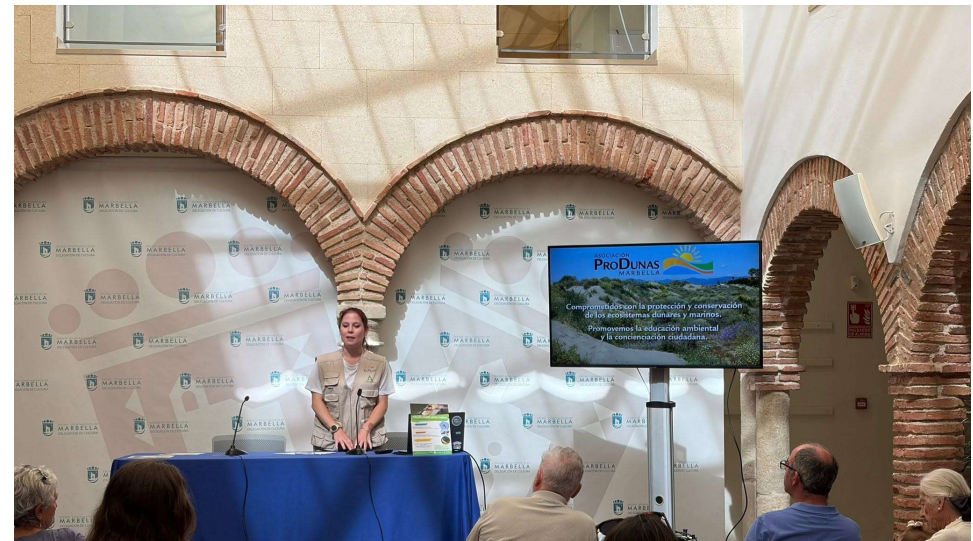


Marbella, June 2026

Newsletter



MARRAM GRASS (*Ammophila arenaria*) THRIVES IN THE DUNES OF MARBELLA

These days, truly spectacular stands of marram grass can be found throughout the dune areas east of Marbella. Marram grass (*Ammophila arenaria*) is one of the most important plants for the formation and stability of dunes.

With its long leaves and deep, abundant roots, it helps retain sand, slows wind erosion, and contributes to the natural growth of the dunes. Its presence is a magnificent sign for this coastal ecosystem, which needs protection, respect, and continuing conservation efforts.

At ProDunas Marbella, we continue working to preserve these unique natural spaces along our coastline. Every native plant plays an essential role, and marram grass is undoubtedly one of the greatest allies of our dunes.

We remind everyone of the importance of not stepping on dune vegetation, not creating paths outside of the designated areas, and respecting these small havens of biodiversity.

Taking care of the dunes is taking care of our coast.



The Workshop: a morning worth remembering in the Artola Dunes



We had the pleasure of welcoming a group of employees from The Workshop Málaga to the Natural Monument “Dunas de Artola”. It was a very special morning for ProDunas Marbella.

Their involvement, their questions, their eagerness to learn and their attitude of not wanting the activity to end made it a real pleasure for us to share the richness and importance of this dune environment with them.



During the visit, we spoke about native flora, invasive alien species, the fragility of the ecosystem and the conservation work carried out to protect this unique natural area in Marbella. Without a doubt, it was one of those mornings in which ProDunas Marbella especially enjoys teaching, explaining and sharing the value of the Natural Monument “Dunas de Artola”.

Thank you, The Workshop, for your willingness, your sensitivity and your desire to contribute to the protection of nature.

Erasmus, Cycling, and Dune Conservation

A group of Erasmus students, currently on exchange at the Sierra Blanca Secondary School, came with us on a dune conservation day to the dune sponsored by the school itself – the Río Real dune.

They cycled out to the dune and, once there, we didn't make it easy for them: it was time to get to work removing False Mimosa (*Acacia*), a FIS (Foreign Invasive Species) that threatens the balance of the dune ecosystem.

With a lot of effort, enthusiasm and teamwork, they contributed to improving this valuable natural environment in Marbella, in the process learning about the importance of protecting our dunes and the biodiversity they harbour.

Thank you to the Sierra Blanca School and this group of students for their active involvement in the conservation of our coastline



WORKSHOP ON BIRDS THAT HAVE FALLEN OUT OF THEIR NESTS:

Learning to do the right thing is also about conservation

Today we held a workshop on this theme in the Hospital Real de la Misericordia-theHospitalillo. This was an informative workshop about birds perceived to have fallen out of their nests, and what to do when we find a chick, a fledgling or an injured bird on the ground.

During the workshop, we learned something very important: not all the chicks we see on the ground have been abandoned by their parents. Very often, they are fledglings that are learning to fly and whose parents are still nearby, feeding them and watching over them. We also looked at how to distinguish an injured bird from a bird in the learning phase, when it's best to observe from a certain distance, and when it's necessary to contact specialists for help. One of the main points was knowing how to act correctly with species such as swifts, house martins, and swallows, birds that are very common in our environment and especially sensitive during the breeding season.

Here are some basic guidelines:

- First observe from a distance;
- Never give them bread, milk or water.;
- Don't try to look after the bird in your own home
- If it's in danger (cats or other predators) carefully place it in a ventilated box;
- If in doubt, contact specialised help.

At ProDunas Marbella, we continue to focus on environmental education as a key tool to protect the biodiversity around us.

Thank you to everyone who attended the workshop and showed interest in learning how to take better care of our birds.

