

Abronia umbellata var. *breviflora* on the Oregon coast: Reintroduction and population monitoring



2012

Report to the Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service, and Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation

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PREFACE

This report is the result of a cooperative Challenge Cost Share project between the Institute for Applied Ecology (IAE) and a federal agency. IAE is a non-profit organization dedicated to natural resource conservation, research, and education. Our aim is to provide a service to public and private agencies and individuals by developing and communicating information on ecosystems, species, and effective management strategies and by conducting research, monitoring, and experiments. IAE offers educational opportunities through 3-4 month internships. Our current activities are concentrated on rare and endangered plants and invasive species.



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Cover photograph: Pink sand verbena (*Abronia umbellata* var. *breviflora*).

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pink sand-verbena (*Abronia umbellata* var. *breviflora*) is listed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture as endangered, and a Species of Concern by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Since the late 1970's, the number of natural populations in Oregon has dwindled from around ten down to about five. The primary threats to the species include competition from European beachgrass (*Ammophila arenaria*) and habitat disturbance by off road vehicles. This report summarizes pink sand-verbena research along the Oregon coast since 1997, including seeding and transplantation experiments and population monitoring at several beach and dune habitats. In 2012 plant measurements were taken on randomly selected plants at all Forest Service and BLM sites. Substrate samples were collected at each site monitored in 2012.

In 2012, our actions and observations included:

1. USDA Forest Service, Siuslaw National Forest sites
 - a. Tahkenitch: 100,00 seeds were distributed at Tahkenitch in 2012, resulting in 381 plants (135 reproductive). This was the second seeding at the site since 2005.
 - b. Siltcoos Creek: 50,000 seeds were distributed, resulting in 605 plants (135 reproductive), the second highest number of plants ever recorded at the site. Plants at this site were among the most robust observed in 2011 surveys, this was not so in 2012.
 - c. Overlook: This population is now one of the largest in Oregon and we strongly recommend continued beachgrass removal and seed addition. North Overlook had double the number of reproductive and vegetative plants recorded in 2011 and South Overlook remained stable.
 - i. North: 60,000 seeds were distributed, resulting in 4,860 plants (1,627 reproductive)
 - ii. South: 60,000 seeds were distributed resulting in 2,247 plants (628 reproductive).
2. USDI Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay District sites
 - a. New River: In 2012, 120,000 seeds were distributed, resulting in 66 plants (26 reproductive). This represents a significant decrease from previous years. Most plants were found in areas where breaks in the foredune had allowed overwash to occur highlighting the affinity of pink sand-verbena to continued disturbance (and possibly nutrient input). Continued seeding at the site should augment the existing seed bank.
 - b. Coos Bay North Spit: 100,000 seeds were distributed. Monitoring of the area was divided into three sub-sections and the entire population was subsampled. Only reproductive plants were counted and the estimated population size is 346,658 reproductive plants, a nearly twofold increase from 2011.
3. Elk River (private land managed by the USFWS)

- a. Elk River: 100,000 seeds were distributed resulting in 556 plants (384 reproductive).
- 4. Additional sites
 - a. Bandon Beach (restoration area approximately 2 miles south of China Creek): In 2012, 100,000 seeds were distributed, resulting in 161 plants (84 reproductive). Six additional plants were found area near China Creek. This area has not been seeded since 2008.
 - b. Port Orford: This is a natural population that was augmented with seeding and transplants in 1996. In 2012 240 plants were found at the site.
 - c. Floras Lake: This site was last seeded in 2000 and had not been monitored since 2009. In 2012 we found 67 plants (8 reproductive) indicating that a long-term seed bank is likely present at the site.

We observed that in 2012 as in previous years, the most successful sites were those with continued disturbance and the removal of European beachgrass (Overlook, Coos Bay North Spit, Elk River, New River, Siltcoos). Competition from European beachgrass continues to be a major factor in the success of pink sand-verbena populations, however there also appear to be unidentified factors (potentially including precipitation and temperature) that contribute to yearly fluctuations in population size. Although some seedings did not result in large numbers of plants in 2012, the added seed will contribute to the seed bank for recruitment in future years (ex. Floras Lake).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE.....	II
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	III
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	IV
TABLE OF CONTENTS	VI
LIST OF FIGURES.....	IX
LIST OF TABLES.....	X
INTRODUCTION	1
SEEDING AND MONITORING OVERVIEW	3
Seed source.....	3
Study sites	3
Transplanting	3
Direct seeding.....	3
Population surveys.....	4
General protocol	4
Plant Measurements.....	4
Substrate Assessment.....	4
General Trend	8
Restoration at Siuslaw National Forest sites	9
Siltcoos Creek	9
Tahkenitch Creek	10
Overlook North and South	10
Overwintering Plants at Overlook North and South.....	12
Bureau of Land Management.....	13
Coos Bay North Spit	13
Seeding and monitoring.....	13
Population trends.....	16
New River ACEC.....	18
Seeding and monitoring.....	18
Population trends.....	18
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department	19
Bandon Beach South	19
China Creek.....	19
US Fish and Wildlife Service	20
Elk River.....	20

Plant Measurements.....	22
Substrate Assessments	23
DISCUSSION	23
Transplanting	24
Seeding.....	24
Importance of a seedbank.....	26
Plant Measurements.....	26
Substrate Assessments	26
Additional Research	26
Population modeling to assess recovery objectives.....	26
Additional beach species.....	27
Hypotheses for Future Research.....	27
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2013	30
LITERATURE CITED	32
APPENDIX I. MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR POPULATION MONITORING	34
APPENDIX II. SURVEY RESULTS FOR SEEDED AND NATURAL POPULATIONS.....	35
APPENDIX III. MAPS OF SELECTED SITES- SEEDED OR MONITORED	46
Bandon Beach State Park.....	47
Bandon Beach and China Creek	48
Bastendorff Beach	50
Elk River	51
Floras Lake.....	52
New River.....	53
Overlook North and South	54
Port Orford	55
Ophir/Euchre Creek	56
Otter Point.....	57
Siltcoos	58
Tahkenitch.....	59
APPENDIX IV. POPULATION MONITORING AND SEED ADDITION AT OTHER SITES .	60
Baker Beach	60
Bastendorff Beach.....	60
Cape Blanco	61
Driftwood Creek.....	61
Euchre Creek.....	61
Floras Lake	61
Ona Beach.....	61
Otter Point	62

