



## Southern Oregon Climate Action Now Benefits of Restoring Streams and Wetlands

### GOALS:

- Experience **DOING** something for our environment.
- Restore **NATURAL** conditions along streams for otters, eagles, and salmon.
- Address **GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE** by planting native trees and shrubs.
- **SHARE** your experience with friends, family, and classmates.

A variety of “native” trees and shrubs growing in an area create a natural, healthy balance over time. But when “invasive species” are added, they can grow out of control and upset that balance.

Whether the work you do today is taking out invasive species like blackberries or planting native plants like willows, you are helping to restore natural conditions along the stream. For example:

- Streamside trees and plants create shade that keeps river water cool and salmon healthy. When trees die, they fall into the stream and give fish places to hide and rest.
- Removing invasive plants like blackberry, reed canary grass, and purple loosestrife allows native streamside plants like willow, alder, and red-osier dogwood to thrive.
- Removing trash reduces water pollution and makes streamside areas safer to explore. Families will want to spend time along these creeks, streams, and rivers to play, picnic, and enjoy the natural world.
- Trees and shrubs you plant pull carbon dioxide out of the air, reducing the effects of climate change.

Sharing this environmental experience with your classmates, friends and family spreads the importance of these benefits for your community and environment.