Remember: We're looking for people who are interested in learning how to help and are prepared to feed and care for birds until they can fly.





MARBELLA WILL EXPAND ITS ECOLOGICAL DUNE RESERVE WITH THREE NEW DUNE ÁREAS

The **Marbella Ecological Dune Reserve** will incorporate three new sites of great environmental value: **Duna El Pinillo**, **Torre Real** and **Calahonda**. This expansion represents a very important step towards strengthening the protection of Marbella's coastline and conserving dune areas that form part of the city's biodiversity, landscape and natural identity.

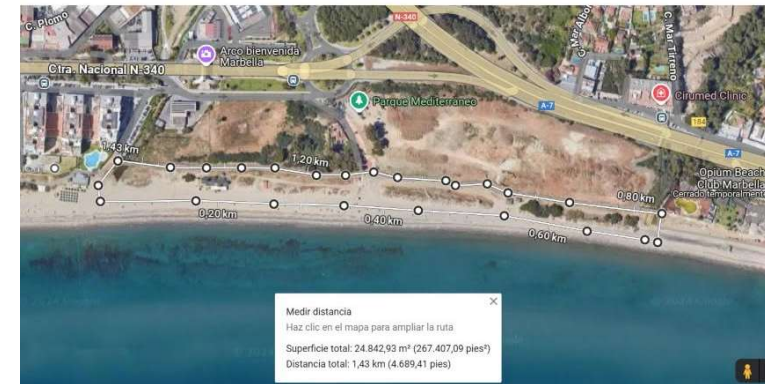
These environments are home to habitats of interest, native flora adapted to the coastal environment and essential areas for the ecological balance of the coastline. Their inclusion in the Reserve will allow progress towards more appropriate management and greater protection of these natural spaces.

Preparing a Technical Plan for the three dune ecosystems has been a substantial, detailed and demanding task for our team at ProDunas Marbella, and we are pleased to receive the news that Marbella's Plenary Council has given its approval to the creation and expansion of three new dune areas.

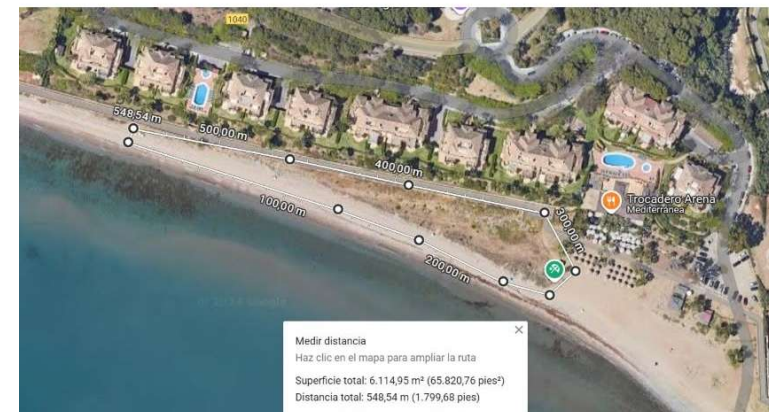
It is now the Regional Government of Andalusia that must give the green light for the incorporation of these three ecosystems, as the conservation of the dunes is essential to preserve such valuable and fragile ecosystems along our coast.

Each new protected space is an opportunity to continue caring for, restoring and raising awareness of Marbella's Natural Heritage.

Duna El Pinillo



Duna Torre Real



Duna Calahonda



We close a school year full of learning in the dunes



The school year has come to an end and, from ProDunas Marbella, we would like to take stock of several intense, participatory months full of moments that remind us why environmental education is so important.

It has been a school year full of surprises, always positive ones: birds appearing in the middle of an activity, small wildlife sightings, new species to observe, long walks along the coastline and many opportunities to learn directly in nature.



Over these months, students have been able to learn more about the dune ecosystem, identify some of the native flora that protects our dunes, discover the fauna that lives in these spaces and understand the importance of conserving an environment that is as valuable as it is fragile.

They have also taken part in many real fieldwork sessions, removing kilos and kilos of invasive alien species, cleaning natural areas and carrying out small actions which, together, contribute to the conservation of Marbella's coastline.

We would like to thank every teacher for trusting our activities, every student for taking part with enthusiasm, curiosity and respect, and also our monitors, who have been present at every session, always ready to teach and full of enthusiasm, patience and commitment. For now, we say goodbye to our school activities — but only until September.

See you next school year, with new activities, new learning experiences and many more sessions ahead to continue protecting our dunes together.



PRODUNAS MARBELLA CLOSES THE ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERING SEASON FOR THE SUMMER AFTER THE FINAL SESSION IN TORRE REAL

On 23rd of June we held the final environmental volunteering session before the summer break, which took place in the Torre Real dune.

With this activity, we close a particularly productive season of conservation, citizen participation and continued work across the different dune ecosystems of Marbella. Over the past few months, volunteers, educational centres, companies and collaborating organisations have actively contributed to the recovery and maintenance of the Marbella Ecological Dune Reserve.

The summer break is due to the high temperatures reached in the dune areas, especially during fieldwork hours. For this reason, the volunteering sessions will resume after the summer, with the start of the new school year and more suitable conditions to continue working on the ground.

From ProDunas Marbella, we would like to thank everyone who has taken part during this period. Their dedication and commitment are essential to continue protecting the coastline and conserving the biodiversity of our dunes. We wish you a happy summer and hope you enjoy these months of rest.



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ASOCIACIÓN
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MARBELLA

