitors. The content of the site as of February 2005 is shown below:



# METROWATERWAYS


A STUDY OF THE EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD  
METROPOLITAN REGION

[STUDY INFORMATION](#) [CEDAR CREEK](#) [AMAZON CREEK](#) [PROVIDE INPUT](#)



### Partner Agencies Metro Waterways Study


**Complete the [Metro Waterways Study Questionnaire!](#)**  
Help us understand the community's interests and awareness about these waterway resources.


[January 2005 Fact Sheet](#) (959 kb  PDF)\*

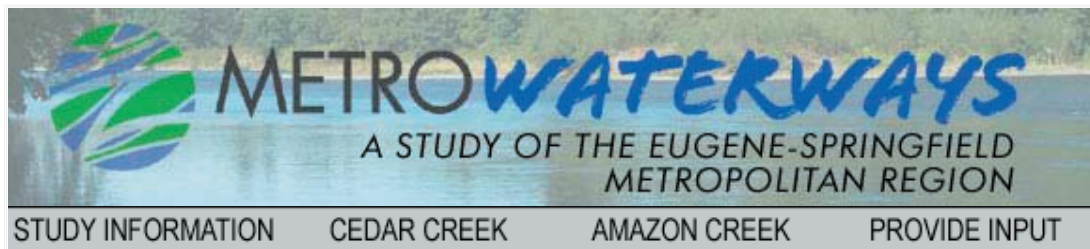
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with the cities of Eugene and Springfield and Lane County, has begun a multi-year study for identifying and evaluating problem areas and opportunities related to the function and health of our local waterways. The study will examine issues related to flood protection and drainage management, conservation of wildlife and aquatic habitat, water quality, open spaces, and recreational and educational opportunities.

The eventual goal of the study is to identify and select specific improvement projects designed to fix problems and improve overall conditions of our waterways. Because the scope for this type of study is defined by drainage basin boundaries, the study area includes the greater metropolitan region of Eugene and Springfield.

The study is now underway and Amazon Creek in the Eugene area and Cedar Creek in the Springfield area have been selected as the initial drainage areas for study.

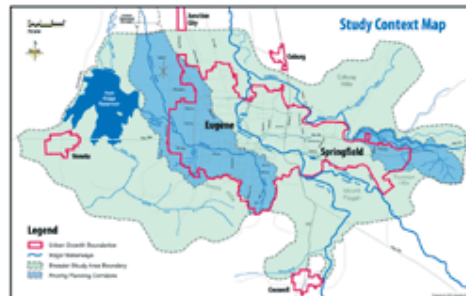






### Partner Agencies Metro Waterways Study Information

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lane County and the cities of Eugene and Springfield have begun a multi-year study of the function and health of waterways in the greater metropolitan area. The study will help identify problems and determine the feasibility of specific projects to improve flood protection and drainage management, conservation and restoration of wildlife and aquatic habitats, water quality, and recreation and other uses of these open spaces.



[Click to enlarge \(PDF\)](#)

Two locations have been selected for immediate study: [Amazon Creek](#) in the Eugene area and [Cedar Creek/McKenzie River](#) in the Springfield area.

### Study Goals and Needs

Well-managed waterways provide flood protection, fish and wildlife habitat, clean drinking water, recreation and other public uses, and safe and aesthetically pleasing areas for community development.



Certain human activities and some natural disasters can diminish the performance of these functions, resulting in problems such as flooding, erosion and bank failure, diminished water quality, and loss of

natural habitat.


A wide range of federal, state and local laws and policies address these problems. The metro waterways study will help local jurisdictions respond to these requirements by identifying cost-effective and environmentally sensitive methods for reducing flood risks and damages, restoring habitats, improving water quality, providing high-quality places for public uses and community development, and making other improvements to metro area waterways.



### Funding

The multi-year study is estimated to cost \$3.4 million. Half of the funding will come from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the remaining 50% will come from the local partners from existing funds and in-kind services. No additional taxes or fee increases are proposed to fund the study.






# METROWATERWAYS

A STUDY OF THE EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD METROPOLITAN REGION

STUDY INFORMATIONCEDAR CREEKAMAZON CREEKPROVIDE INPUT


## Cedar Creek Priority Planning Corridor

In general the McKenzie, Middle Fork of the Willamette and the main stem of the Willamette rivers define the geographic boundary of Springfield. The proximity of a high-quality water supply played an important role in Springfield's growth and development. The water resources which surround and lie within Springfield continue to be a crucial element in the social and economic well-being of Springfield.



Springfield's focus waterways include three distinct geographic areas: Cedar Creek/McKenzie River; the lower reach of the Mill Race; and the combined Weyerhaeuser Outfall and West Springfield Q Street stormwater drainage basins.


