



# SAVE THE DUNES

OREGON

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The Newsletter of the Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative  
January 2020

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## **SAVE THE DATE: ODRC QUARTERLY MEETING**

**January 31st, 2020  
9am-1pm  
Florence Community Baptist Church  
4590 Hwy 101 North**

This month, the Siuslaw National Forest will be releasing their final Environmental Assessment and Draft Decision Notice, which describes the course of action we will take to implement dunes restoration. Forest Service Staff will provide a briefing on the EA at the meeting on Friday, January 31st.



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### **Upcoming Events:**

**1/29/2020- National Geographic Speaker Series: Kenny Broad at the Hult Center**

**1/31/2020- ODRC Quarterly Meeting: Florence Community Baptist Church**

**2/1/2020- Oregon Master Naturalist Presentation in Portland**

**2/29/2020- Education Expo at Siuslaw High School**

## Now Accepting PayPal Donations!

We can now accept donations via PayPal! You can donate to our fiscal sponsor, Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation & Development, to contribute towards ODRC fundraising efforts. Feel free to forward this email or share the link on social media.

[Donate Here!](#)



## Saving the Oregon Dunes: Short Film

- In December, the ODRC released their short film, "Saving the Oregon Dunes." The feedback has been great and we are delighted so many people enjoyed the video. Following the release of the short film, the ODRC noticed...
- Our Facebook following grew by over 100+ people
- Our video reached over 71,500 people on Facebook and has reached states such as Utah, Colorado, New York, and Connecticut!
- Almost 6,000 views on SpringFed Media YouTube Channel
- [Here is an article from the Oregon Coast Beach Connection staff on the short film!](#)
- [Watch the video here](#)

**Many thanks to all who have watched and we encourage everyone to share this video broadly!**



## Working Group Updates

**Communications, Outreach, & Education-** The Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative continues to stay busy with communications, outreach, and educational

efforts. The ODRC has some upcoming events and opportunities that we are very much looking forward to. Some of these events include tabling at the National Geographic Live Speaker Series at the Hult Center on January 29th, an Oregon Master Naturalist presentation on February 1st, and attending the Siuslaw High School Education Expo on February 29th.

On January 10th, Andy Vobora, chair of Communications, Outreach & Education for the ODRC spoke with KXCR to give an update on the collaborative and what we have going on this year. [Click here for the link to KXCR's Community Conversations.](#)

In November, the first of three National Geographic Speaker Series took place at the Hult Center in downtown Eugene. Ronan Donovan put on an amazing show that left hundreds of people in awe. Not only that, but he stayed for over an hour to sign posters once his presentation was done. Be sure to stop by our table again on January 29th at 7:30pm to learn more and chat about the ODRC's exciting 2020. Like the previous National Geographic Event, the ODRC will earn \$5 for every ticket we sell using the code "ODRC."

The ODRC is excited to present to the Oregon Master Naturalist Portland Chapter on February 1st, 2020. This will be a great way for the ODRC to spread our story even further across the state of Oregon! Presenting will be Communications & Outreach Coordinator, Brian Saunders, Restoration Botanist for the US Forest Service, Armand Rebisckke and retired Forest Service Botanist, Marty Stein. To learn more about the Oregon Master Naturalist Program, [click here!](#)



*Our table at the National Geographic Live Speaker Series on November 24th*

### **FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY**

In 2018-19, Eugene's Hult Center for the Performing Arts hosted a three-part National Geographic series and invited non-profits to table at each presentation. Discounted tickets were made available to these non-profits to encourage attendance. In 2019-20, the series is back and the ODRC will again table at the presentations. What's new this year is that the ODRC will have the opportunity to earn \$5 for each ticket we facilitate selling.

The ODRC will be back for Kenny Broad's, "Extreme Cave Diving- Exploring the Bahamas' Blue Holes" on **January 29th, 2020**. Use the code ODRC to support the Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative. [Click here to purchase tickets!](#)

**Volunteering-** Although the ODRC work parties are filled with fun, we are currently taking a short break for the Winter. There were 31 different work parties removing Scotch

broom and gorse in calendar year 2019 at 8 different locations on the Siuslaw National Forest plus Honeyman State Park and Siuslaw High School. Thank you to everyone who volunteered!!!

In February as weather allows, we will have some short notice work parties to remove gorse at Heceta Dunes north of Florence and Scotch broom at recreation areas on Horsfall Rd. north of North Bend.

ODRC will be announcing this year's volunteer work party schedule to remove Scotch broom and gorse the first part of February. Those of you who are on our volunteer mailing list will receive an email with the dates and locations, and we will be posting information on the Events part of our web page and Facebook site.

Our hope is if the dates are known in advance, some folks that live inland can make some of our work parties on the coast. We will also announce upcoming work parties in our future newsletters.

**Funding-** In mid-January, the ODRC submitted a grant proposal to the Oregon Coast Visitors Association (OCVA) for Strategic Planning Assistance. This strategic plan will prioritize projects over the next several years, and will demonstrate to potential funders and new partners that the ODRC is positioned to efficiently and effectively undertake and complete restoration of the Oregon Dunes

Currently, ODRC volunteers, Siuslaw Watershed Council, and Ecology in Classrooms and Outdoors staff are working on State and Federal grant applications to fund education and restoration efforts at the Oregon Dunes.

**Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)-** ODCWMA continues to support dunes weed treatments via gorse control contract, volunteer weed-pull participation, and monitoring efforts. A draft long-term Dunes restoration implementation plan has been created that outlines priorities, anticipated cost and timelines. At our quarterly ODRC meeting in October, USFS Botanist Armand Rebeschke presented these outlines and addressed some specific issues such as the ivy problem at various campgrounds. Over the next few months, the ODRC will work and build on this implementation plan as a guide to move forward with our efforts.

Armand Rebeschke, USFS, and Troy Abercrombie, Cascade Pacific RC&D, submitted a grant request to the Oregon State Weed Board to treat 58 acres of gorse and Scotch broom at areas north of Florence and near Honeyman State Park. The grant will also provide funding for trailhead signs and printed educational materials that will be developed in partnership with the Gorse Action Group and the Oregon Dunes CWMA.

**Monitoring-** When doing any sort of restoration work, it is highly important to monitor the specific site that is being managed. Not following up, evaluating effectiveness, and tracking each stride along the way often leads to repeated, non-effective management. For some of the work parties, photo points are recorded with GPS, and before and after photos are taken. These sites can be monitored over time to see how the land and vegetation responds to the Scotch broom removal. By doing this, we can record data and sightings and use them to carefully plan our next move. Below are two before and after pictures from our work party at Heceta Dunes on November 9th.



*Before*



*After*

For more information, or if you are interested in joining any of our working groups, [email us here](#). We would love to have your help!

**Did you know?** The Oregon Dunes are the largest expanse of coastal sand dunes in North America.

- Have you ever stepped foot on the dunes and simply wondered how much sand is out there?
- The sand in the Oregon Dunes could fill the Empire State Building over 7,000 times
- The dunes are about 50 miles long, average 1.5 miles wide and are up to 125 feet deep
- In total, that comes out to 261,360,000,000 cubic feet of sand!



Many thanks to [Michael Sherman](#) for the awesome photo!

**Connect with us on Social Media-** Remember to like us on Facebook and to follow us on Instagram!



[saveoregondunes.org](http://saveoregondunes.org)

