



SAVE THE DUNES

OREGON



The Newsletter of the Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative
July 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 is back to hosting work parties twice a month to remove Scotch Broom and Gorse from the Oregon Dunes. See "Upcoming Events" below.
- 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: August 8th- Heceta Dunes
- Volunteer Work Party: August 22nd- Sandtracks 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 USFS release form.

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.

Ned Hickson, editor of the Siuslaw News printed another write up that ODRC volunteer Mike Allen sent him about our volunteer work party at North Jetty on July 11th. Thanks Ned and Mike!

Pictured: Pat Allen, ODRC Volunteer and Brian Saunders, ODRC Outreach Coordinator

COMMUNITY



Residents team up to clear Scotch Broom
INSIDE — A3

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 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 had two volunteer work parties in July. We kicked off the month at North Jetty,

Siuslaw River on July 11th and had our second event of the month on July 25th at Sandtracks Picnic Area in North Bend. Between the two events, ODRC volunteers and staff cleared a total of .442 acres of Scotch Broom. Despite COVID-19, the ODRC continues to make a significant impact in FY20!

Photo from ODRC volunteer work party at Sandtracks Picnic Area on July 25th.

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!

A huge thank you to **SOLVE** for awarding the ODRC a \$100 grant to purchase a brand new saw to combat Scotch Broom and other invasive plants on the Oregon Dunes. The saw has been a great addition to the ODRC tool collection, killing many large Scotch Broom plants along the coast!



Pictured: Bill Blackwell, Volunteer Coordinator showcasing the new saw.

Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)- The Forest Service is issuing contract task orders to treat Scotch broom, European beachgrass and small trees spreading into open sand areas at the following locations: Sand Tracks and Bluebill (Horsfall area), Dellenback/Eel Creek, and Tahkenitch. These are all 'preserve the best' areas where existing open sand native plant communities exist but are threatened by the encroachment of Scotch broom, beachgrass and Shorepine succession. These treatments are intended to maintain open sand habitat for these species, and provide native plant source seeds for future restoration projects. A follow-up Gorse treatment near Baker Beach north of Lily Lake will greatly reduce Gorse in this heavily infested area. A portion of the Overlook foredune previously bulldozed for Western Snowy Plover and Pink Sand verbena restoration will be sprayed with herbicide to eliminate European beachgrass resprouts, enhance native plants, and maintain open sand conditions.

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 North Jetty, Siuslaw River on July 11th. Thanks to ODRC volunteer Brad Hanscom for the photos!



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? Politicians and the public sought national recognition of the Oregon Dunes as a special place going back more than half a century.

In 1959, Senator Richard Neuberger introduced a bill in Congress that would add the dunes to the National Park system (and thus out of Forest Service management). The bill, and subsequent versions of it, failed to gain traction, in large part because of concerns that such a move would limit public access to what had already become a favorite public playground.



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

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>



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saveoregondunes.org