Pistol River	62
Port Orford.....	62
Salmon River.....	63
Sutton Creek.....	63

LIST OF FIGURES

- Figure 1. Pink sand-verbena (*Abronia umbellata* var. *breviflora*; from Hitchcock et al 1964)
- Figure 2. Historic and current distribution of pink sand-verbena (*Abronia umbellata* var. *breviflora*) in Oregon.
- Figure 3. Plant establishment rates within one year of seed-sowing on beaches and restored dunes. Bar length and the value to the right indicate the percentage of seeds establishing as vegetative or reproductive plants. Only sites that were seeded at least two years after an earlier seeding attempt are shown. The year of seed sowing is indicated in parentheses after each location name. At New River in 1999, the seeding area was partially destroyed prior to observation, so the value presented may be an underestimate of the actual number of plants established there. A total of 50,000 seeds were sown at each site, except where noted in Table 1.
- Figure 4. Population trends and seeding history at Siltcoos Creek, 1996 – 2012
- Figure 5. Total number of pink sand-verbena plants counted at North Overlook site, 2000-2012. Seeding and transplanting events are marked at each applicable year. South Overlook was not surveyed in 2008; the datapoint refers only to North Overlook.
- Figure 6. Total number of pink sand-verbena plants counted at South Overlook site, 2000-2012. Seeding events are marked at each applicable year. * South Overlook was not surveyed in 2008 however it was seeded.
- Figure 7. Coos Bay North Spit pink sand-verbena reintroduction area. The open squares numbered 1-5 represent the original seeding plots; 10,000 seeds were sown in each plot in January 1997. The long rectangular area on the west side of the spit is the reference area established in 2000 (and expanded in 2002) used for subsampling reproductive pink sand-verbena abundance. The area delineated with a wavy line is censused instead of subsampled. North is toward the top of the page. The area seeded from 2006 to present west of the Foredune Road is not shown.
- Figure 8. In 2009, the populated area was divided into three section, 1) the original habitat (southeast), 2) northeast and 3) west of the Foredune Road. Each area was subsampled using the methods described in the text.
- Figure 9. Population trends at the Coos Bay North Spit reintroduction site. The area was seeded in January 1997 with 50,000 seeds from Port Orford. Population size estimates for 1997-1999 are complete censuses of all plants in the population, while those from 2000-2008 are estimated from a subsample of a reference area and census of the remainder of the population. The error bars for 2000-2008 estimates represent 95% confidence intervals. *In 2008, an estimate of the entire population size was not possible because over 50% of the population had been disced prior to our surveys. See text for a discussion of population trends. In 2009, the sampling methods were modified so that the entire population was sub-sampled (and no areas censused). In this chart the CI for 2009-2012 are not reported because the population estimate is a combination of 3 different populations, each with their own CI.
- Figure 10. Population trends at the New River ACEC reintroduction site. Seeding has been conducted in all years except 1998.

Figure 11. Population trends at Bandon State Park. European beachgrass removal and lowering of the foredune occurred in 2005. At that time the area was seeded and the natural population augmented. The area was not surveyed or seeded in 2009.

Figure 12. Population trends at Elk River. Seeding began in 2009.

Figure 13. Number of inflorescences vs. pH of substrate samples collected in 2012. Note that extreme pH values (both high and Low) generally have lower number of Inflorescences.

Figure 14. The percent of seeds stored from 0-9 years. The equation for the linear regression is $y = -0.03x + 0.955$, $R^2 = 0.81$, $P = 0.015$.

Figure 15. Pink sand-verbena in the north census area at the Coos Bay North Spit. Pink sand-verbena tended to be found along the ridges left by the disc harrow. This pattern was also noted at the Overlook sites in 2009.

Figure 16. Population trends of pink sand-verbena at Otter point, a natural, unmanipulated population and Port Orford, a natural population that has received intensive restoration in the form of augmentation (transplanting), partial elimination of beach grass behind the foredune, and disturbance with machinery (1992-1999). There are no data for Otter Point in 2005 or 2008 to present.

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Reintroduction sites, methods used, and habitats for seeding and transplanting efforts discussed in this report. Seedings reported here all involved the use of 50,000 seeds per site, except where noted.

Table 7. Average length of the longest branch, Average number of inflorescences and density of plants at select sites monitored in 2012. *Number of reproductive plants For Coos Bay North Spit represent an estimate based on our subsamples, the remaining values are based on censuses done at each site.

Table 8. Plant species native to Oregon beaches and dunes: candidates for use in ecosystem restoration projects. More information is needed on techniques for germination and propagation of these taxa.

Table 9. Average, Sum and Count of Plant Species within 0.5m of Randomly Selected pink sand-verbena plants. Names in Bold indicate native species. *Because it is difficult to Distinguish between individuals of both american and European BeachgRass, Presence/Absence only was noted.

Table 10. Range and average pH at select sites monitored in 2012. Note that the sand from the areas with cover of shell greater than 5% had the highest pH.

Table 11. Plant species native to Oregon beaches and dunes: candidates for use in ecosystem restoration projects. More information is needed on techniques for germination and propagation of these taxa.

Table 7. Results of surveys for pink sand-verbena at Coos Bay District Bureau of Land Management sites along the Oregon Coast. IAE conducted surveys from 2000-2012. Population data for years prior to 2000 are from various sources.

Table 8. Results of surveys for pink sand-verbena sites managed by the Siuslaw National Forest along the Oregon Coast. IAE conducted surveys from 2000-2012. Population data for years prior to 2000 are from various sources.

TABLE 9. RESULTS OF SURVEYS FOR PINK SAND-VERBENA SITES MANAGED BY THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION ALONG THE OREGON COAST. IAE CONDUCTED SURVEYS FROM 2000-2012. POPULATION DATA FOR YEARS PRIOR TO 2000 ARE FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

TABLE 10. RESULTS OF SURVEYS FOR PINK SAND-VERBENA SITES MANAGED BY THE USFWS ALONG THE OREGON COAST. IAE CONDUCTED SURVEYS FROM 2009-2012.

Table 11. Results of surveys for pink sand-verbena sites along the Oregon Coast managed by various land managers including the State Parks Department. IAE conducted surveys from 2000-2012. Population data for years prior to 2000 are from various sources.

Abronia umbellata var. breviflora on the Oregon coast: Reintroduction and population monitoring

REPORT TO THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, USDA FOREST SERVICE, AND OREGON DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

INTRODUCTION

Pink sand-verbena (*Abronia umbellata* var. *breviflora*; Figure 1) is listed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture as endangered, and it is considered a Species of Concern by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Historically, the species was known from beaches along the Pacific Coast from Vancouver Island (British Columbia) south to northern California. Until two plants were discovered in Willapa Bay in 2006, the species had been believed to be extinct in Washington. In 2000, a small population (two plants) was rediscovered on Vancouver Island, but this population did not re-establish in subsequent years. Since the late 1970's, the number of populations in Oregon has dwindled from around ten down to about five (Figure 2). The primary threats to the species include competition from non-native species including European beachgrass (*Ammophila arenaria*) and to a lesser extent European searocket (*Cakile maritima*), American searocket (*Cakile edentula*), as well as habitat disturbance by off road vehicles.

