



LIVING WITH NATURE

FALL 2012

Horseshoe Lake Protected:

Expanding a corridor of conservation along the Willamette River

Greenbelt Land Trust's conservation footprint along the Willamette River has just increased by 175 acres, with the protection of Horseshoe Lake in Linn County. This incredible property, with complex side-channel systems and dynamic floodplain characteristics, has been identified as a priority landscape for protection among conservation partners working along the Willamette River.

What was once an active channel of the river, Horseshoe Lake is now a remnant ox-bow, created over hundreds of years as the river developed a 'meander' from the main channel. A host of sensitive species of fish and wildlife find refuge within the riparian buffers of the ox-bow, including western pond turtles, red-legged frogs, eagles, and ospreys.

"My dad always said that 'if you borrow something, you should return it in better shape than you found it.' That is how we feel about this land."

- Judy Waggle

GLT has been fortunate to work with three landowners at Horseshoe Lake, all of whom have deep roots to the landscape and the local community. "My dad always said that 'if you borrow something, you should return it in better shape than you found it'. That is how we feel about this land and this project. I look

forward to seeing this property return to the way it was before my grandparents settled in this area," says landowner Judy Waggle.

Horseshoe Lake extends the conservation footprint along this stretch of the river, which now totals nearly 1,600 acres of protected lands, including many Willamette greenway properties such as Truax Island, Half Moon Bend Landing, Riverside Landing, Tripp Greenway, and Bowers Rock State Park and the land trust's easement on a nearby 200 acre floodplain property.



Judy and Art Waggle

"This dynamic river section, with its complex side channel systems, floodplain forests and cold water sloughs offers an unprecedented opportunity to conduct large-scale restoration to re-establish an active floodplain for the benefit of declining fish and wildlife species, as well as assisting with erosion control, water storage and flooding," says GLT Director, Michael Pope.

This project was accomplished because of funding and assistance from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Bonneville Power Administration, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Additional funding from BPA has been committed to the restoration of Horseshoe Lake to an active floodplain forest and to the ongoing stewardship of the site.



Horseshoe Lake

Willamette River Celebration
Friday, Sept. 14th
4-6pm

Help us celebrate Greenbelt Land Trust's conservation accomplishments, totalling 545 acres of Willamette River frontage protected in the last year! This free event at Horseshoe Lake will include tours and River musings from honored speakers.

To RSVP contact:
jessica@greenbeltlandtrust.org

Celebrate the Willamette!

For more information, visit www.greenbeltlandtrust.org or 541.752.9609.



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**Willamette River Celebration
Sept. 14th @ 4-6pm**



We did it!

175-acres of Willamette River
Floodplain Protected.
Forever.

