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NEWSLETTER



COMPREHENSIVE RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION PLAN FOR THE “LAS GOLONDRINAS” DUNE

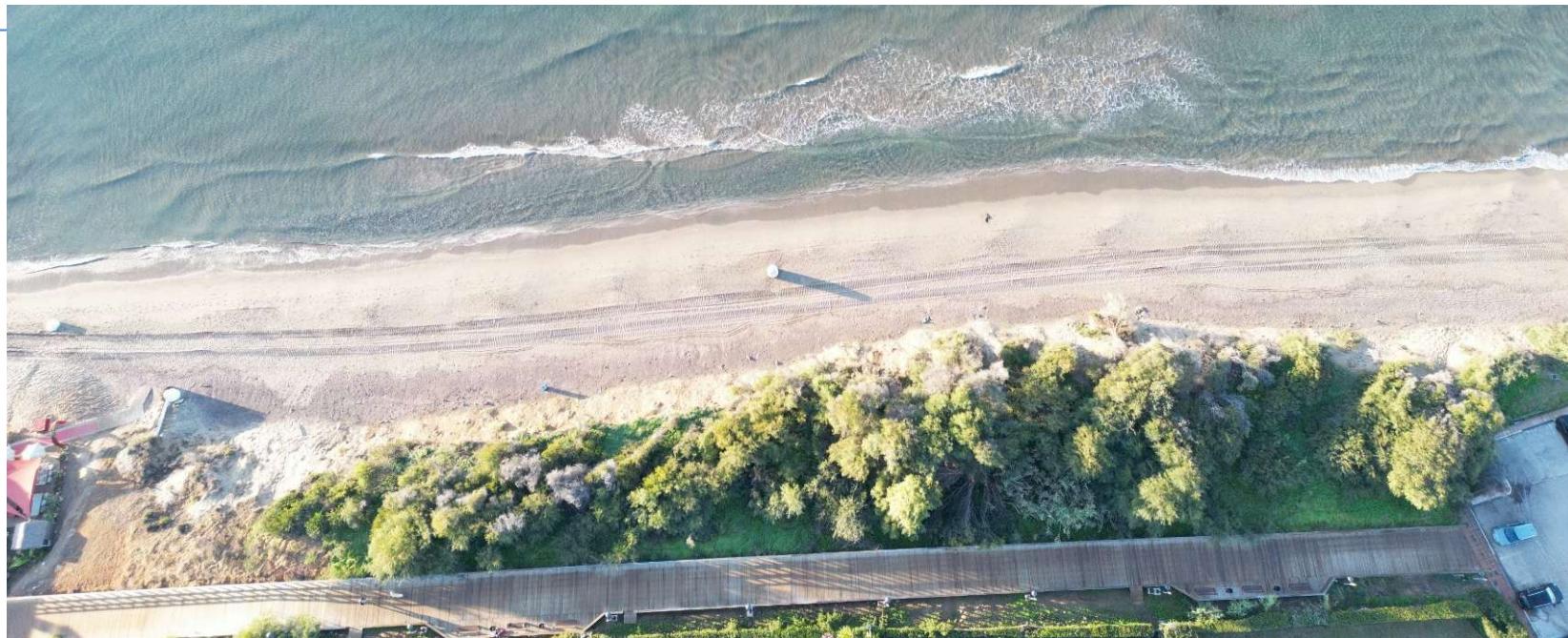
We are very pleased to announce that the Málaga Province Environment Foundation (MPEF) will support the “Las Golondrinas” Dune work that ProDunas Marbella, together with the Marbella City Council, will begin on the Las Golondrinas dune. We are going to recover, rehabilitate, and reforest this dune ecosystem, which has unfortunately been neglected for many years.

This support will enable us to undertake the necessary work on 4,500 m², which represents a significant challenge. A lot of hard work will be involved in the restoration of this valuable dune ecosystem. The project involves technical work with specialized personnel and machinery, support from the Marbella City Council, and the collaboration of schoolchildren and volunteers.

The complete eradication of the False Mimosa (Acacia), the dreaded FIS (Foreign Invasive Species), will not be easy. However, if we get rid of it, native flora will once again be able to establish itself, thrive, and strengthen the health of the entire dune environment.