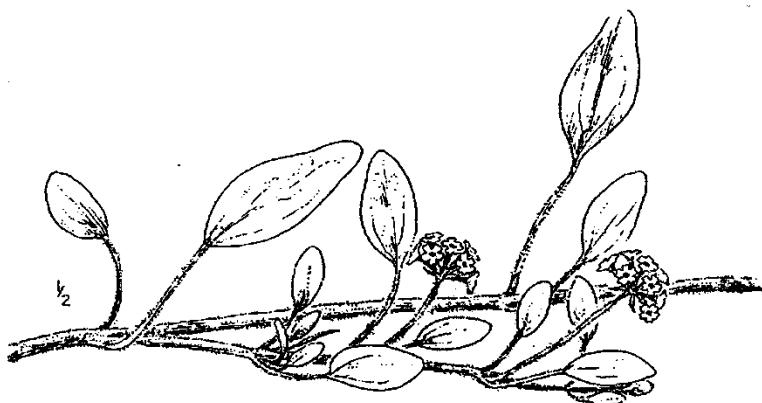


FIGURE 1. PINK SAND-VERBENA (ABRONIA UMBELLATA VAR. BREVIFLORA; FROM HITCHCOCK ET AL 1964)

The decline of pink sand-verbena along the coast is correlated with the reduction in number of many beach species, including native plants and wildlife. For example, the Western Snowy Plover has suffered a well-documented decline (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife 1994) that parallels that of pink sand-verbena. There is some historical evidence that snowy plovers used native vegetation, specifically sand-verbenas, for foraging and cover (Gabrielson and Jewett 1970, p.238). Recovery efforts for these species and others may be most effective if coordinated or combined.

Since the mid-1990's, research has been conducted on methods for reintroduction of pink sand-verbena. Research on suitability of dredged material as habitat for pink sand-verbena suggests that if this substrate is placed adjacent to the shore, it may provide excellent conditions for the species in the short term (Kaye 1999). Information is still needed on the reintroduction potential of the species in various beach habitats in order to develop a range-wide conservation and recovery plan. The ultimate goal of this reintroduction effort is to support the requirements of a Conservation Strategy (Kaye 2006) and remove the species from the endangered list.

In this report, we summarize recent seeding, transplanting, and monitoring efforts at several beaches and dune habitats along the Oregon coast since 1997. This report focuses on recent efforts in the Siuslaw National Forest (Baker Beach Tahkenitch Creek, Siltcoos Creek, Sutton Creek, Tenmile Creek, and the Overlook site), Coos Bay District Bureau of Land Management (Coos Bay North Spit and New River), Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (Bandon Beach and Pistol River) and managed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (Elk River and Crook Point). Information on additional populations can be found in Appendix III.

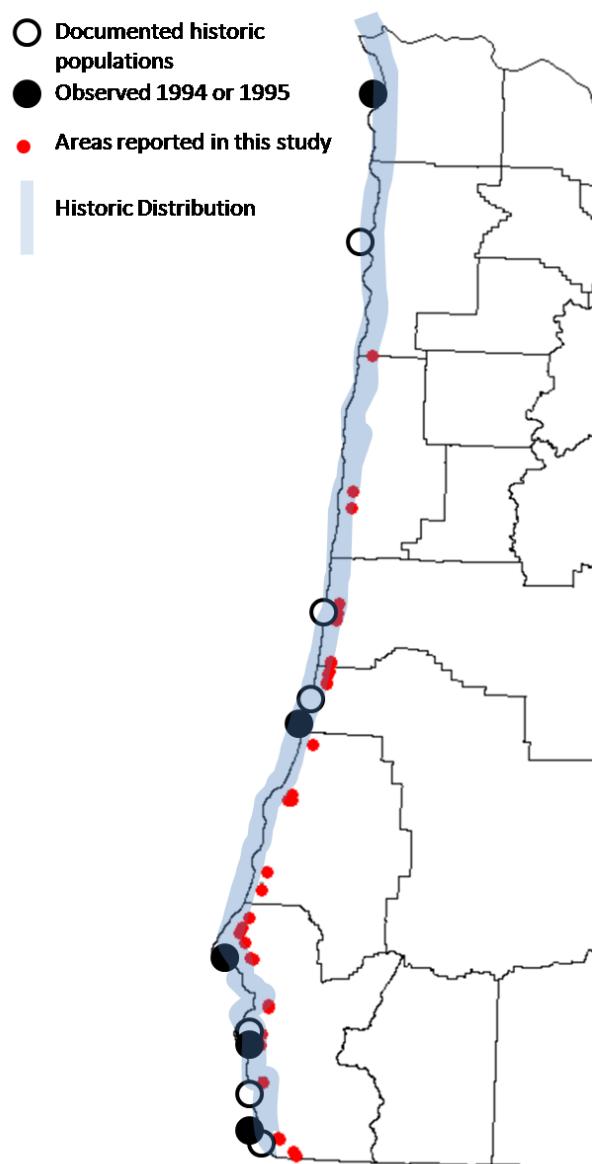


FIGURE 2. HISTORIC AND CURRENT DISTRIBUTION OF PINK SAND-VERBENA (*ABRONIA UMBELLATA VAR. BREVIFLORA*) IN OREGON.

SEEDING AND MONITORING OVERVIEW

General seeding and monitoring information is reviewed here. Site-specific information is included with the results of each site, below.

Seed source

All of the seed materials manually dispersed to sites in Oregon in 1997 through 2012 were collected from populations at Port Orford or Coos Bay, Oregon. The pink sand-verbena population at Coos Bay was established from seeds originally collected at Port Orford and are therefore of the same genetic lineage (McGlaughlin et al., 2002). From 1995-1997, seeds were collected from the natural population at Port Orford. Due to the decline in population size at Port Orford, in 1999 we began collecting seeds at the introduced site at Coos Bay North Spit. Seeds have been collected annually with the exception of 2008 when seed collection was not possible as the Coos Bay North Spit was bulldozed and disced in mid-October prior to fruit set for most individuals. These seeds were also the source for transplants grown in greenhouses at Oregon State University and IAE in Corvallis, Oregon. We use screens to sieve mature fruits from the sand. Fruits are collected from at least 20 areas distributed throughout the population. Immature seeds and areas where non-native species are present are avoided.

The seeds of pink sand-verbena occur in single-seeded fruits. After collection, fruits were cleaned of residual sand and other foreign material (such as twigs and leaves) and dried. In 1999, groups of 100 fruits were weighed to determine average fruit weight, and groups of 10 fruits were clipped open to determine average seed set. In subsequent years, this information was used to weigh out bags of 10,000 seeds (154 g) each for dispersal to beaches.

