



Upland Forest Restoration Project

Existing Vegetation Community

Currently, this site has very few Oak and Douglas-fir trees. It is dominated by agronomic grasses, and shrubs such as the Nootka rose, snowberry and Himalayan blackberry. Salsify (*Tragopogon porrifolius*) a prolific invasive plant has been removed from this area.

Today coniferous trees such as Douglas-fir and Grand fir comprise only 0.86 ha or 1.81% of the total area of the Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary. Historically conifer forest may have comprised up to 33% of the land area in the Swan Lake watershed.

Goals

Continuing to remove invasive plants from this area such as Salsify and Himalayan blackberry.

To increase woody debris to facilitate habitat for Townsends Vole, a primary food source for short Eared Owls (a blue listed species) and Northern Harriers.

Planting Douglas-fir, Arbutus, and Garry Oak trees to: improve soil integrity and the drainage pattern; create overhanging vegetation in the riparian zone to improve habitat for otters, mink and birds; and return the ecosystem to the ancestral Coastal Douglas-fir type.

Our restoration projects would not be possible without the help of our incredible volunteers. If you would like to be part of the restoration of Swan Lake contact us at 250-479-0211 or volunteer@swanlake.bc.ca

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Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary is a registered charity

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