

PROJECT REPORT

OREGON 2025 -
SISKIYOU COAST
NATIVE FOREST
RESTORATION



ONETREEPLANTED



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Dear friend,

Thanks to your support, a total of 41,310 trees were planted to restore 220.3 hectares of land in Oregon.

Planting trees in areas that have been degraded or deforested helps the environment by accelerating and assuring the re-establishment of healthy forests. Through reforestation, the canopy is restored, ecosystems are made whole, and biodiversity can thrive.

None of this would be possible without you. On behalf of everyone at One Tree Planted, thank you!

What follows is a report outlining the project you supported in Oregon. I hope you enjoy reading it and truly feel the impact you have made.



Harry P. Lynch

**PRESIDENT & CEO
ONE TREE PLANTED**



OVERVIEW

The objective of the Oregon 2025 – Siskiyou Coast Native Forest Restoration project was to restore native forests along the southern Oregon coast by planting a diverse mix of trees and shrubs in both riparian and upland areas. These plantings are designed to create healthy, self-sustaining forests that improve habitat for fish and wildlife, enhance water quality, and strengthen overall watershed health. In upland areas, reforestation also helps suppress invasive gorse, a flammable shrub that threatens biodiversity and community safety, thereby reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire.



TREES PLANTED

41,310



TREE SPECIES PLANTED

28



FAMILIES BENEFITED

14



HECTARES REFORESTED

220.3



JOBS SUPPORTED

7



ACRES REFORESTED

544.4



PEOPLE BENEFITED FROM TRAINING

7



WILDLIFE SPECIES BENEFITED

80



TREE SPECIES PLANTED

By planting a diverse mix of native species, this project is designed to establish healthy, self-sustaining forests that can withstand pests, disease, natural disturbances, and the effects of climate change. Protective measures such as staking and tubing are being used to reduce browsing pressure on seedlings and support long-term maintenance, giving young plants the best chance to thrive.

The most widely planted species in this project is Port Orford cedar (POC), an endemic tree of southwestern Oregon and northwestern California. Considered a keystone riparian species, POC is culturally and economically significant due to the beauty, durability, and utility of its wood. Beginning in the 1960s, an invasive root disease severely reduced POC populations across much of its natural range. In response, state and federal agencies worked together to selectively breed trees with natural resistance, making resistant seed stock available for restoration. Through this project, more than 14,000 resistant POC seedlings have been planted across Curry County to help restore this iconic species and establish resistance on the landscape for future generations.

PRIMARY SPECIES PLANTED

- Port Orford cedar (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*)
- Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*)
- Western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*)
- Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)
- Red alder (*Alnus rura*)
- Big leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*)
- Pacific willow (*Salix lasiandra*)
- Pacific ninebark (*Physocarpus capitatus*)



TREE SPECIES

IDENTIFICATION & USE


Port Orford cedar (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*) is a conifer native to the Pacific Coast of southern Oregon and far northern California. It is a tall, graceful tree that can reach over 200 feet in height with a narrow, conical crown. Its leaves emit a distinct ginger-like fragrance when crushed. This species thrives in cool, moist environments, particularly along riparian corridors, canyon slopes, and well-drained mountain soils.

Port Orford cedar contributes to both ecological restoration and long-term landscape resilience. Its deep roots help stabilize the soil and reduce erosion along streams, while its dense foliage provides shade that regulates water temperatures, benefiting salmon and other aquatic species. The tree also offers cover and habitat for birds and small mammals, supporting local biodiversity. Its long lifespan and substantial biomass make it a strong carbon sink, valuable for climate mitigation efforts. In areas where invasive species such as gorse threaten ecosystem balance, the establishment of Port Orford cedar helps shift the landscape toward a more diverse and resilient forest structure, enhancing both wildlife habitat and community protection from fire risk.

Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) is one of the largest conifer species in the world and the tallest of the spruces, commonly reaching 230 feet in height. Native to the coastal regions of the Pacific Northwest, it grows from northern California through Oregon and Washington, up into British Columbia and Alaska, thriving in cool, moist climates near the ocean. The tree is easily recognized by its straight trunk, thin scaly bark that ranges from gray to brown, and stiff, sharp needles with a bluish-green hue. Sitka spruce is well adapted to coastal conditions, tolerating salt spray and heavy winds, which makes it a defining species of Oregon's shoreline forests.

