

Habitat Restoration Breakouts (Sess. I & II Combined)

Steps in Habitat Restoration

1. Pre-monitoring
2. Learn about the area (plants, etc.)
3. Collect seeds
4. Grow seeds
5. Plant the seeds
6. Post-Monitoring

Integrated Learning

- Geology and botany of the area
- Local history (site use, etc.)
- Math (diversity index)
- Invasives – connections to biology and social studies
- Art – photo essay, mural, sketch, photos

High Quality Service

- Meets community need for healthy habitat
- Management decisions made/researched
- Personal value

Collaboration

- Land owner
- Native plant society (local: Orange County California Native Plant Society)
- Native plant nursery (local: Tree of Life Nursery in San Juan Capistrano)
- OC Wild Land Steward and Restoration
- Universities (professors and students)
- Science community
- Seed donation (parks/other areas)
- Sanitation districts
- Other organizations that accept green material (to deposit plant removal)

Youth Voice

- Submit designs
- Help with identifying location
- Educating community
- Choose plant species; research natives and get suggestions
- Goals of restoration project
- Division of labor
- Supervise/coordinate/peer counsel
- Enjoyment factor makes project rewarding
- Have students market
- Identify areas to be restored
- Research animal and if area (plant community) is appropriate for the animal

Civic Responsibility

- Contribute to healthier environment
- Have newspaper publish before/after pictures
- Cultivate stewardship ethic
- Help with other properties
- Advocacy for restoration projects and other wild areas; guidelines on conservation
- Promote planting natives
- Phase out non-natives
- Native plant sales

Reflection

- Create webpage about the project (with photos/written content/ graphic design/ science research) that would be linked to provider and school websites
- Newsletter (w/ photos/text/etc.)
- Create “roving guide” for the site (like a mini field guide) usable by other groups
- Create programs for younger kids & then present the programs to elementary/middle schools where the students have connections
- Use program participants as mentors for younger kids who might use the site

Evaluation....