Marbella, OCTOBER 2026

NEWSLETTER

ASOCIACIÓN PRODUNAS MARBELLA













STREAMS, AN ESSENTIAL PART OF MARBELLA'S DUNE LANDSCAPE

When we think of our dune environments, we think of sand, vegetation and the sea. But there is another element that forms an essential part of this natural landscape: the streams that flow towards the coast.

Throughout the Reserva Ecológica-Dunas de Marbella (Marbella Dune Ecological Reserve), we find names closely linked to our dune systems: Arroyo Segundo, Paloma, Río Real, Realejo, Siete Revueltas, Alicate, Sequillo, Real de Zaragoza, La Víbora and Arroyo de Las Cabrillas, among others.

Although some streambeds may appear dry or go unnoticed during the summer, they are home to wildlife that continues its natural life cycle. Numerous species find shelter among the vegetation, and at certain times of the year, we may also come across ducks with their ducklings, young birds that still depend entirely on their mothers for food, protection and survival.

For this reason, at ProDunas Marbella, we emphasise the importance of planning stream cleaning and maintenance activities with due consideration for wildlife breeding and nesting seasons. Work carried out at the wrong time can disturb natural habitats and put young animals at risk.

Protecting our streams is not simply about keeping them free of waste. It also means respecting the vegetation and wildlife they support and carrying out maintenance at the appropriate time.

Streams are small natural corridors that connect inland areas with the sea and form an important part of our valuable coastal ecosystem.





And in the middle of our invasive species removal work... we came across Jimsonweed.



While working to remove False Mimosa and Giant Reed, we discovered several specimens of ***Datura stramonium***, commonly known **as Jimsonweed**. We promptly removed them.

This is a poisonous plant and must therefore be handled with care. For this reason, and to continue protecting our dune environment, we proceeded to remove it without delay.

These conservation activities also allow us to identify unwanted species early and take action before they can spread throughout the dune environment. Observing, understanding and taking action are also part of conservation.







WHERE VOLUNTEERS CAN'T REACH, MUNICIPAL WORKERS STEP IN!

A few days ago, during our dune conservation work, we faced a particularly difficult challenge: removing a **False Mimosa (Acacia saligna) growing next to a wall**, with roots extending into the neighbouring property. Due to its complexity, this task was beyond the capabilities of our volunteers.

Thanks to the intervention of the **workers from the Environmental Department of Marbella Town Council**, the False Mimosa stump and all its roots were successfully removed. They also eliminated a specimen of Fountain Grass (Pennisetum setaceum), another invasive alien species that threatens our dune ecosystems.

We would especially like to thank the municipal workers for their dedication and the excellent work they carried out.

Protecting our dunes is everyone's responsibility, and when volunteers and professionals join forces, the results really make a difference!

We continue working towards dunes free from invasive species!











False Mimosas have caused extensive damage to the Real de Zaragoza dunes over the summer

We needed a tracked mini excavator to remove the regrowth, which had reached over two metres in height during the summer. Our volunteers had to inspect each section to ensure that the machinery had done its job effectively. In many cases, small roots remained from which new shoots could grow.

Armed with rakes, hoes and wheelbarrows, our volunteers thoroughly combed through the dunes to remove the remaining roots of False Mimosa (Acacia saligna) and Giant Reed (Arundo donax), continuing our efforts to restore this valuable natural environment.

Our volunteers also reported a wonderful atmosphere of teamwork, plenty of laughter and the arrival of two new volunteers, which fills us with joy and satisfaction.

Would you like to join us on a Tuesday?

Nature Never Ceases to Amaze Us!

During yesterday's volunteer conservation session, we discovered an impressive spider web stretching between four plants in the dune vegetation.

A true masterpiece of natural engineering, made up of countless silk threads connecting the branches and making use of the surrounding vegetation for support.

Spiders play an important role in our ecosystems: they help naturally control insect populations and are part of the biodiversity we must protect.

When walking through the dunes, we often focus on the plants, birds or conservation work being carried out. However, sometimes all it takes is stopping for a few seconds and observing our surroundings to discover a fascinating world that often goes unnoticed.

Protecting our dunes also means preserving these small wonders of nature.





A Morning of Dune Clean-Up with Hard Rock Hotel!







A few days ago, we visited Hard Rock Hotel to give an educational talk on **marine seagrasses** and their importance to our coastal ecosystems. During the session, we explained the essential role these marine plants play in conserving biodiversity, protecting coastlines from erosion and maintaining the balance of our ecosystems.

Following this educational session, this week we enjoyed a wonderful environmental volunteering day with the Hard Rock Hotel team, who joined us in our dune conservation and clean-up efforts.

During the activity, participants collected a considerable amount of litter that should never have ended up in our natural areas. **We even found an abandoned camping tent beneath a pine tree!**

This is yet another example of the importance of combining environmental education with hands-on conservation work, encouraging awareness, respect and the protection of our natural heritage.

At **ProDunas Marbella**, we would like to thank the entire Hard Rock Hotel team for their enthusiasm, dedication and commitment to conserving our coastal ecosystems.

Thank you for dedicating your time and energy to caring for our dunes and protecting their biodiversity!

A Day of Dune Conservation Bringing Together Cultures and Environmental Commitment!

A few days ago, we had the pleasure of welcoming a group of students from **Les Roches to the "Dunas de Artola" Natural Monument**, where they joined ProDunas Marbella for a rewarding day of dune conservation and clean-up activities.

It was a particularly multicultural morning, during which we shared experiences with students from **Pakistan, India and South Africa**, joined by Polish students from the Erasmus+ PractivISTA programme, who had been accompanying us for a month and actively participating in various activities organised by our Association.

Different nationalities, different cultures, but one shared goal: to protect **and conserve our valuable natural heritage**.

Amid conversations, learning and teamwork, the true focus was once again on the dunes. A natural environment of extraordinary ecological value that needs our commitment and care to ensure its conservation. At ProDunas Marbella, we would like to thank Les Roches and all the students for their enthusiasm, dedication and awareness of the importance of environmental protection.

Because nature conservation knows no borders.





BlixxGaming Joins ProDunas Marbella's Environmental Volunteering Programme!







The **BlixxGaming team** enthusiastically took part in a wonderful environmental volunteering day at the **"Dunas de Artola" Natural Monument,** demonstrating their commitment to protecting our natural heritage.

During the activity, participants carried out important work collecting previously cut wooden logs and branches that had been gathered into small piles, transporting them to a designated skip for removal.

They also enjoyed an informative guided walk through the "Dunas de Artola" Natural Monument, learning about the richness of this protected area, its biodiversity and the importance of conserving our dune ecosystems.

And after all that hard work, what better way to finish the morning than by sharing some well-deserved refreshments to recharge our batteries!

A huge thank you to the entire BlixxGaming team! Thank you for your energy, enthusiasm and willingness to help. Thanks to initiatives like this, we continue working together to protect and conserve our natural environment.

We hope to see you all again among our dunes very soon!

SEE YOU IN NOVEMBER

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