Sitka spruce provides a wide range of benefits to the landscape. Its dense canopy offers critical nesting and roosting habitat for birds, while its seeds serve as food for small mammals. In riparian areas, its extensive root system stabilizes soils and reduces erosion, protecting water quality and aquatic habitats that are important for salmon and trout. The tree's impressive size and fast growth make it an exceptional carbon sink, storing large amounts of biomass over its long lifespan. Sitka spruce helps restore resilient coastal ecosystems, enhances biodiversity, and contributes to both climate mitigation and community protection from flooding and erosion.





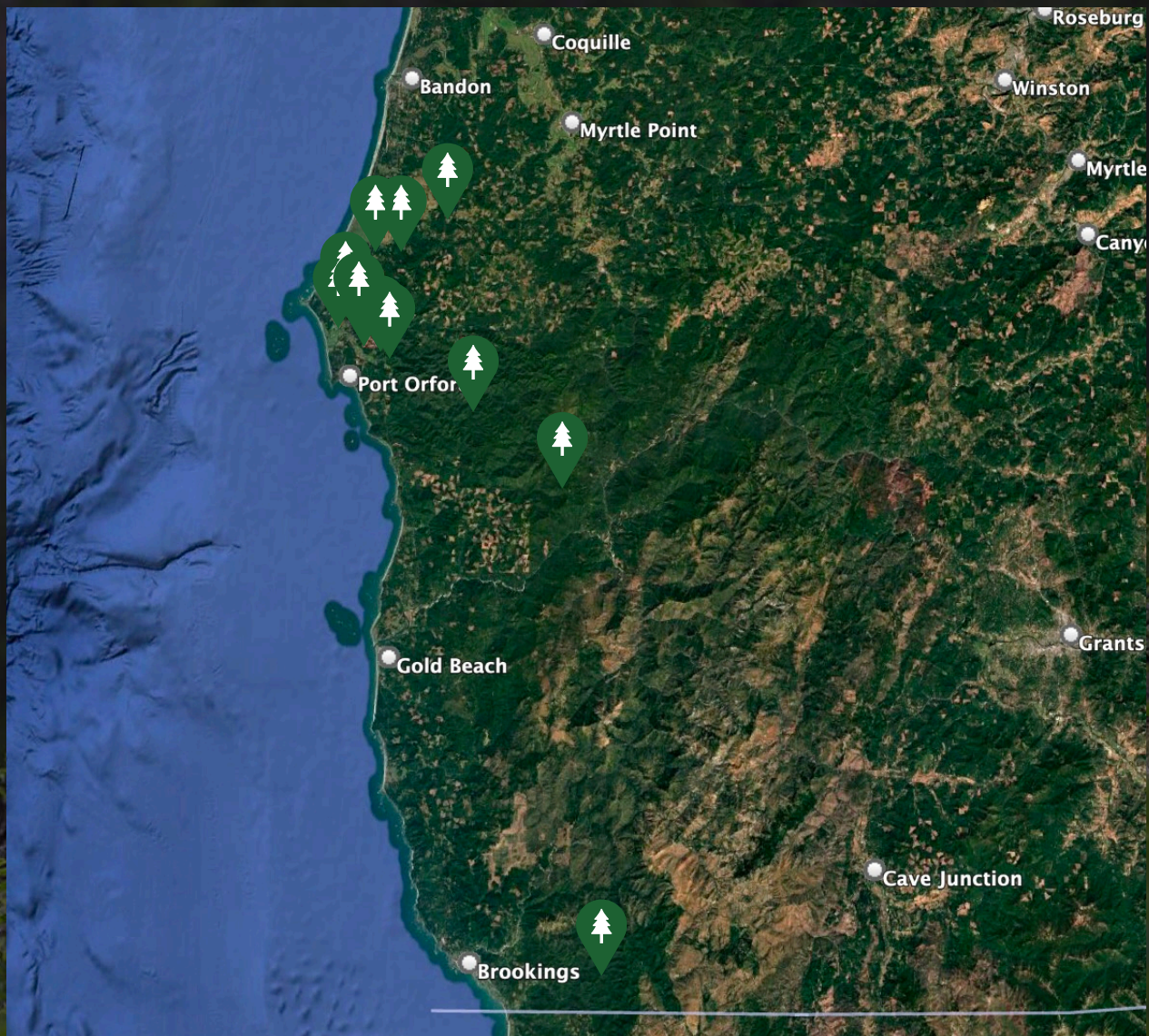
Watershed restoration at a landscape scale is beyond a lifetime endeavor. These lands weren't degraded overnight and they won't be brought back to health quickly. In a nascent field, a long-term vision and ability to adapt to ever changing conditions is what is needed to bring long term improvement. We can't replace exactly what was lost, but we can form new environments that restore natural processes over time.