Projects developed in these geographic areas will help Springfield achieve its long-term water resource management objectives, including flood-hazard protection, adequate drainage service, water quality protection, public uses of the waterways, and protection of endangered or threatened fish and other species.



Due to ongoing development and concerns about increased potential for various impacts due to planned urbanization, the 11-square mile-Cedar Creek drainage basin has been identified as the highest priority element of the project work plan for Springfield. Cedar Creek is a tributary of the McKenzie River. It drains a rural residential and a developing urban area to the east and north of the city as well the majority of the developed area within the city east of 64th Street. The area has been the scene of significant bank erosion and flooding problems in recent years. Additionally, one of the oldest water rights on the McKenzie River system permits the diversion of water directly into Cedar Creek – indeed at certain times of each year the diversion activity accounts for a significant amount of its flows. Development and implementation of a detailed plan will have the potential to solve a variety of problems impacting the Cedar Creek floodplain, and will benefit city and county residents living in this area.

[Home](#) | [Study Information](#) | [Amazon Creek](#) | [Cedar Creek](#) | [Provide Input](#)

© 2004 Lane Council of Governments



# METROWATERWAYS

A STUDY OF THE EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD  
METROPOLITAN REGION

STUDY INFORMATIONCEDAR CREEKAMAZON CREEKPROVIDE INPUT

## Amazon Creek Priority Planning Corridor


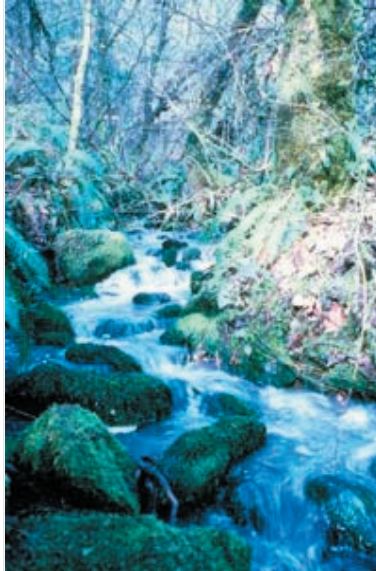
Amazon Creek is Eugene's second-largest waterway (the Willamette River being the largest) and is one of several focus areas in Eugene, including Willamette Greenway improvements on the Coast Fork and Middle Fork rivers, and Willamette River native fish habitat restoration.

Amazon Creek and its tributaries were selected as an initial priority planning corridor because of the many vital functions they provide:

- Flood protection
- Water quality preservation
- Recreation opportunities
- Bicycle and pedestrian paths
- Wildlife protection

Amazon Creek starts in the southeast hills above Martin Street, travels north to 18th Avenue, then turns westward near High Street and flows to the edge of town, eventually emptying into Fern Ridge Reservoir. Along the way it changes in character, reflecting the surrounding land uses and different ideas in water management throughout history. For example, some portions of the creek were placed in concrete-lined channels in the 1950s while in other areas the creek more recently has been widened, creating hundreds of acres of wetlands and floodplains.

Through the metro waterways study, problems and opportunities will be identified throughout the Amazon Creek system, and a list of projects and recommendations will result. These action items will be reviewed and prioritized for possible implementation dependent on a variety of factors including funding resources.



[Home](#) | [Study Information](#) | [Amazon Creek](#) | [Cedar Creek](#) | [Provide Input](#)

© 2004 Lane Council of Governments

## **Metro Waterways Study Public Workshop Summary**

### **Amazon Creek Planning Area Workshop (February 15, 2006)**

**Location:** Eugene Public Library

**Attendance:** Approximately 40

#### **Meeting Notes:**

- Think about impacts that infill development is having on alleys such as more traffic and more soil being tracked into the streets and ultimately the waterways.
- Update flood maps
- During development review, look at potential impacts early in the process
- Look at headwaters first. Preserve the pristine locations.
- The fairgrounds project is a great place to start enhancement effort. It is a great multi-objective project.
- Place a priority on invasive species management.
- Consider modifications to concrete channel to slow down flow (roughen). Consider placing large boulders and debris.
- Add meanders and capacity to Amazon and Westmoreland Parks
- .
- Nuisance vegetation position should also look at waterways/easements along Amazon Creek.
- Consider projects: Laurelwood PUD is willing to lay back banks and introduce native planting. It's located on City View (1200 block) between two public properties.
- Include public involvement with individual projects as well as this process.
- Wherever possible, bring the water to the people, especially in more urbanized areas).
- Develop a whitewater park.
- Use cost benefit from sustainable practices to inform development community to change their practices.
- Consider high flow bypass systems to alleviate scouring during storms.
- Address invasive species on private property. Consider using public information fact sheets and incentives.
- Use native plant species in CIPs.
- Consider working with private property owners where willing.
- Look at preserving areas outside of the UGB before any UGB expansion occurs.
- Increase evergreen tree canopy along waterways (shading).
- Improve water quality as part of the projects.
- Consider alternative solutions in alternative segments.
- Use a green approach for addressing issues.
- Improve City coordination between programs and divisions, including PUD approvals.
- Address existing runoff thru curb-cuts into bio-swales.
- Examine use of Amazon Park and Fairgrounds to increase stormwater/flood capacity.
- Reevaluate approval criteria in steep hillsides such as those in the South Hills Study.