Study sites

Seed dispersal and/or transplanting were conducted at all or a subset of 17 Oregon sites from 1997 through 2012. Information on location, seeding and transplanting efforts, and brief habitat descriptions, is presented in Appendix III. Maps of sites seeded in 2012 are in Appendix II.

Transplanting

Transplanting occurred at various sites over multiple years. Detailed descriptions and results of transplanting can be found in “Experimental Reintroduction of Pink Sand-Verbena on the Oregon Coast: Transplanting and Seeding”, 2005. Information and results relevant to sites transplanted are also included in Appendix III.

Direct seeding

Pink sand-verbena fruits were scattered in February through early April of each year by hand by walking along the beach and slowly releasing handfuls of material until all were dispersed. Prior to dispersal, the release technique was calibrated so that seeding was at a rate of approximately 50 fruits per linear meter of beach. A total of 50,000 seeds were released on each beach or foredune in each year except as noted in Table 1 (range: 40,000-150,000). More than 15 sites have been seeded since this project began in 1997 (for information about sites not listed in Table 1, see “Experimental

Reintroduction of Pink Sand-Verbena on the Oregon Coast: Transplanting and Seeding”, 2005). All seeded sites were revisited the following late summer/early fall to survey for pink sand-verbena plants.

Population surveys

General protocol - Beginning in 2000 we started surveying known pink sand-verbena habitat. Sites were selected based on population and reintroduction history and time limitations. When populations were found, we documented the number of reproductive and vegetative individuals and, occasionally, measurements of plant size (length of the longest stem, longest width, and perpendicular width). In large populations we only counted reproductive plants. Because pink sand-verbena is an annual, vegetative plants do not contribute to future populations.

Plant Measurements

In 2012 additional plant measurements were recorded on selected sand-verbena plants. At Coos Bay North Spit, 3 plants were randomly selected along each survey transect. At the remaining sites, 20 points were randomly selected using GIS and uploaded points to handheld GPS units. In the field, the closest flowering plant to the preselected GPS point was monitored. Plant measurements included length of longest branch and number of inflorescences on the entire plant, the number and species of plants within 0.5m. Notes about substrate and habitat were recorded. In addition at Overlook North and South, Tahkenitch, and Siltcoos, plant characteristics were measured on a handful of overwintering plants. These plants were noted at the time of seeding in 2012 and GPS coordinates and location information recorded.

Substrate Assessment

At all sites monitored in 2012, at least three substrate samples were collected for analysis. At this time only the pH of each sample has been determined. In the future, these samples can be analyzed for sediment size, sorting and composition to help us to determine characteristics that may be common among successful pink sand-verbena sites.

TABLE 1. REINTRODUCTION SITES, METHODS USED, AND HABITATS FOR SEEDING AND TRANSPLANTING EFFORTS DISCUSSED IN THIS REPORT. SEEDINGS REPORTED HERE ALL INVOLVED THE USE OF 50,000 SEEDS PER SITE, EXCEPT WHERE NOTED.

Land Manager	Site	Location	Method	Habitat
<i>Coos Bay District Bureau of Land Management</i>				
	Coos Bay, North Spit	North of Coos Bay	<u>Seeding:</u> Dec. '96, March '06 (100k; newly restored area), March '07 (100k), March '08 (90k), Feb '09 (90k), Feb '10 (100k), Feb '11 (100k), Feb '12 (100k)	Open beach and beachgrass treatment area (sand spit)
	New River ACEC	sand spit near the mouth of Fourmile Creek about 8 miles south of Bandon	<u>Seeding:</u> Jan. '97, March '99, '00, '01 (70k), '02 (100k), March '03 (80k), March '04 (100k), March '05 (95k), March '06 (100k), March '07 (150k), March '08 (80k), Feb. '09, (80k) Feb. '10 (100k), Feb '11 (100k), Feb '12 (120k)*	Foredune beachgrass treatment area and open sand * In 2012, 20k seeds were distributed in an area ~1.5 miles to the south near Butte Creek. It is recommended that additional beach grass removal occur at the site prior to any future seeding efforts.
<i>Private Land, managed by USFWS</i>				
	Elk River	North of Port Orford, off of McKenzie Road	<u>Seeding:</u> Feb. '09 (100k), March '10 (100k), Feb '11 (100k), Feb '12 (100k)	Beach, mouth of creek, beachgrass treatment area
<i>Siuslaw National Forest</i>				
	Baker Beach	Lily Lake, north side of Berry Creek, approximately 7 miles north of Florence	<u>Seeding:</u> Feb. '03, March '04, March '05, March '06, March '07, March '08, March '09	Beach, beachgrass treatment area.
	Floras Lake		<u>Seeding:</u> Dec. '96, March '00	Beach (high wave disturbance with coarse sand, small cove with pond)

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Land Manager	Site	Location	Method	Habitat
<i>Siuslaw National Forest</i>				
	Overlook (N and S)	Douglas County about 2.5 miles south of the Lane/Douglas County line (in T20S R12W Sec 17 NW)	<u>Transplanting:</u> '00 <u>Seeding:</u> March '01 (N 50k and S 50k), March '02 (S only), March '05 (S only), March '07 (N 80k and S 50k), March '08 (N 100k), March '09 (N 50k and S 50k), March '10 (N 50k and S 50k), March '11 (N 60k and S 60k), March '12 (N 60k and S 60k)	Foredune beachgrass treatment area and open sand
	Siltcoos Creek	10 miles north of Reedsport	<u>Transplanting:</u> '97 and '01 <u>Seeding:</u> Feb. '98, March '00, March '02 (60K), March '04, March '05, March '06, March '07 (15k to small beach north of creek and 85k to large plover area), March '08 (60k), March '09 (55k), March '10, March '11, March '12	Foredune beachgrass treatment area and open beach, mouth of creek
	Sutton Creek	6 miles north of Florence, Lane County	<u>Seeding:</u> March '04, March '06	Mouth of creek, foredune beachgrass treatment area and open sand
	Tahkenitch Creek	7 miles north of Reedsport	<u>Transplanting:</u> '97-'98, '00-'01 <u>Seeding:</u> Feb. '98, March '01, March '02, March '04, March '05, March '11 (80k), March '12 (100k)	Foredune beachgrass treatment area and open beach, mouth of creek
	Tenmile Creek	7 miles south of the mouth of the Umpqua River	<u>Transplanting:</u> '99	Open beach (sand spit), mouth of creek

TABLE 1. REINTRODUCTION SITES, METHODS USED, AND HABITATS FOR SEEDING AND TRANSPLANTING EFFORTS DISCUSSED IN THIS REPORT. SEEDINGS REPORTED HERE ALL INVOLVED THE USE OF 50,000 SEEDS PER SITE, EXCEPT WHERE NOTED.

