



SAVE THE DUNES

OREGON



The Newsletter of the Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative
June 2020

NEWS:

- **Forest Campgrounds and Day Use Site Closures:** Stay up to date with important news from the Siuslaw National Forest regarding the shutdowns and closures amid the Corona virus.
- **COVID-19 Response: Parks Closing:** Oregon State Parks issued a statement on the COVID-19 pandemic and park closures. Follow [Oregon State Parks](#) for more updates and news.
- Looking for a fun weekend activity with family and friends? Join us at one of our volunteer work parties! The ODRC has now had four successful work parties since COVID-19 and we are thrilled to have more events planned in the coming months. See '*Upcoming Events*' below for details about our next volunteer opportunities.
- **Strategic Planning:** ODRC's strategic plan has measurable goals and outcomes identified for the next four years to guide the group's work to build capacity while simultaneously increasing our 'on the ground' work outcomes. The strategic plan employs a combination of volunteer engagement 'best practices', building donations and grant funding over four years to support a gradual increase in staff capacity. The plan still requires review and approval by the full collaborative. ODRC participants will have the chance to take a look at the plan and weigh in before final approval, so stay tuned for a date in the near future. Many thanks to our wonderful student team for their hard work and dedication these past few months!

Upcoming Events:

- Volunteer Work Party: July 11th- North Jetty, Siuslaw River
- Volunteer Work Party: July 25th- Sand Tracks Picnic Area
- There is a maximum of 20 people who can attend, so it is important for you to email Brian Saunders, ODRC staff person, at brian@eugenecascadescoast.org if you plan to attend and let him know how many people are in your group. After you respond, Brian will email you the county's release of liability form. Please sign and bring it with you to the work party. If you are bringing children, let him know. There is a separate release form for children.

Donating to the Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative

The ODRC accepts donations via PayPal! Donate to our fiscal sponsor, Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation & Development, to contribute towards ODRC fundraising efforts. Forward this email or share the link on social media to encourage others to support the efforts of the ODRC.

Your contribution, no matter how big or small is crucial in the struggle to restore and preserve Oregon's beloved coastal sand dunes.



Donate Here!

Working Group Updates

Communications, Outreach, & Education-

The ODRC is currently working to reschedule outreach events that we had planned for Spring and Summer before COVID-19 arrived. Keep a look out on our events page for future updates on outreach events and work parties.

Many thanks to Ned Hickson, editor of the Siuslaw News for printing this article in the Siuslaw Newspaper on our volunteer work party at North Jetty, Siuslaw River in Florence on June 5th!

Volunteering- Whether you have a passion for invasive species mitigation or just want to build up your volunteer experience, the ODRC would love to have you, serving in whatever capacity you can. Please feel free to reach out to us or any of our working group leads. We would love to talk with you!

Since COVID-19 hit the Oregon

SIUSLAW NEWS | SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2020 | 7A



Community gathers to remove Scotch broom at North Jetty

Volunteers had a good day weather-wise June 5 for removing Scotch broom at the North Jetty of Siuslaw Public Library. To start the day, the group was greeted by Lane County Park Ranger Dan Anderson, who expressed his appreciation for their commitment. Bill Blackwell from Save the Oregon Dunes then marched everyone to a section of dunes along the roadside where we all were amazed at the size of some of the broom.

"In all we had nine volunteers, five of whom were locals who responded to my outreach," said Michael Allen, member of Friends of Lane County Parks. "Two others I spoke to said they would have liked to have been there and will come to our next work party."

After two hours of hard labor, the volunteers stacked several large piles of broom hidden from view per Anderson's instructions. "As you can see by these photos we all had a great time," Allen said. "There's a lot more to do, so come one, come all!"

On Saturday June 27, Save the Oregon Dunes has scheduled another Scotch broom removal at North Jetty from 10 a.m. to noon. All are invited to join us.

People can contact Brian Saunders at brian@eugenecascadescoast.org if they plan to attend so they can keep the numbers to a maximum of 10 per group and a maximum of 20 people total.

People will also be provided instructions on what to bring and how to deal with COVID-19 protocols.

According to Allen, this effort at Scotch broom removal is a great partnership between Lane County Parks and Save the Oregon Dunes.

"I hope the partnership will go well into the future," Allen said. "Friends of Lane County Parks looks forward to participating as volunteers."

coast, the ODRC has slowly but surely gotten back into our volunteer work party routine. The first volunteer event since March took place on May 31st at the Umpqua Dunes Day Use and Staging Area.

The ODRC returned to North Jetty, Siuslaw River in Florence the following weekend on June 5th, back to the Umpqua Dunes on June 21st and once more at North Jetty on June 27th. We can't thank our volunteers enough for their dedication and hard work every weekend! So far, the ODRC is responsible for removing 4.5 acres of invasive species on the Oregon Dunes this year, as well as accumulating over 400 hours of volunteer work.



Photo from ODRC volunteer work party at North Jetty, Siuslaw River in Florence on June 27th.

Funding- In April 2020, we received positive response on an important grant proposal with the Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC). They ranked our proposal as one to be funded, but then had to place that on hold until they are able to determine impacts on State funding related to COVID-19.

Lane County Community and Economic Development has committed \$10,000 for a FY21 **RARE** placement!

In June 2020, the Siuslaw National Forest committed \$15,000 to our fiscal sponsors Cascade Pacific, Resource Conservation & Development to secure our RARE placement for FY21. Many thanks to Lane County Community Economic Development and Siuslaw National Forest for your continued support!

Time to Report! In 2019, the Collins Foundation funded the ODRC \$25,000 to support our current RARE intern. A year later, we are now ready to submit our final report back to them with the progress we've made due to their help. The Collins Foundation allowed us to continue our outreach work along the Oregon Coast and develop a multi-year strategic plan that will guide the collaborative's work in the future. Thank you to everyone at the Collins Foundation!

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 Rebischke 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.

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 the northern end of the Sand tracks Picnic Area.



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 early people on the dunes are ancestors of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, who continue to live in the area despite the dramatic changes to the landscape. Still important territory for these tribes, the dunes provided their ancestors with a wealth of salmon and lamprey, clams and mussels, berries and roots, and deer and elk for eating and trading.

By the late 1700's, the first European explorers began sailing along the Oregon coast, and by the 1800's trappers were scouting and running expeditions on land. These explorations wrought devastation for the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw people, who bore no natural immunity to the diseases carried by Euro-Americans. By the mid 1800's, scores of coastal Native Americans had died, with tribal populations reduced up to 90%.



From our award-winning book, "Restoring Oregon's Dunes- The bid to save a natural treasure."

To learn more about the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, please visit their website at www.ctclusi.org

Saving the Oregon Dunes: Short Film-Oregon's central coast is home to the largest expanse of coastal sand dunes in North America. Home to hundreds of native bird

and plant species, this unique landscape is a favorite for locals and thousands of visitors each year.

Unfortunately, non-native grass and plants were introduced to the landscape in an effort to stabilize the moving sand and protect roads and other infrastructure. These invasive species now threaten to overtake the remaining open sand. The Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative (ODRC) formed in an effort to protect this national treasure.

We hope you all enjoy this 7-minute video that dives deep into the the dune's history, and the origins of the ODRC. We encourage everyone to share this video broadly!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVx2dNTjyWA>



Connect with us on Social Media- Remember to like and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram!](#)

saveoregondunes.org