

# SAVETHEDUNES





The Newsletter of the Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative July 2022

#### **NEWS:**

- We are back and still looking for volunteers to come help remove Scotch Broom and Gorse from the Oregon Dunes. See "Upcoming Events" below.
- Our planned event with McKenzie River Trust was postponed due to heavy rain we had during the early part of June. We are looking forward to collaborating with them in August or September. Stay tuned for that future event.
- Due to the heavy rains we had in early June a few of our events were postponed. However,

pictured to the right is the benefit of having such rain on the Oregon Coast. Seasonal ponds were non existent for awhile on the Oregon Dunes due to lack of rain. Thanks to the rain we had this year some of the seasonal ponds returned creating beautiful landscapes and benefiting wildlife.



#### **Upcoming Events:**

- Volunteer work party Saturday July 23rd. Stay tuned for time and location.
   Details will be posted to our Facebook and Website under the Events tab.
- Volunteer work party Saturday August 13th. Time and location to be determined.
- Volunteer work party Thursday August 25th. Time and location to be determined.

## **Working Group Updates**

#### Communications, Outreach, & Education-

This large pile of scotch broom was one of the many piles that the Northwest Youth Corps. (NYC) removed from the landscape on the Heceta Dunes area. Join us for one of our events as we cut and remove scotch broom from the Oregon Dunes. Working with the NYC allowed us to meet one of our goals as a collaboration which is "Goal 1: Preserve the Best – Maintain and protect existing areas known to be in a healthy, natural condition. Examples may include areas that have functioning open sand, viable native plant communities, or resilient wildlife habitat."

By working with the NYC for a week we were able to cut many acres of scotch broom down before it went to seed, which in turn prevents millions of seeds from being released and stored on the Oregon Dunes for future sprouting of the invasive plant. Scotch broom is capable of crowding out other vegetation and creating a monoculture. Heceta Dunes has many native plants which includes knick-knick, beach carrot, red fescue, and trailing blue grass, (just to name a few). Scotch broom reproduces by seed and root, and blooms in April through June. By targeting sites that have healthy, natural open sand areas our hope is that we are preventing the spread of this invasive species. Pictured below is just one pile that the youth corps was able to accomplish within a few hours on one of their days on the dunes. Imagine the work that can be made by future work parties when we all come together for a few hours.



Above: A large amount of scotch broom was cut and piled near the Heceta Dunes area. Now is the perfect time to join us to remove scotch broom from the dunes before it goes to seed.

**Volunteering-** We are still hoping you or someone you know may be interested in joining our upcoming work parties. Reach out to us through email or social media to find out how you can become involved. Work parties are usually announced two weeks in advance.

Registration is not required. You can show up to any of our events. If you have tools, great, if not, we will have some you can borrow. Bring a friend or a family member, or just come out and enjoy a few hours on the dunes solo. We're always happy to see a new face.

For more information, or if you are interested in joining any of our working groups, <u>email us here.</u> We would love to have your help!

Still up and running is our **Short Film-** Saving the Oregon Dunes. 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 dune's history, and the origins of the ODRC. We encourage everyone to share this video broadly!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVx2dNTjywA

# **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!**





<u>Connect with us on Social Media-</u> Remember to like and follow us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram!</u>

### saveoregondunes.org

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