- Phase construction to small segments for wildlife preservation.
- Continue to improve water quality including at the planning and development stage.
- Find incentives for developers to go beyond existing requirements for water quality.
- Implement good ideas quicker than through regulatory avenues.
- Reduce impervious surface.
- Increase detention or retention on site.
- Develop fees to cover cost of developments impacts to the community.
- Consider erosion from steep banks.
- Leave wildlife corridors in newly developing areas wherever possible.
- Develop project finance goals with water quality impacts.
- Involve neighborhood input on project proposals.
- Provide access to private property if owners are agreeable.
- Minimize lighting or wildlife friendly lighting (hooded)
- Control public access to minimize wildlife disturbance.

**Other comments received by e-mail:**

- I am writing to express my concern for development of the land surrounding the Amazon Headwaters area. We can best improve the quality of the Amazon by first saving the headwaters. I support efforts to purchase & conserve the headwaters as a 1st step toward improving urban water ways. I urge you to do so as well. -Christina Salter
- It is with hope that we voice the need to protect the Amazon Creek Headwaters in south Eugene and encourage those involved with the Metro Waterways Collaboration to include protection in the planning. As you may know, several developers own and want to develop land in the Amazon Headwaters area. Purchasing and conserving the headwaters as a first step toward improving urban waterways makes sense. If we don't conserve the headwaters, won't it be more difficult to improve the health of the urban waterways? -Jane and Ernie Rimerman

**Cedar Creek Planning Area Workshop (February 16, 2006)**

**Location:** Springfield City Hall

**Attendance:** Approximately 25

**Meeting Notes:**

- Numerous revetments along the McKenzie River have begun to fail in recent years. The Corps or the County needs to react to this in an expatiated fashion before serious property damage occurs.
- The Morriss revetment is in the process of "peeling away" as of the last flood (January 2006). Cutting behind the revetment on the upstream end.
- Above the stockade revetment, erosion and downcutting is rapidly occurring. With the river level dropping, the intake to Cedar Creek may be in danger of becoming non-functional.
- The study needs to understand the channel migration zones and develop comprehensive solutions that allow the river to utilize these areas.

- Room needs to be provided to allow the McKenzie River to migrate as it has in historic times.
- The Hart revetment is failing in numerous locations.
- Determine if gravel recruitment is a problem on the McKenzie River. Several old gravel pits upstream have been captured by the river recently and may be capturing much of the sediment.
- Many levees along the McKenzie River are nearing the end of their 50-year design life.
- The Gosler property contains approximately 3,200 lineal feet of revetment along the McKenzie River and it is rapidly failing. Who is responsible for repairing this?
- Make the most critical issues the highest priority when implementing projects.

### Guiding Principles

As part of the public workshops, participants were asked to provide input on guiding principles that will be used to help provide direction during the next phase of the study, which is the identification of potential solutions and projects. The list of guiding principles below incorporates this public feedback.

#### **Metro Waterways Study Guiding Principles for Projects and Solution**

- Focus on most critical areas first.
- Use a “multiple-objective” approach while ensuring projects are integrated and complimentary to other projects within the influence of a project site.
- Design for self sustainability, to ensure long-term viability. Avoid creating high-maintenance systems.
- Maintain flood capacity where necessary to protect property and ensure safety.
- Use innovative and natural resources, bioengineering techniques, and local, native vegetation as a primary approach when feasible.
- Provide recreational access (on public lands) where feasible, but avoid significant impacts to the resource.
- Include or restore natural habitat conditions where possible.
- Consider aesthetics (how it will look when complete and over the long-term).
- Look for ways to minimize wildlife disruption during construction activities.
- Update existing conditions of watershed and evaluate effects of projects as they mature.
- Adapt a variety of innovative contracting and funding approaches to achieve goals.
- Collaborate within and outside agencies and organizations to develop ownership.
- Track and monitor project successes and failures to ensure that future projects will be more successful. Ensure funding for this is available.
- Celebrate and showcase our successes.