

SAVETHEDUNES

The Newsletter of the Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative

May 2019

!! Action Needed !!

The Siuslaw National Forest is now accepting public comments on proposed dunes restoration activities. Click Here to view the draft proposal and to submit comments.

Earth Day Recap

We had two successful Earth Day events last month thanks to many hardworking volunteers! Our first project was held at John Dellenback Dunes trail, where we removed Scotch broom that is growing along the edge of native plant habitat. The next week we worked at Honeyman State Park on the large dune and along Cleawox Lake.

Thanks to all of our volunteers from both days!

You can find more about all of these events on our website. Don't forget to also sign up for our volunteer email list.



May ODRC Meeting

Our last ODRC meeting was held on Friday, May 10th, in Florence. Much of the discussion was focused on continuing to build up the ODRC as an organization, considering options for an intern or staff, and grants. The group has voted to prioritize forming a steering committee and writing a 3-5 year action plan to guide our work. Full minutes of the meeting can be found on our website.

Thank you to all who attended.



The next full ODRC meeting will be held on October 18th.

Stay tuned for more information regarding summer field trips.

Working Group Updates

<u>Communications & Outreach</u> - Our working group met in early April to plan our spring outreach strategies. We received a second printing of *Restoring Oregon's Dunes* and our brochures and other collateral materials are being reordered. If you would be interested in helping deliver our brochures to businesses, visitor centers, and other public buildings, please email info@saveoregondunes.org

<u>Volunteering</u> - Our Earth Day events went great! We had 22 volunteers, including the University of Oregon's RARE program helping out with Scotch broom removal at John Dellenback Dunes. Another 14 volunteers cut and pulled broom at Honeyman State Park the following week. We also held another work party at Heceta Dunes on May 8; and a North Bend High School class worked at Dellenback dunes on May 15.

Our next work parties will be held on June 1, 15, and 26. More information about upcoming volunteer events can be found on our website.

<u>Education</u> - There was a steady flow of visitors to our educational booth on the Florence Board Walk on Earth Day. Thanks to the volunteers who came out and helped teach the public about the dunes.

Our next educational events will include a <u>talk at the Coos History Museum</u> on Tuesday, June 4th, and a <u>field trip</u> with the University of Oregon's Museum of Natural and Cultural History on June 27th.

<u>Monitoring</u> - The monitoring group met in late April to recap what monitoring efforts the other working groups may need to make their work more effective. We have also drafted a spreadsheet and protocols to begin collecting before and after photos of areas where volunteer work parties have occurred. Work parties this summer will begin collecting photos of project sites.

<u>Funding</u> - We have submitted a pre-proposal to the Landscape Conservation Catalyst Fund to allow us to hire a coordinator for the ODRC. This is a new funding source in its first year, but it specifically targeted towards collaborative projects that are building capacity and getting off the ground. If we are successful in getting this grant, we will need to explore funding sources and raise matching funds.

<u>Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)</u> - The CWMA advisor has been instrumental in helping develop our monitoring protocols. Contracted gorse removal at Baker beach will begin at the end of May. The CWMA has also applied for \$46,000 in Stewardship Funds for work in 2020.

Volunteers of the Month - RARE program

It was a hard choice picking just one volunteer of the month for April, so we decided to give the honor to the <u>University of Oregon's RARE program</u>. 18 members, who are serving in year-long volunteer positions with a variety of organizations



and small towns across Oregon, came to the dunes to help pull Scotch broom during our Earth Day event.

Click here for more photos of the day on our Flickr page.

Thank you RARE members!

Did you Know? - Black Bear in the Dunes

Did you know that black bear are the largest animal that can be seen in the Oregon Dunes? It's not uncommon to see bear tracks in the dunes, or to see claw markings or other signs in the nearby forests. Thanks to Dina Pavlis for these photos!





Upcoming Events:

6/1 Work Party at Heceta Dunes - 10:00 a.m. - noon 6/4 First Tuesday Talks at Coos History Museum. 6:30 p.m. 6/15 Work Party at Heceta Dunes - 10:00 a.m. - noon 6/26 Work Party at Heceta Dunes - 10:00 a.m. - noon 6/27 Summer Science Excursion - UO MNCH Field Trip Leaves from Eugene at 9 a.m.

Sign up to Volunteer!

Check out our events page for a full list and to stay informed.

Connect with us on Social Media

Remember to Like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram.

