



# SAVE THE DUNES OREGON

Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative  
Summer Newsletter 2025

## Volunteer Events

In 2025, Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative (ODRC) volunteers have removed Scotch broom from the Oregon Dunes Day Use Area, Heceta Dunes, John Dellenback Dunes, Three Mile Prairie County Park, and North Bay Elementary School (Hauser, OR). A big thank you to all of the folks who came out and helped!

We have two remaining volunteer events for 2025:

Saturday, September 27, 10 AM to Noon --- Oregon Dunes Day Use Area to celebrate Public Lands Day with McKenzie River Trust and Siuslaw National Forest.

Saturday, October 25, 10 AM to Noon --- Sandtracks Picnic Area with Coos Watershed Association.

We hope you can join us for one or both of these events. For more information including directions, go to [www.saveoregondunes.org/events/](http://www.saveoregondunes.org/events/) or our Facebook page, [SaveOregonDunes](#).

In April, ODRC assisted Siuslaw Watershed Council staff and Mapleton's 5/6 grade class who removed Scotch broom from the Oregon Dunes Day Use Area.



In May, ODRC volunteers assisted Siuslaw middle school and high school students in removing Scotch broom from Three Mile Prairie Dunes.



Much was accomplished and we greatly appreciate the students help!



The Florence Newts, a pre-school group with an emphasis on science, helped volunteer coordinator Jim Grano remove Scotch broom near Sutton Creek. The Newts learned how to safely use weed wrenches, shovels, loppers, and hand saws to remove the invasive plants.

### **Northwest Youth Corps**

ODRC hosted the Northwest Youth Corps for two weeks. One crew removed Scotch broom along the Waxmyrtle Sand Road. The other crew removed Portuguese broom off of South Jetty Road, English ivy from Tyee Campground, and Scotch broom along Sutton Road. ODRC would like to thank the crews for their hard work and all that they accomplished. Thanks to Armand Rebischke, Siuslaw National Forest Restoration Botanist for coordinating with NYC.

### **Restoration Update**

Armand has been working with his partners, Institute of Applied Ecology and The Understory Initiative, to monitor populations of Sanddune Phacelia or Silvery Phacelia (*Phacelia argentea*) south of Horsfall Road. The plant is listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act. It exists in open dune areas and is threatened by European beach grass and other invasives. A nursery grew the plants from seed, then they were transplanted to this location. There has been good survival which is rare!



## Education Update

Dina Pavlis has made presentations about the Oregon dunes and the Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative to three groups this year, City Club of Florence, Oregon Wild, and the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Conference. She will have two Road Scholar presentations in August. Dina led guided hikes for McKenzie River Trust, Helmut and Astrid Widmann of Schau Gute Reise Magazine, Native Plant Society of Oregon, and Trailkeepers of Oregon who completed maintenance on the trail to the beach at the Oregon Dunes Day Use Area.



Trail crew at Oregon Dunes Day Use Area

Jim Grano, Dina Pavlis, and Laurie Green, ODRC steering committee members, and Julia Johanos and Darielle Rocca, Siuslaw National Forest Interpretive Specialists, will be building a new educational in-class and on-dunes program for area schools this fall.

## Funding Update

Recently ODRC was successful in obtaining a grant from Western Lane Community Foundation (WLCF) for \$5041. The grant will provide funding for substitute teachers and transportation reimbursement for classes from Mapleton and Siuslaw schools to go to the Oregon dunes to learn about its history and ecology, invasive species issues, and the importance of restoration. Grant funds will purchase five Pullerbear tools (weed wrenches) for the students to use. The grant will allow ODRC to purchase digital ads, boost social media and provide for website maintenance and upgrades to increase public awareness of the invasive species issues. It will also allow ODRC to start a volunteer recognition program. We would like to say, Thank you WLCF, for helping ODRC with our mission!

ODRC has submitted a grant application to the Judith A. Mogan Foundation to finance Northwest Youth Corps crews and Alternative Youth Activities crews to remove invasive Scotch broom at the Oregon dunes. A grant application has been submitted to the National Forest Foundation to help build and deepen our partnerships with local tribes and organizations and area businesses. Recently, ODRC submitted a grant application to the Roundhouse Foundation

to expand and extend our education and stewardship efforts with area schools. If successful, we will be able to work with the schools until Spring 2027.

ODRC would greatly appreciate any donations you may be able to provide. Donations are important because they can be used as matching-funds for the grants that we are applying to. Last year your donations helped us reprint our book, "Saving Oregon's Dunes: A bid to save a national treasure." You can make a donation by going to [www.saveoregondunes.org/donate](http://www.saveoregondunes.org/donate).

### **Communications Update**

The Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative (ODRC) maintains a toolkit of outreach materials—including pull-up banners, horizontal banners, Saving Oregon's Dunes books, table tents, rack cards, and tri-fold brochures.

Since 2018, these materials have been distributed to businesses along the coast, but distribution slowed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Now is a great time to reconnect with businesses, restock displays, and introduce the materials to new locations.

If you're interested in volunteering to help with collateral distribution or joining any of the ODRC committees, please contact ODRC Steering Committee member Brian Saunders at [saveoregondunes@gmail.com](mailto:saveoregondunes@gmail.com).

We also welcome photos and videos from your visits to the dunes! Several Steering Committee members help manage our social media channels, and your content could be featured in future posts.

Lastly, if you have experience with social media marketing, we'd love to hear from you. The ODRC has funding to support a paid social media strategy, and we're looking for someone to help expand our reach. If you're interested, please contact Andy Vobora at [Andy@eugencascadescoast.org](mailto:Andy@eugencascadescoast.org).

Thank you for supporting the Oregon Dunes!

### **ODRC Mission**

Our mission is to collaboratively support, guide and promote Oregon dunes restoration and the preservation of the open sand, unique habitats and dunes processes that benefit the plants, animals and people who live and play in this special place.



*08.24.24 John Dellenback Dunes – Oregon Dunes Recreation Area*



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