



## 2014 Annual Report

It has been another busy year of education and stewardship activities that involve the community in coastal conservation. We continue to work at striking a balance between trying offer new and innovative programs that engage broader audiences and making sure that we don't exceed our capacity to sustain our core stewardship and education goals.

Looking back over the year there were numerous highlights. On the land stewardship front, we added 2.8 acres of land to the Nature Center property, strengthened connections with local land trusts through the Durable Collaborations project, and worked with our partners to develop a Dune Restoration FAQ sheet that references research and literature related to coastal restoration. Through our education and outreach programs we teamed up with our neighbors at Redwood Coast Montessori school to create a native plant garden and a program to foster young coastal stewards, collaborated with HSU and the Humboldt Office of Education to create a Quest at the Nature Center and with support from the State Coastal Conservancy, we extended Nature Center Hours, expanded family events and improved our outreach displays. Our new Business Program has helped local business showcase their support for coastal conservation and the Gear Sale, Sand Sculpture Festival and Wine by the Sea events not only raise funds to support our programs, but also help connect the community to the coast.



*Humboldt Bay wallflower on the new property*

Friends of the Dunes is making an impact in our community by helping students understand the importance of conserving coastal habitats, giving college students training and experience in environmental education and coastal restoration and providing opportunities for all ages to get involved in learning about and protecting our coast. The summaries of program participation are detailed below and give you an idea of just how busy Friends of the Dunes has been this past year. This could not be possible with the ongoing support of donors, volunteers, agency partners and local foundations. With your continued support, we look forward to another great year in 2015.

Mike Wilson, Board President

### School Education



*Bay to Dunes South field trip*

In 2014, Friends of the Dunes offered 7 field trip programs: Bay to Dunes North, Bay to Dunes South, Adopt a Dune, Future Conservationists, Cows & Cattails (in collaboration with North Coast Regional Land Trust), and Ocean Day. In addition, we coordinated the guided walks for school groups during the California Native Plant Society's Wildflower Show. In total, these programs served 2,881 students from 37 schools. Through funding from grants, private donors, and fundraisers, we were able to waive \$5,132 in program fees, and provide schools with \$11,800 in bus scholarships. A total of 55 volunteers contribute 993 hours to these programs. 7 of these volunteers were interns receiving college credit or a per diem reimbursement.

## Community Education

In 2014, Friends of the Dunes offered a total of 70 community education programs and participated in 12 outreach and tabling events. About 100 volunteers contributed a total of 544 hours to these programs, which engaged close to 3,500 participants. We offered programs regularly at the Humboldt Coastal Nature Center, and the Lanphere Dunes and Ma-le'l Dunes Units of the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge. In addition, we coordinated a few special events, family programs, and guided walks on various other properties including the Manila Community Center/Manila Dunes Recreation Area, Manila Community Park, the Bureau of Land Management's Ma-le'l Dunes South, Baker's Beach, and the Humboldt Bay Aquatic Center/Eureka Slough. Friends of the Dunes staff and volunteers also participated in 12 tabling and outreach events throughout the year.

## Volunteer Restoration Activities

FOD runs and manages three volunteer restoration programs including the Dune Ecosystem Restoration Team (DERT), Drop-in Restoration, and the Spring Breakaway program. Several larger volunteer events took place, including the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Lupine Bash at the Lanphere Dunes Unit of the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife

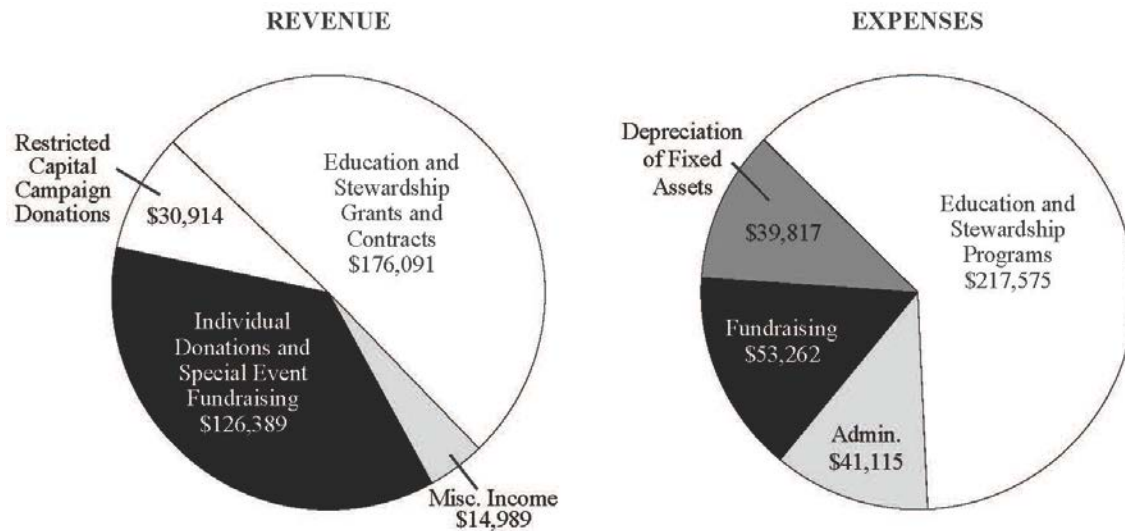


Refuge in February and a special collaborative event with the California Conservation Corps at the Humboldt Coastal Nature Center in October. Approximately 369 individuals attended FOD restoration activities in 2014, up from 276 individuals in 2013. A total of 1755 restoration volunteer hours were recorded.

*Volunteers at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Lupine Bash.*

## Financials

In 2014 revenue and expenses.



Our complete financial statements are available on the California Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts, or you can call our office to set up an appointment to view our financial records.