It’s been a watershed year for Lomakatsi, as we build our capacity and hire new staff, continuing to work in partnership with our agency, tribal, municipal, and nonprofit partners and provide leadership in collaborative forest restoration. Together, we’re building and expanding projects across Oregon and northern California, as we work toward healthier forests and watersheds, and more resilient communities—supporting hundreds of jobs in the process. As communities continue to recover from the impacts of wildfire over the past several years, the growing investment in ecological fuels reduction, combined with the recognition that stewardship of our forests and streams is perpetual, brings comfort. We are grateful to our 50+ restoration crew members and technicians, and the thousands of other skilled workers who put their hands on the land every day to make forests healthier and communities safer.

**BUILDING COMMUNITY & ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE**

**THIS YEAR BY THE NUMBERS**

12,000+ native trees and shrubs
planted along streams to enhance habitat for salmon and other wildlife

14,400+ acres of forest restoration
through ecological thinning, prescribed burning and restoration planning across federal, tribal and private lands

50 youth trained & employed
through hands-on, resume-boosting paid learning experiences

172,000+ acres under active restoration
across two states, five watersheds, and 10 counties

415+ jobs supported
from ecological restoration crew members to local contractors
FOREST & WATERSHED RESTORATION

Across federal, state, tribal trust, municipal, and private lands, we reduce the risk of severe wildfire, enhance wildlife habitat, and protect valuable ecosystem services such as drinking water.

West Bear All-Lands Restoration Project...
Through a collaborative application process, our partnership was awarded nearly $3.5 million for West Bear through Senate Bill 762, bringing the total project funding to just over $11 million. With additional investment, partners plan to implement hazardous fuels reduction and forest restoration on a total of 10,800 acres of the 27,000-acre project footprint. This focus area spans the wildland urban interface west of Bear Creek and the I-5 corridor from Talent to Jacksonville, and connects to the edge of the Ashland Forest Resiliency project to the south. Lomakatsi also received federal funding for the Jacksonville Community Wildfire Protection Project, within the greater West Bear footprint, through the efforts of Oregon Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden on an omnibus congressional appropriations bill. This will support over 700 acres of fuels reduction work around the town of Jacksonville in partnership with City of Jacksonville and others. Through Rogue Forest Partners, which is planning and implementing five additional landscape-scale restoration projects across the Rogue Basin, Lomakatsi continues ecological thinning and prescribed burning in the Upper Applegate Watershed and Williams areas. All these projects build on the model of Ashland Forest Resiliency with the goal of achieving healthier forests and a substantial reduction in the risk of severe wildfire to communities and the ecosystem. Lomakatsi is a key partner involved in all aspects of planning and implementation, from landowner engagement, project layout, ecological monitoring, administration and community outreach to ecological thinning and prescribed fire.

...and Working Across the Rogue Basin
Chiloquin Trust Lands
Ecological thinning continues at this 580-acre community site in partnership with Klamath, Modoc, and Yahooskin tribal community members and the Fremont-Winema National Forest. Goals are to reduce wildfire risk to the community of Chiloquin, enhance old forest conditions, and promote culturally beneficial plants. A Lomakatsi tribal crew is also assisting the community in rebuilding earth lodges using small trees thinned during restoration.

Karuk Stewardship Agreement
We continued our partnership with the Karuk Tribe and partners, supporting 300 acres of ecological commercial thinning on the Six Rivers National Forest to reduce wildfire risk and prepare for reintroducing cultural fire.
Lomakatsi works with sovereign Tribal Nations and tribal communities across Oregon and Northern California to advance collaborative ecological restoration and repair damage to ecocultural systems that indigenous communities depend on for cultural beneficial uses, subsistence, and survival. We made progress on several long-term, large-scale projects.

**TRIBAL PARTNERSHIPS**

Lomakatsi continues to partner with tribal communities to develop large-scale ecological restoration and workforce training initiatives on their ancestral lands

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**Willamette Basin Oak Habitat Restoration**

Working with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and The Nature Conservancy, Lomakatsi’s technical forestry team supported the launch of commercial ecological thinning at Noble Oaks. Goals are to restore oak habitat, promote oak-related cultural uses and tribal food sovereignty, and develop tribal workforce capacity.

**Taktokeewa Pine Springs Habitat Restoration**

In partnership with the Kosealekte Band of the Ajumawi-Atsuge Nation and Modoc National Forest, Lomakatsi’s forestry team and a tribal crew completed the required pre-treatment assessments across the initial 3,000 acre project area, including surveys for Northern Goshawk. This project will reduce wildfire risk and enhance habitat.

**EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE TRAINING**

Lomakatsi creates opportunities for people of all ages to gain valuable skills and experience in ecological restoration

**Youth Training & Employment Program**

This summer Lomakatsi hosted 15 students from Rogue Valley high schools for our 10th annual Ashland Watershed Youth Ecological Training & Employment Program. Under the guidance of our restoration experts, they spent four weeks training in the basics of ecological restoration and helping to heal the forests and waterways of the Rogue Valley. While contributing to large-scale, collaborative projects including Ashland Forest Resiliency and West Bear, participants engaged with a variety of natural resource professionals from the US Forest Service and other partners who shared their career paths and ecology expertise in daily presentations. A big thank you to our partners and funders including the US Forest Service, City of Ashland, National Forest Foundation, Gray Family Foundation, and the Bureau of Land Management for making these programs possible.

This year Lomakatsi was selected for a competitive Oregon Conservation Corps grant to build on the success of our training model for young adults aged 18-26. In October, we launched an 18-week program that recruited 10 tribal youth from Chiloquin in Klamath County. Participants received professional, nationally-recognized certifications in wildland fire, chainsaw operations, cultural monitoring, and First Aid/CPR. Now, they are gaining hands-on experience working on Lomakatsi’s landscape-scale initiatives including West Bear. Upon completing the program, these tribal youth will be well equipped to pursue jobs in ecological restoration, forestry, and wildland fire. In the spring, we will launch a second program for 10 young adults from Jackson and Josephine counties.

Tribal Youth Ecological Forestry Training Program

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Make a gift to support ongoing post-fire restoration!

Your tax-deductible donation will go directly toward Lomakatsi’s post-fire ecological restoration work in the footprint of the Almeda Fire.

Donate today at www.lomakatsi.org or call (541) 488-0208