

## “Grow It Forward Restoration” Background:

Around Puget Sound are many non-profit “habitat restoration” organizations who work to recover critical habitats for endangered species, particularly salmon, but are often not well known or appreciated by the public. They restore native forests on small, but important tracts of damaged lands in key locations by planting hundreds of thousands of native tree seedlings purchased from commercial nurseries.

GIFR Founder James Wright is a former habitat restoration/environmental engineer for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Fisheries, in Seattle. While there, he encountered these hard working, but little known, local non-profits and admired their skill and dedication. A lifelong gardener, Wright realized anyone with gardening skills could grow equally high quality seedlings as those restoration organizations purchased from commercial nurseries. And he knew there are many pickup truck owners who would love to volunteer their time and trucks to deliver seedlings and materials for this cause. He thought “Why not marshal the skills and passions of local gardeners and pickup truck owners to provide seedlings to restoration organizations, saving them money, increasing awareness of the organizations and teaming with them to heal the environment?”

## “Grow It Forward Restoration” Facts:

In 2020, James Wright founded Grow It Forward Restoration in Seattle. We’ve grown to about 200 volunteer micro-nursery hosts and pickup truckers. Habitat restoration organizations have planted 9,000 of our seedlings, with another 14,000 on the way. We are in our 4th year, ready to start up 100 people to host a micro-nursery and become a small but important part in work to protect the survival of endangered species like salmon and orcas that eat them.

We are a 501(C)(3) Non-Profit (EIN 87-1848174), and registered with the State of Washington with a general business license, UBI number 604-781-468

## Organizations seedlings provided to so far red=2021, blue=2022:

1. Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group -1,400 + 1,893 seedlings
2. Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group -600 + 485 seedlings
3. South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group -300+ 136 seedlings
4. Mountain to Sound Greenway -320 + 200 seedlings
5. Cross Kirkland Corridor -40 seedlings
6. Washington Native Plant Society -40 seedlings
7. Earth Corps -40 seedlings
8. King County Conservation District -35 seedlings
9. City of Kenmore -180 + 75 seedlings
10. King County Water and Land Res. Div. -2,023 seedlings
11. Stewardship Partners -100 seedlings
12. Seattle Rotary, Wetherill Nature Preserve -120 seedlings

**HOST A MICRO-NURSERY (sign up by March 5 to be ready for March 12 startup!), or be on our list of PICKUP TRUCK OWNER/DRIVERS at <https://growitfwd.org>:**

