



**Okanagan Similkameen  
Stewardship Society**

# **2021-2022 Annual Report**

# HABITAT RESTORATION

## By the Numbers

**29** sites enhanced

**3292** native trees & shrubs planted

**3073** kg of invasive plants and garbage removed

**5.25** ha of habitat made accessible via removal of deer fencing



## Mount Boucherie Vineyard

One very large restoration that the OSS took on in the 2021/2022 season was the restoration of a 5.25 hectare vineyard into a native riparian forest. The vineyard had been abandoned for several seasons and was located on a floodplain too wet to reliably grow good grapes. As part of the restoration we removed over 1000 pressure-treated posts, 19km of trellis wire, 9km of irrigation tubing and all of the perimeter deer fencing allowing for large mammal passage across the floodplain. 30 volunteers came out and helped us to plant over 1550 native trees and shrubs.

## North Vernon Park

One of our large projects for 2021/2022 was North Vernon Park. We used a holistic approach of combining on the ground restoration with community events to try to increase the community support for our restoration. We planted 740 native plants, and removed more than 400 kg of garbage and invasive plants with the help of 49 volunteers. We also held 3 workshops in the park in which 35 local residents learned about invasive plants, snakes and birds.



# OUTREACH

By the Numbers

**14** workshops and talks

**120** volunteers at hands-on planting events

**6** tables at local events and farmers markets a

**780** newsletter subscribers

# LANDOWNER CONTACT

By the Numbers

**913** new landowners contacted

**10** new stewardship agreements negotiated

## Snake Smart

This year OSS revived the Snake Smart program. Our target audience for these programs was agricultural workers who are likely to see snakes as part of their day-to-day work. Many people are fearful of snakes and our Snake Smart programs aim to help them feel comfortable around snakes, learn to move them safely if needed, and learn to identify snakes to know if they are encountering a rattlesnake.

We gratefully acknowledge that our stewardship initiatives take place on the traditional unceded territories of the Syilx Okanagan people- the first stewards of these beautiful lands.  
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# THANK YOU

We are very grateful to our funding partner, members, donors, and volunteers without whose support our projects would not be possible:

Environment and Climate Change Canada  
Habitat Conservatiopn Trust Foundation  
Okanagan Basin Water Board  
Regional District of North Okanagan  
North Okanagan Conservation Fund  
Community Foundation of the South  
Okanagan|Similkameen  
BC Community Gaming Grant  
Canada Summer Jobs

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## STAFF

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