Land Manager	Site	Location	Method	Habitat
<i>Oregon Parks and Recreation Department</i>				
	Pistol River	Curry County about 10.5 miles south of Gold Beach	<u>Seeding:</u> April '08 (80k)	Foredune, open beach, abandoned river course
	Driftwood Beach	Driftwood Creek State Wayside	<u>Seeding:</u> Feb. '98	Beach
	Bandon Beach South	Approx 2 miles south of China Creek access	<u>Seeding:</u> March '08, Apr. '10 (120k), March '11(100k), Feb '12 (100k)	
	China Creek (northern portion of Bandon Beach)	China Creek about 4 miles south of Bandon	<u>Seeding:</u> Feb. '98, March '02, March '05 (100k), March '06, March '07,	Near mouth of China Creek, north to Crooked Creek
	Bastendorff Beach	about 1 mile south of the mouth of Coos Bay	<u>Transplanting:</u> '95, '96 <u>Seeding:</u> Dec. '96, Feb. '98, March '02, March '04, March '05	
	Euchre Creek/Ophir	7 miles south of Humbug Mountain	<u>Seeding:</u> March '99, March '00, March '02	Beach

General Trend

Pink sand-verbena seed sown by hand resulted in plant establishment in 84 out of 95 attempts between 1997 and 2012 (—Appendix III, Figure 3). At least some of the seedlings failed because the sites were subjected to high disturbance; exposed beaches experience high winds and waves and the mouths of rivers may flood, potentially causing seed to be washed away or covered by sediment. The highest establishment for the first year of seeding was at the Coos Bay North Spit (3.4%). At all other sites, establishment varied from 0.0% (no plants) to 1.85% (741 plants), with an average of 0.46% in the first year after seeding (Figure 3).

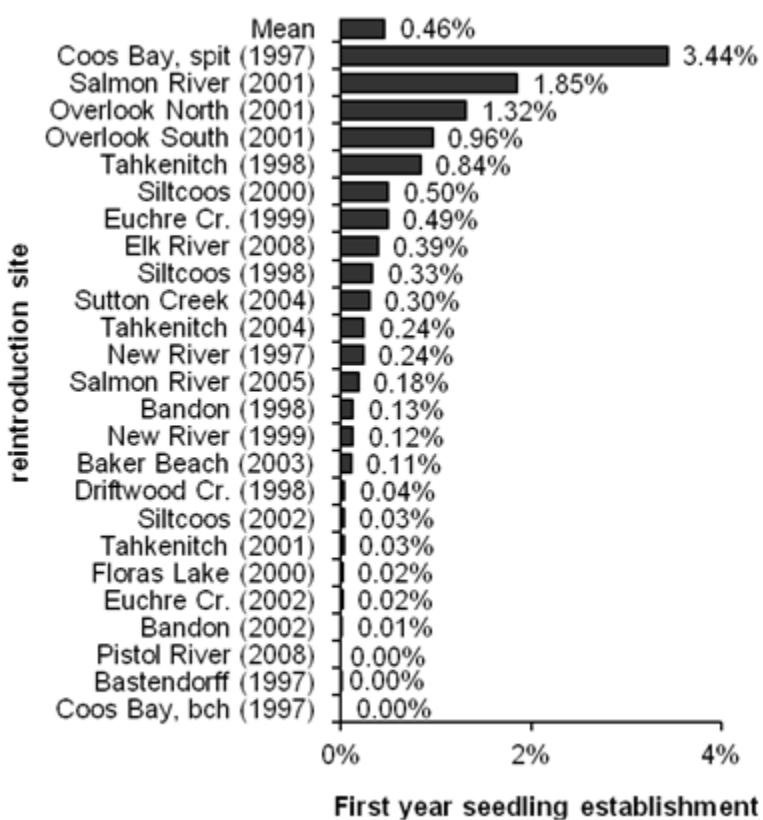


FIGURE 3. PLANT ESTABLISHMENT RATES WITHIN ONE YEAR OF SEED-SOWING ON BEACHES AND RESTORED DUNES. BAR LENGTH AND THE VALUE TO THE RIGHT INDICATE THE PERCENTAGE OF SEEDS ESTABLISHING AS VEGETATIVE OR REPRODUCTIVE PLANTS. ONLY SITES THAT WERE SEEDED AT LEAST TWO YEARS AFTER AN EARLIER SEEDING ATTEMPT ARE SHOWN. THE YEAR OF SEED SOWING IS INDICATED IN PARENTHESES AFTER EACH LOCATION NAME. AT NEW RIVER IN 1999, THE SEEDING AREA WAS PARTIALLY DESTROYED PRIOR TO OBSERVATION, SO THE VALUE PRESENTED MAY BE AN UNDERESTIMATE OF THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF PLANTS ESTABLISHED THERE. A TOTAL OF 50,000 SEEDS WERE SOWN AT EACH SITE, EXCEPT WHERE NOTED IN TABLE 1.

Inventories for pink sand-verbena were conducted at several reintroduction and natural populations on the central and southern Oregon Coast in the late summer and early fall of 2000-2012 (Appendix III).

Notable findings from the 2012 field season include the presence of plants at Floras Lake, which had not been seeded since 2000, as well as the presence of reproductive plants to the north of Elk River. There are no historic records of plants north of Elk River, so these plants are likely the result of recruitment from

reproductive individuals at the nearby introduction site of Elk River, private land managed by the USFWS, or stray seeds from our seeding efforts at the site from 2009-2012.

Population size and population response to seeding varies substantially from year to year. Two of the largest drivers appear to be amount of disturbance (e.g. the exposed beach on Coos Bay North Spit) and competition by European beach-grass. Climate is also likely an important driver. On a local scale, coastal climate may also be influenced by landscape features such as headlands and nearshore rocks, which may result in differences in wave action between sites in the same year.

Restoration at Siuslaw National Forest sites

Active restoration sites managed by the Siuslaw National Forest in 2012 include Siltcoos, Tahkenitch and Overlook, for information about other sites managed by the Siuslaw National Forest see Appendix III.

Siltcoos Creek

Pink sand-verbena restoration and reintroduction was initiated at the mouth of Siltcoos Creek in 1997 when 27 plants were outplanted at the site. The population has fluctuated dramatically over time, from zero in 1999, to 989 (nearly all of which were reproductive) in 2005 (Figure 4, Table 8). In 2012, we counted 605 plants (135 reproductive and 470 vegetative), up from 415 in 2011.. In 2011, plants at this site were generally larger and had more fruits per plant compared to the other sites we monitored, this was not the case in 2012. Siltcoos has consistently had one of the highest reintroduction success rates and we recommend continued seed addition efforts and beach-grass removal.

