

Volunteer Opportunities

FDEP's Ecosystem Restoration Section offers many volunteer opportunities during our standard work hours Monday–Friday 8:00–4:30. Limited weekend volunteer opportunities are available and are dependent upon ERS staff schedule.

Volunteer duties for GINS dune restoration may include:

- Identification and collection of native dune vegetation
- Plant propagation
- Planting vegetation
- General greenhouse maintenance

For more information contact:
Natalie.Hooton@dep.state.fl.us or
Beth.L.Fugate@dep.state.fl.us

**We are always looking for partners
and volunteers of all kinds!**

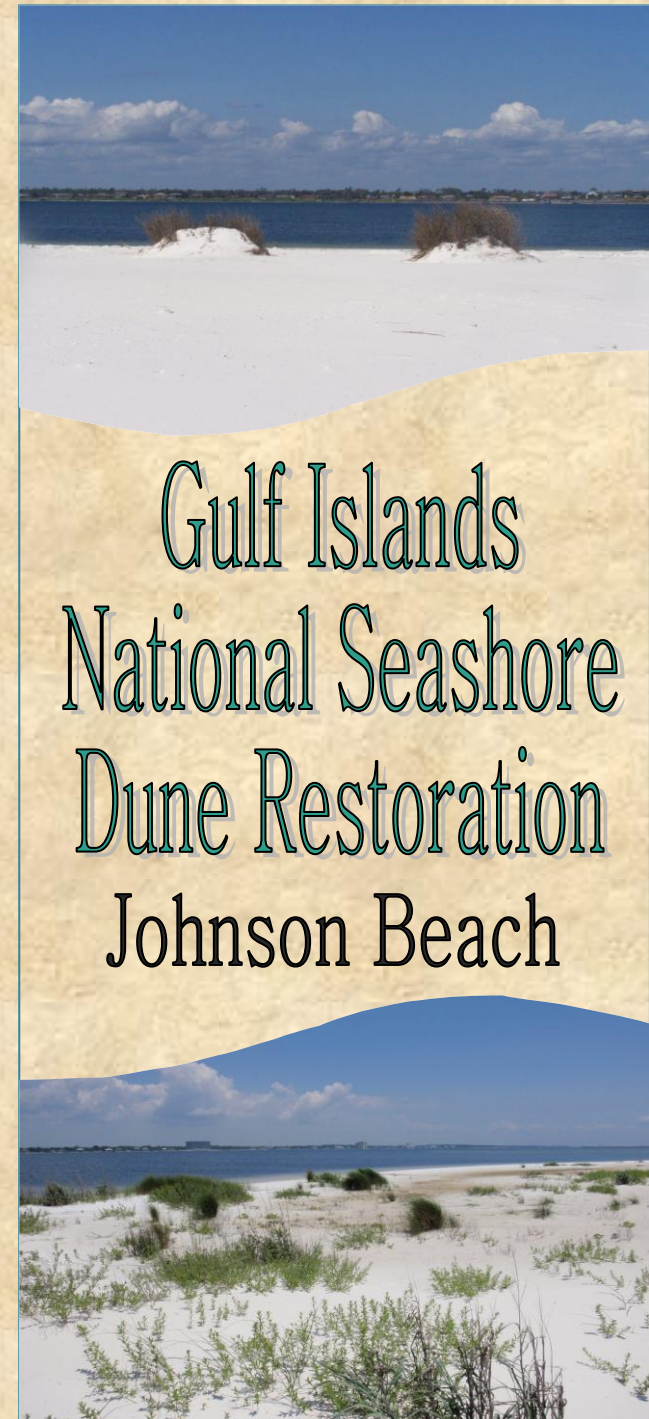
**Interested in Volunteering
or becoming a Project Partner?
850.595.8300 x1164
or 850.475.5590**

Funding and/or Resources Provided By:



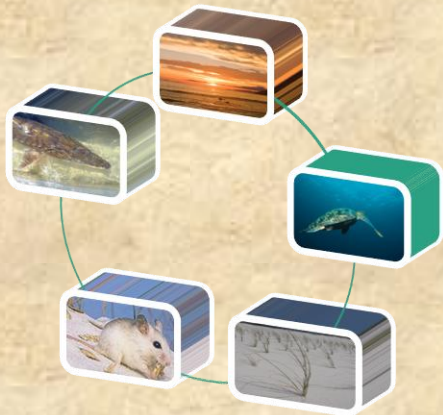
For more information contact:
Florida Dept of Environmental Protection
160 Governmental Ctr. Suite 308
Pensacola, FL 32502
850.595.8300

Or visit:
[http://www.dep.state.fl.us/northwest/ecosys/
section/restoration.htm](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/northwest/ecosys/section/restoration.htm)



What are the objectives of this project?

- To restore the dune system back to its' prior state
- To insure system stability and function in an effort to support living marine resources and species of concern
- To allow for sustainable use of these natural resources through healthy ecosystem function
- To assist in the recovery of federally listed threatened and endangered species, including sea turtles, seagrasses, the Gulf sturgeon, and the Perdido Key beach mouse.



How are plant species selected for use in the re-vegetation?

Plants that are being used for the GINS restoration project were selected because they

- are native to Florida AND
- currently exist on the dunes at GINS, AND/OR
- are found elsewhere on Perdido Key, AND/OR
- are mentioned in scientific literature as being present at GINS in the past

What research is being conducted at the site to improve dune restoration techniques in the future?

- Optimal planting depths for herbaceous species
- Role of vegetative wrack (seaweed or other marine plant life cast up on shore) on seedling survival and success
- Most favorable planting location of dune grasses

Future projects

This project is part of a larger 145 acre restoration goal for Gulf Islands National Seashore (GINS), Florida



Current (green) and Future (red) Project Sites on Perdido Key