

Faro Mine

2021-2023

# Tree Planting

Two weeks in June from 2021 to 2023.



## 5 Benefits of planting seedlings

- Re-establishment of native, locally common plant species.
- Development of wildlife habitat and wildlife corridors.
- Protection and maintenance of a healthy water cycle.
- Provide shade for fish overwintering ponds.
- Kaska Dena reconnecting to the Tsē Zūl area.

## 3 Tree species

- Ts'u (White spruce)
- Gadze (Lodgepole pine)
- Chobā (Trembling aspen)

92,298 Trees planted

90,818 tree seedlings and 1,480 locally sourced herb and shrub seedlings have been planted between 2021-2023.

*The seedlings were propagated by NATS Nursery in Langley, BC (January 20, 2023).*

Tree planting logo designed by Elder Dennis Shorty. *Guts'eni* means Our Relations in Kaska.



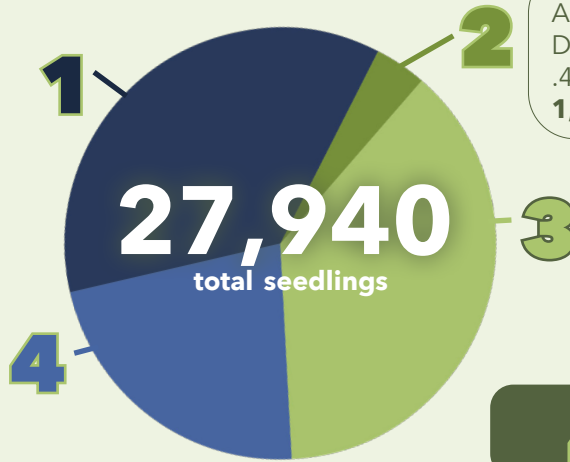
Most of the tree planting crew at the Land Cover Pilot Project, June 20, 2023. Photos courtesy of Cassia Jakesta.

# 4 Planting locations for 2023

Four locations were planted around Faro Mine

The Land Cover Pilot Project, which consists of 15 research and monitoring panels that look at how well different plants survive with different 'treatments'.  
1.55 (ha)  
**9,800 seedlings**

Areas adjacent to the North Fork Rose Creek fish overwintering ponds.  
1.38 (ha)  
**6,000 seedlings**



Areas adjacent to the North Fork Diversion Channel access road.  
.45 (ha)  
**1,000 seedlings**

Historical borrow disturbance  
.90 (ha)  
**10,200 seedlings**

## Community gatherings

A celebration and kick-off event for the tree planting program to learn and share Kaska history was held in June 2021 and 2023.

## Educational opportunities

A tour of NATS Nursery in Langley, BC, and a tour of the Ministry of Environment Lab in Victoria, BC, January 2023.



NATS Nursery

## 4 Types of seeds

- Et'āne (Mountain Avens)
- Itl'ét (Lowbush cranberry)
- Tsās (Alpine Hedysarum/Bear Root)
- Dzídze est'ēdze (Blackberry/Crowberry)

Four types of seeds were hand-picked by Kaska Elders and youth. The seeds were sent to the NATS Nursery in Langley, BC. In 2023, seedlings were sent back to the Faro Mine and planted.

## Employment (2021-2023)

- Thirteen youth and six Elders (2021)
- Nine youth and four Elders (2022)
- Ten youth and six Elders (2023)

Workplace personnel age range:  
• 18 to 85 years old  
• 100% Kaska hired (work guided by Ross River youth, Elders and Ross River Lands Department).

Community support and training in partnership with: Integral Ecology Group, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, and Wildside Reforestation.



WILDSIDE REFORESTATION

Reforestation x Reclamation x Community Integration

Planting trees on a rocky slope, June 20, 2023.