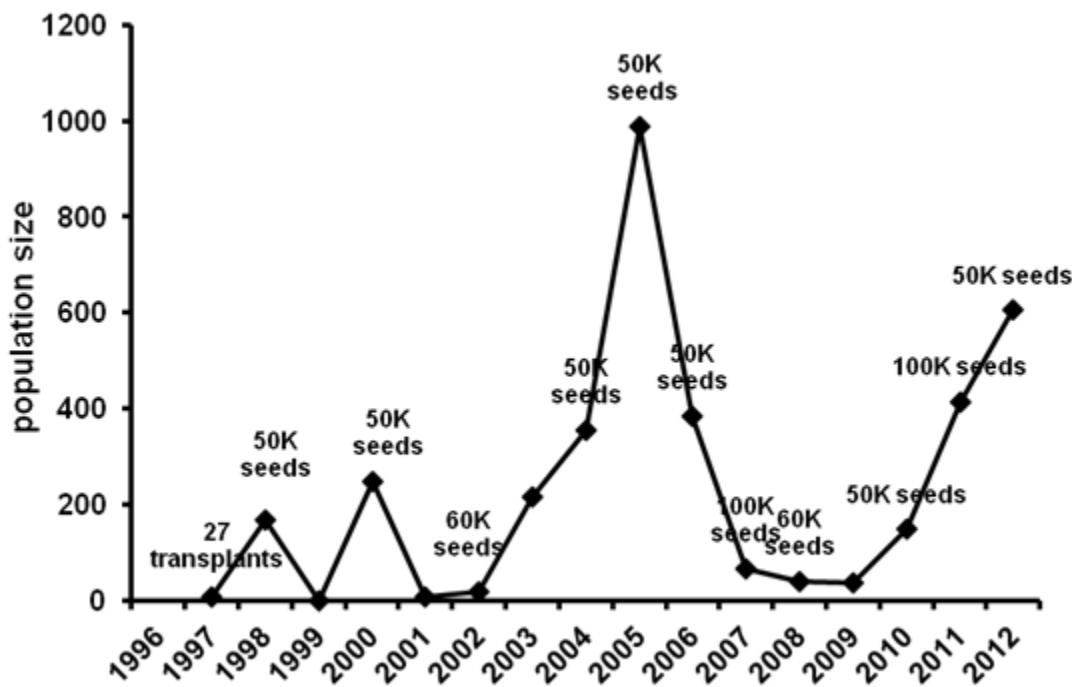


FIGURE 4. POPULATION TRENDS AND SEEDING HISTORY AT SILTCOOS CREEK, 1996 – 2012

Tahkenitch Creek

In 1996, 34 transplanted pink sand-verbenas and 5,000 seeds were dispersed at Tahkenitch Creek as part of an early effort to establish plants on Oregon beaches. This effort has been followed with two additional transplanting efforts and seeding. Prior to 2005, the area was divided into two sections, North Tahkenitch and South Tahkenitch. The Tahkenitch stream channel has shifted to the south and now the entire area is north of the creek. In 2005 no plants were found and in 2006 only one vegetative plant was present. An informal survey in 2009 by Marty Stein located 4 plants, 2 reproductive and 2 vegetative, suggesting that this site may be suitable for future reintroduction efforts. In 2011, 80,000 seeds were distributed resulting in 95 plants (57 vegetative and 38 reproductive). In 2012, 100,000 seeds were distributed resulting in 381 plants (246 vegetative and 135 reproductive.) Continued seeding in the area combined with beach grass control will help to build the seed bank at this site.

Overlook North and South

European beach-grass control was initiated at the Overlook sites in the fall of 1999 through the use of bulldozers operated by the Oregon National Guard in coordination with the Siuslaw National Forest. Pink sand-verbena reintroduction at the Overlook sites began in spring 2000 with the planting of 50 individuals. In 2001, both the north and south sites received 50,000 seeds which resulted in the establishment of 482 and 658 plants, respectively (1,140 total).

At Overlook North from 2002-2006 no seeding occurred. Seeding resumed in 2007 and has continued annually (Table 8). Since 2008, the population has remained relatively stable. In 2012 North Overlook had 4,860 plants (3,233 vegetative and 1,627 reproductive). This is the second highest number of plants found at the site however the ratio of reproductive to vegetative plants was lower. At South Overlook seeding has occurred annually with the exceptions of 2002, 2003, and 2006. In 2012 South Overlook had 2,247 plants (1,619 vegetative and 928 reproductive).

The reintroduced population at the Overlook sites is now the second largest population in Oregon (Coos Bay North Spit is the largest). Without continual beach-grass control, the substantial population growth at this site will likely reverse and the population will decline. In 2010 at Overlook South there was an increase in the amount of *Leymus mollis* at the site, particularly at the north end and a corresponding decrease in the number of pink sand verbena at the north end. Although this species is native, it may negatively interact with pink sand verbena. We recommend that seeding continue at both sites, with higher priority given to the Overlook South treatment area. We also recommend continued observations of the spread and potential impact of *Leymus*.

