

Restoring Natural Dunes and Protecting People: Community Based Dune Restoration in Hampton and Seabrook, NH



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Funded by the NH DES Coastal Program
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Overall goal: Increase resilience of the sand dune system in
Hampton and Seabrook NH



the ability to "bounce back" after hazardous
events such as hurricanes, coastal storms, and
flooding rather than simply reacting to impacts
(NOAA)

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Goal 1: Build and strengthen dunes

- Plant diverse, native vegetation
- Decrease fragmentation
- Trap sand

**Preserving dune vegetation is
critical to preserving the
dunes themselves!**



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Goal 2: Allow dunes to ecologically develop

- Minimize human disturbance
 - Outreach efforts
 - Signs
 - Symbolic fencing



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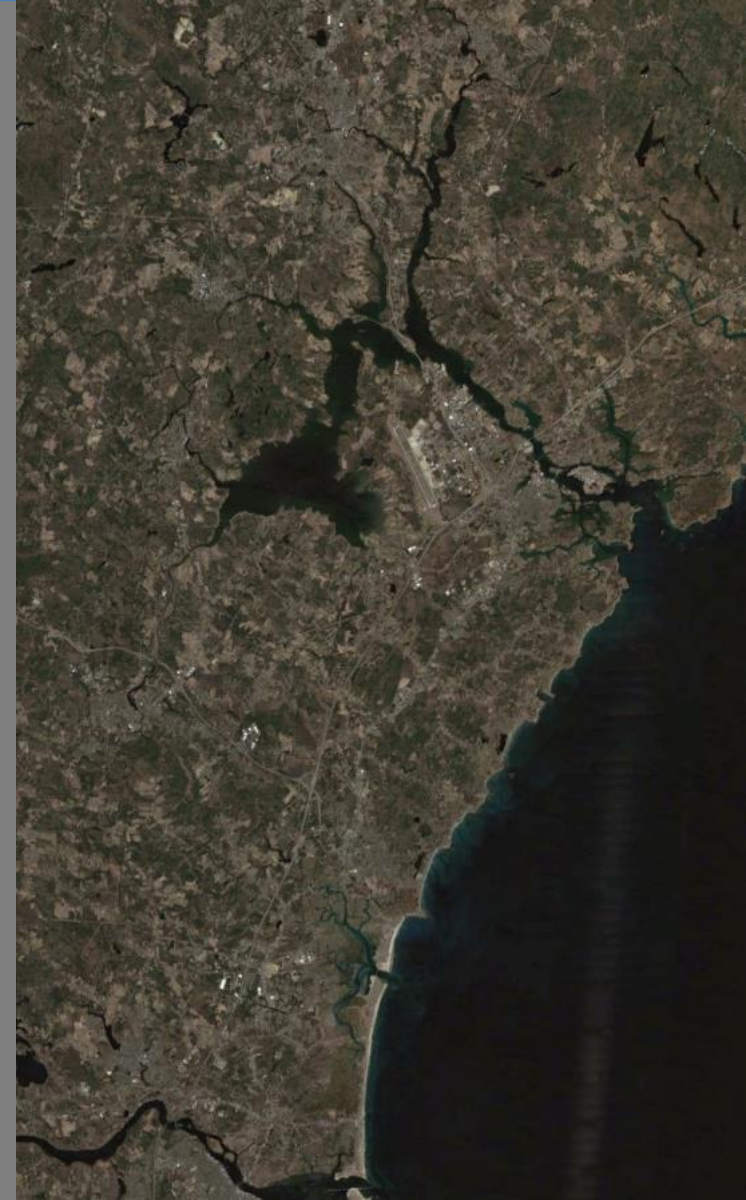
Goal 3: Engage the Community

- Community meetings
- School visits – classroom, field and greenhouse
- Volunteer field efforts
- Today!



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Goal 4: Build a program in NH for future projects that will directly protect property and lives



Project locations



Hampton Beach State Park



Harborside Park



Plant donor
area

Restoration Planning

State and Federal Agencies

- NH DES Coastal Program
- NH Division of Parks and Recreation
- NH Natural Heritage Bureau
- NH Fish and Game
- NH Division of Historical Resources
- NH DES Wetlands Bureau
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- US Fish and Wildlife Service

Community Partners

- Seabrook Conservation Commission
- Hampton Conservation Commission
- Seabrook Beach Village District
- Coastal Research Volunteers
- Community volunteers

Who else should we be talking to?

Sand Dune Restoration Plan

Hampton Beach State Park, Hampton Harbor Wildlife
Management Area, Harborside Park and Town of Seabrook
Dunes

Hampton and Seabrook, NH

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June 15, 2015

Project Activities at Hampton Beach State Park

- Common Garden
- Revegetate walkways
- Informational signs
- Symbolic fencing



Common Garden at Hampton Beach State Park

April 2015



September 2015



Seabrook Plant Donor Site

- Harvest donor plants
- Transplant to other sites
- Grow plants out in Common Garden



Project Activities at Harborside Park

- Revegetate walkways
- Informational signs
- Symbolic fencing



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Project Activities to date

- Technical review committee
- Planning and permitting
- Restoration plan
- Community presentations
- Common Garden
 - Volunteer planting efforts
 - Monitoring
- Dune profiles and monitoring
- Botanical Surveys



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Today's Plan

- Harvest plants from the garden
- Site walk around the dunes
- Plant in degraded areas



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Upcoming Volunteer Activities

- Seabrook Plant Harvest
Thursday, Nov. 5th, 9-11:00 am
- Dune Planting Effort
Saturday, Nov. 7th, 8:30-11am



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Waves crashing on shore
Unprotected dunes need help
Rescued by beach grass.

Henry A.
5th grade

Dune fire, Seabrook, NH



Dune fire, Seabrook, NH

August 5, 2015



September 29, 2015



Draft Dune Vegetation Harvesting Protocol

- Plants will be removed from areas of high density
- The newest shoots will not be selected for harvest
- No more than 10% of the population will be removed in a given area
- Narrow spades will be used to uproot plants to maintain the integrity of the root structure
- Spades will be positioned at the midpoint between two shoots so as to sever the rhizome at the midpoint and leave the roots intact
- Soil/sand will be shaken from roots and rhizomes and replaced to donor site
- Plants will be immediately stored in bags to limit desiccation to roots and leaves
- Plants will be stored in the cold room at the UNH Jackson Estuarine Laboratory until transplantation