—Riparian Program Coordinator



YOUR IMPACT ON THE MAP

The map below highlights the planting sites that make up this project. Spanning both riparian corridors and upland forests, these sites represent critical areas for improving watershed health, restoring wildlife habitat, and building long-term resilience. In total, 220.3 hectares were planted, bringing new growth and renewed ecological function to a landscape challenged by invasive species, wildfire risk, and environmental degradation.



DOCUMENTING YOUR IMPACT

To monitor our projects, we rely on partner reporting and GPS verified photos, drone and satellite imagery, site visits, and more. Below is a selection of key images from the project you supported:





We are very thankful to One Tree Planted and their implementation partner for all the work they have done helping with gorse control and improving fish overwintering habitat on our Elk River Ranch.



—Landowner



ECOLOGICAL BENEFITS

The Siskiyou Coast Native Forest Restoration project is a watershed-scale effort that enhances both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems while reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire. A key element of this work is the replacement of invasive gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) with diverse native riparian and upland forests. Gorse is a highly invasive, extremely flammable shrub that aggressively colonizes riparian corridors, pastures, prairies, and young forest. Once established, it outcompetes native vegetation, forms dense monocultures with little ecological value, and creates unnaturally hazardous fuel loads. Through this project, gorse and other invasives are cleared or suppressed using mechanical and chemical treatments, and replaced with native species that restore natural habitat structure, improve ecological function, and reduce wildfire danger across the landscape.

Restoring riparian forests brings wide-reaching ecological benefits. Planting along streams and rivers creates approximately 40 miles of productive edge habitat that supports nesting and foraging for migratory songbirds, waterfowl, and raptors. As trees and shrubs mature, they help cool stream temperatures, filter out pollutants and sediment, stabilize streambanks, and slow and redirect floodwaters. These processes create healthier, more complex river systems that benefit salmonids, including threatened Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) and Chinook salmon, as well as lamprey, amphibians like the red-legged frog, reptiles such as the western pond turtle, and mammals including river otters, martens, and Pacific fisher (*Pekania pennanti*). Sensitive species like the threatened spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis*) and the federally threatened marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*) also benefit from restored riparian and upland habitat.

The restoration of salmonid habitat also has impacts that extend far beyond the watershed. Chinook salmon are the primary food source for Southern Resident killer whales, an endangered population of orcas. By improving spawning and rearing conditions for salmon in Oregon's coastal rivers, this project supports the recovery of both salmon and orcas across their shared range.



COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Restoring native riparian and upland forests provides many community benefits. These plantings strengthen local economies by supporting recreation and tourism while contributing to the recovery of salmon, steelhead, and trout, which are important for both commercial and recreational fisheries. The project also brings direct economic value by supporting natural resource jobs in Curry County, benefiting 14 families and 3 non-agricultural businesses, and improving the long-term health of nearby state and federal public lands.

Replacing invasive gorse with native forests significantly reduces wildfire risk on working lands and near the towns of Brookings, Port Orford, and Langlois. This work also lowers the risk of catastrophic wildfire in the Elk River, Sixes River, and Floras Creek watersheds, protecting homes, infrastructure, and agricultural operations. In addition to reducing fire danger, riparian forests help prevent erosion, reduce flooding, and protect farmland and ranchland from damage. These improvements enhance the resilience of both residential and agricultural areas while also adding to the natural beauty and recreational appeal of the region.