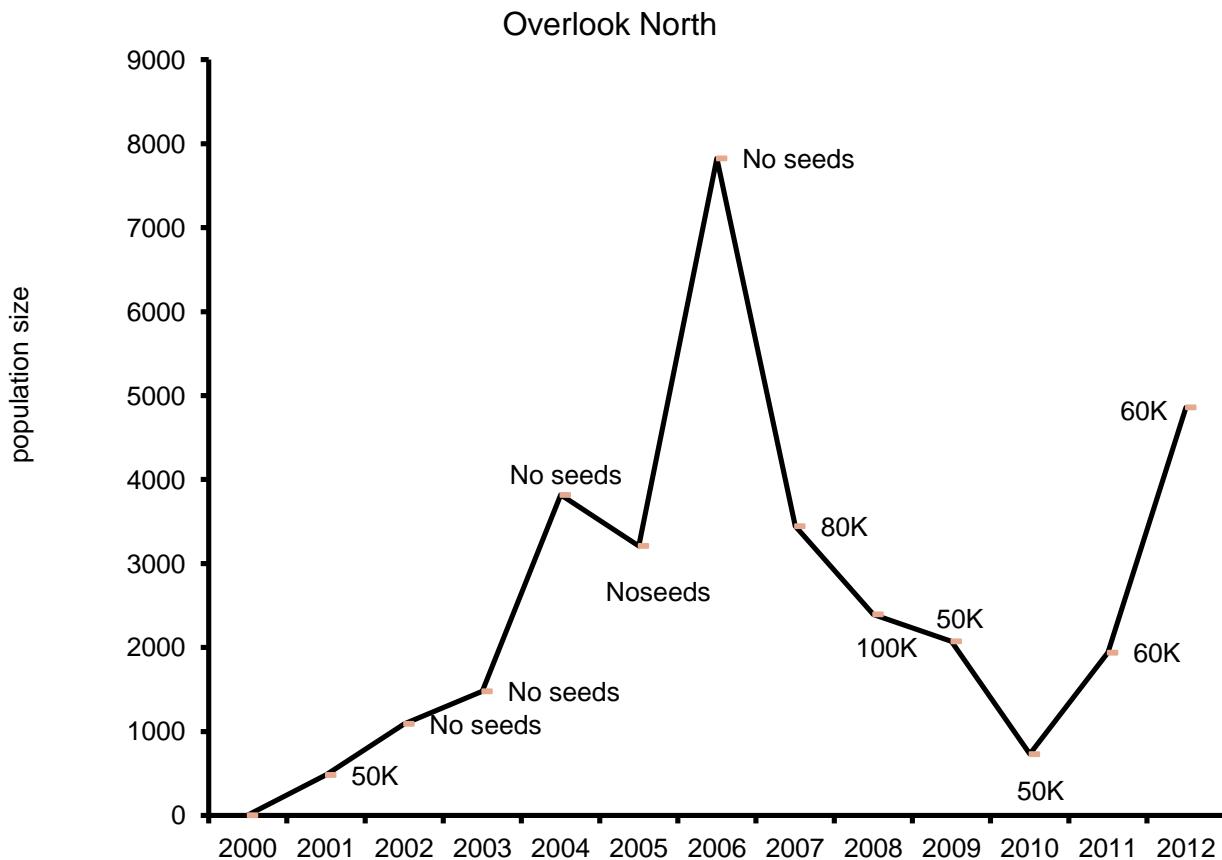


FIGURE 5. TOTAL NUMBER OF PINK SAND-VERBENA PLANTS COUNTED AT NORTH OVERLOOK SITE, 2000-2012. SEEDING AND TRANSPLANTING EVENTS ARE MARKED AT EACH APPLICABLE YEAR. SOUTH OVERLOOK WAS NOT SURVEYED IN 2008; THE DATAPoint REFERS ONLY TO NORTH OVERLOOK.

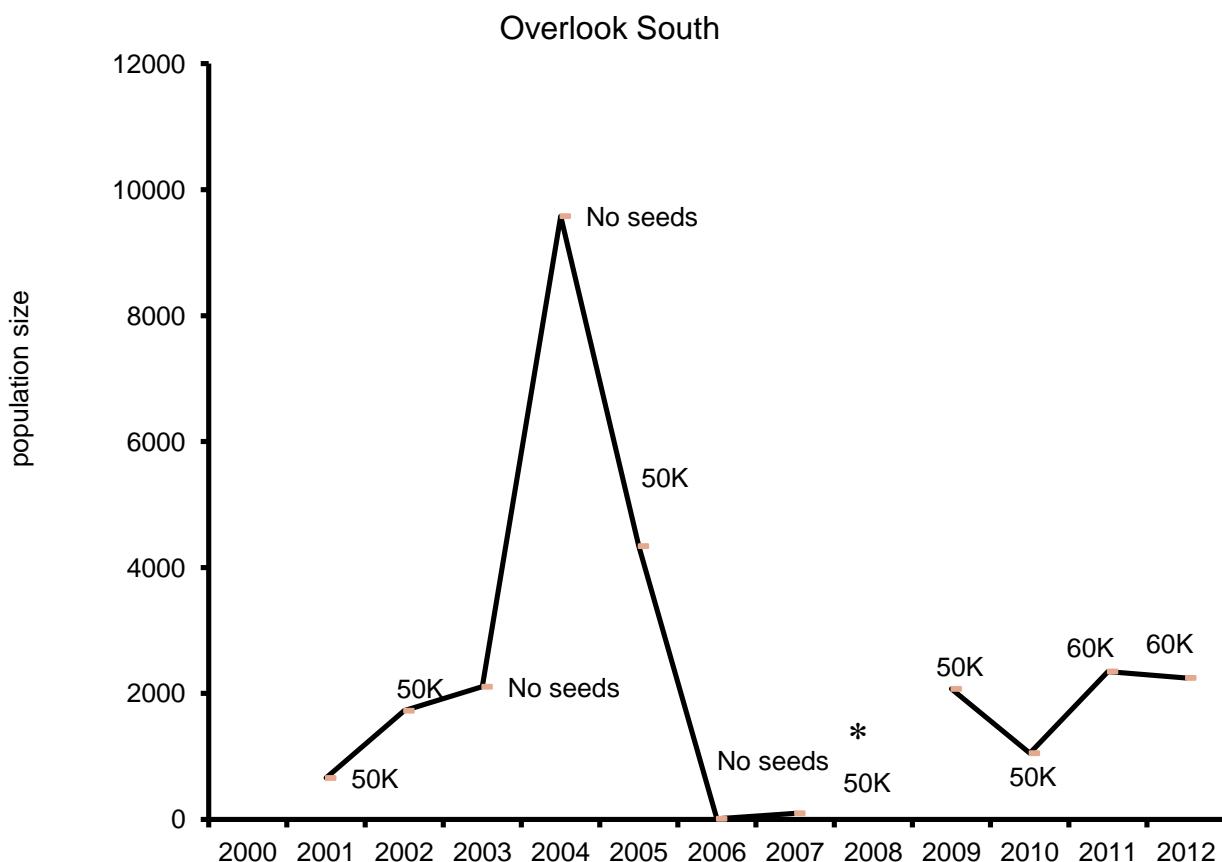


FIGURE 6. TOTAL NUMBER OF PINK SAND-VERBENA PLANTS COUNTED AT SOUTH OVERLOOK SITE, 2000-2012. SEEDING EVENTS ARE MARKED AT EACH APPLICABLE YEAR. * SOUTH OVERLOOK WAS NOT SURVEYED IN 2008 HOWEVER IT WAS SEADED.

OVERWINTERING PLANTS AT OVERLOOK NORTH AND SOUTH

At the time of seeding in March 2012, a number of robust plants were found apparently overwintering, 18 of these plants were marked with wooden stakes, GPS coordinates and spatial notes relative to the marking stake were taken. Six plants at Overlook North, South and Siltcoos were marked (although more overwintering plants were present at all sites). It is not uncommon for a handful of the usually annual plants to perennate. In the fall these plants were monitored and the longest branch and number of inflorescences counted (if the plant was present). At both North and South Overlook nearly all overwintering plants were still present in the fall of 2012. At Siltcoos, none of the overwintering plants noted in the spring of 2012 were found in the fall of 2012. The average length of the longest stem on overwintering plants at South Overlook was 96 cm, with an average inflorescence count of 620. This is significantly higher than the average for the rest of the population at South Overlook which had an average longest branch of 24 cm and only 6.3 inflorescences. North Overlook followed a similar pattern with overwintering plants with the average longest branch of 57 cm and 97 inflorescences compared to 44.2 cm and 24.6 inflorescences. It was also noted that the overwintering plants generally had more branches per plant than other plants.