We will keep you updated on every step of the development of this important project on the Marbella coast. It is expected to last at least a year.

Thank you for joining us to conserve our Marbella's coastline.



NO TO CHEMICAL HERBICIDES AND PESTICIDES IN OUR DUNE ECOSYSTEMS

At ProDunas Marbella we are committed to the non-use of chemical products in the eradication of iFIS (Foreign Invasive Species) in the dune ecosystems.

These principles are based on environmental protection and safety criteria, and are consistent with the values that have defined our work for over 20 years. Eradication without compromising biodiversity should always be our objective.

The photographic report shows the vulnerability of native species, such as the Stone Pine, in this particular case, pines that were reforested a few years ago by schoolchildren from the Alborán School. These pines have been ruthlessly poisoned by unknown third parties on the off chance that they might bother householders 25 years from now...

ProDunas Marbella insists on selective and careful manual or mechanical conservation, combining stump removal and complete root extraction. Although this method takes a lot more hard physical work, it is completely sustainable and consistent with the natural restoration goals we advocate. We can demonstrate and confirm that the use of chemical products will not stop the resprouting of either False Mimosa or Giant Reeds.

We appreciate the effort, understanding, and support of all those actively involved in protecting our dune ecosystems.



January came in with a bang in the Las Golondrinas Dune

January came roaring in, and if you don't believe it, just ask the volunteers from ProDunas Marbella. Together with the intrepid workers from the Department of the Environment, the first Tuesday after the Christmas holidays saw them get started, chainsaws in hand, removing tree stumps and branches, preparing the ground for the Las Golondrinas Dune Rehabilitation Project.

It's demanding work requiring determination, perseverance, and commitment. However, the work is now well underway thanks to our tireless volunteers who are always ready to look after our coastline.

Who's afraid of hard work? Certainly not our volunteers!



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION TO START THE YEAR IN THE DUNES

Bahía Marbella Secondary School kicks off the year in its adopted dune, El Pinillo, with an exciting activity: birdwatching.

A field day in the dune learning how to identify the different species, understand their importance, and appreciate the value of these ecosystems as a refuge for wildlife.

In the coming weeks, the schoolchildren will continue their main work of eradicating the FIS (Foreign Invasive Species). This will be complemented by classroom discussions to explore the life cycles of the flora and fauna within the dune system in greater detail.

Without a doubt, there's no better way to start the year than by learning both in the classroom and in the field, combining the theoretical with hands-on conservation.



Nightfall in the Dunes

There are moments when the dunes stand still. As the sun begins to set and the light changes, the landscape becomes quieter, slower. The sky slowly turns red, and the sea murmurs silently, reminding us that these spaces remain alive, even as the day fades.

Sunsets—and dusks—seen from the dunes are not just beautiful. They are the reflection of a fragile balance, of an ecosystem that needs time, care, and respect to continue gifting us with scenes like this.

Caring for the dunes is also caring for these moments. Because protecting nature is, in essence, protecting what makes us stop and stare.





Did you know what the interconnected wooden posts are and why their installation involves more work than is obvious at first glance?

The wooden posts are interconnected with sisal, a plant-based rope, and they are installed at the base of dunes to demarcate the areas between the beach and the dune proper, thus protecting these natural spaces.

They are not there either to close or fence off the dunes, but to show where the dune begins. This is an attempt to regulate foot traffic, which compacts the soil. This allows the sand and dune vegetation to regenerate naturally.

Although they appear simple, their installation requires careful planning:

- the exact distance between posts is calculated. Carefully;
- the plant-based rope (sisal) has to be specially ordered and must be installed with extra length to allow for sagging because it shrinks with the ever-present humidity, and not only because of rain;
- like with any fencing, part of the post is buried to ensure stability when the wind blows;

The entire system is adapted to the environment. It blends into the landscape without altering the dune.

The posts are unobtrusive, long-lasting, and carefully installed to help conserve one of the most fragile ecosystems on our coastline. Since the official declaration of our dunes as the Marbella Dunes Ecological Reserve, the installation of the interconnected posts is a requirement insisted upon by the Andalusian Regional Government (La Junta de Andalucía).

SEE YOU IN FEBRUARY

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