80

**WILDLIFE
SPECIES
BENEFITED**



U.N. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

THIS PROJECT CONTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:

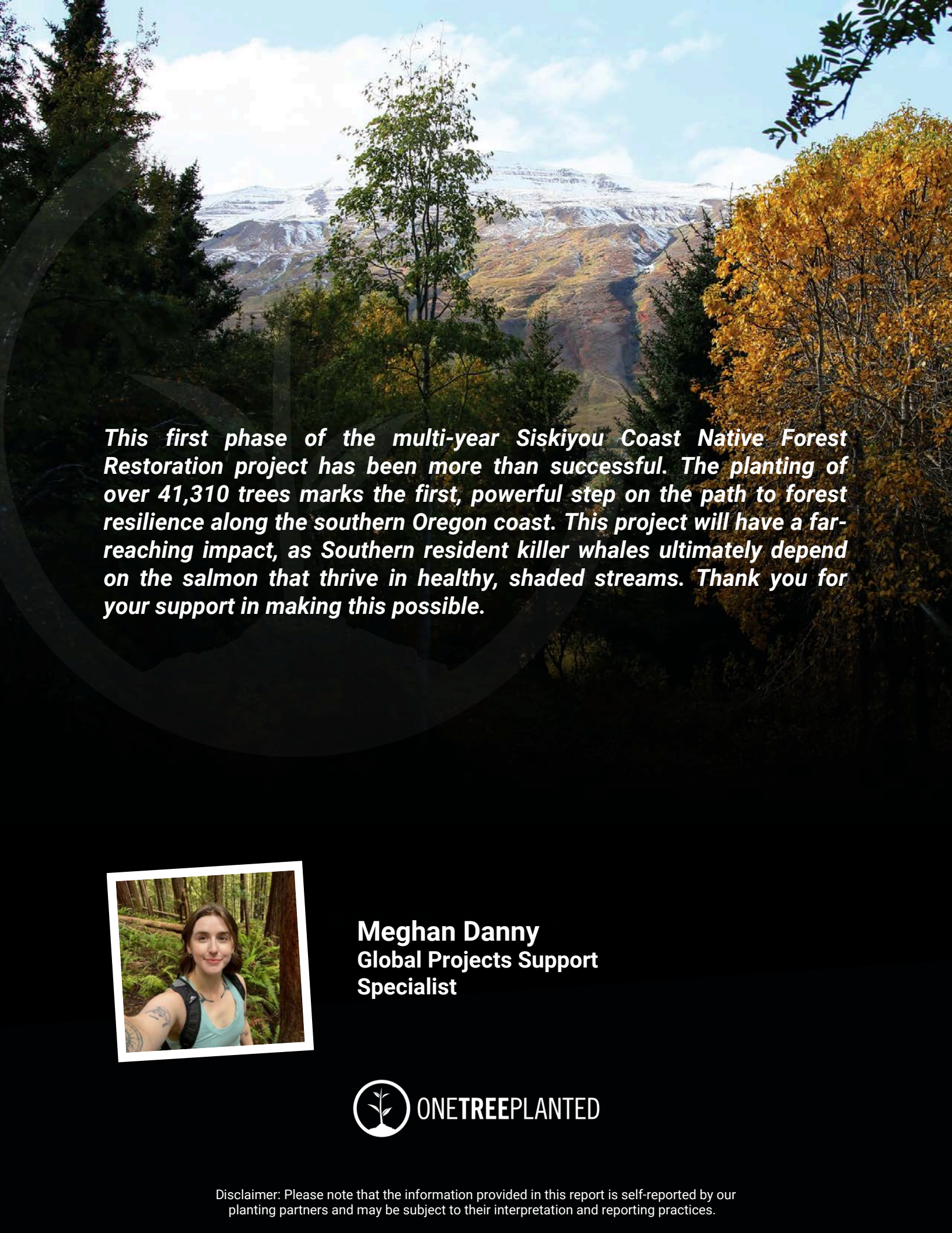


WHAT ARE SDGS?

Sustainable development entails seeking out solutions that not only boost the economic outcomes of developing and poorer nations, but also work to limit (or eliminate) our impact on the planet. Trees are one such solution.

From creating jobs and reducing hunger to improving gender equality, cleaning air and water, absorbing carbon, protecting life on land and water, and more, planting trees can address all 17 sustainable development goals.





This first phase of the multi-year Siskiyou Coast Native Forest Restoration project has been more than successful. The planting of over 41,310 trees marks the first, powerful step on the path to forest resilience along the southern Oregon coast. This project will have a far-reaching impact, as Southern resident killer whales ultimately depend on the salmon that thrive in healthy, shaded streams. Thank you for your support in making this possible.



Meghan Danny
Global Projects Support
Specialist