Bureau of Land Management

Coos Bay North Spit

SEEDING AND MONITORING

Efforts to eliminate European beachgrass from a roughly 170 acre Habitat Restoration Area (HRA) on the Coos Bay North Spit (Figure 3, Figure 4) have included machine ripping and discing (with a tractor), herbicide (Rodeo), burning, saltwater irrigation, hand pulling, and various combinations of these techniques. Ten thousand pink sand-verbena seeds were sown in each of five 30 x 30 m plots randomly placed in areas with different beachgrass management histories on January 15, 1997 (50,000 seeds total). In the winter of 2005-2006 an area closer to the beach on the west side of the access road was cleared of European beach grass. One hundred thousand seeds were added to this area in both 2006 and 2007, 90,000 seeds were added in 2008 and 2009, and 100,000 seeds were added in 2010-2012. All habitat at the North Spit was disced in October (2008) or November (2009-2012).

In 2009, the population had expanded such that a census of the habitat (as performed from 2000-2008) was no longer feasible. We divided the occupied habitat into three sections and sub-sampled within each area counting only reproductive plants. The three areas included 1) the original habitat (Southeast) which includes the reference area used in population counts from 2000-2008 as well as part of the areas censused, 2) the area West of the foredune road, and 3) the area to the north of the original reference area. Starting points for 100m transects were randomly selected within the 3 areas, and sampled as in 2000-2008, counting only reproductive individuals within 1 meter of either side of the tape. In 2012 in the southeast 38 transects were monitored, in the west 20 transects were monitored and in the north 13 transects were monitored. (To see details of sampling methods in previous years, see Thorpe, 2009.)

The total population size was estimated by multiplying the average number of plants per 100 m x 2 m plot (\bar{N}) by the total number of possible plot locations (N):

$$\text{population size estimate} = \bar{N} * N$$

In addition, a 95% confidence interval for this estimate was calculated as:

$$95\% \text{ confidence interval} = \sqrt{[1.96 * \pi(N^2 * SE_0^2 * (N-n)/N)]}$$

where SE_0 is the standard error of the mean plot density and $N-n/N$ is the finite population correction factor, which is applied because the population area (N) is of limited size (not infinite or extremely large).

In 2012 plant measurements including length of longest branch and the number of inflorescences were collected on 3 plants selected at random along each transect. This data will be used in future years to track changes in plant size and reproductive vigor. To investigate the substrate of the population, the percent cover of shell within a 0.5 meter radius as well as the number and species of associated plants were recorded.

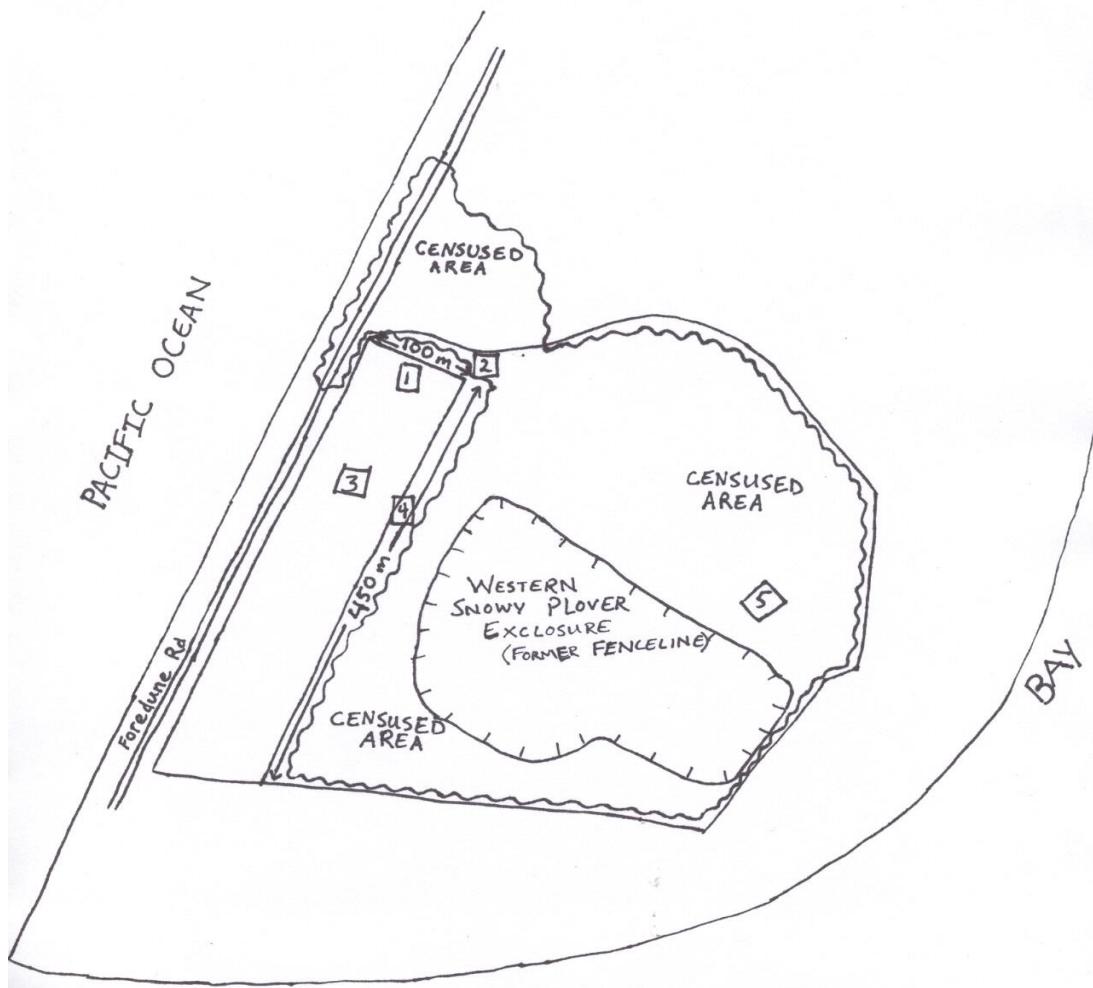


FIGURE 7. COOS BAY NORTH SPIT PINK SAND-VERBENA REINTRODUCTION AREA. THE OPEN SQUARES NUMBERED 1-5 REPRESENT THE ORIGINAL SEEDING PLOTS; 10,000 SEEDS WERE SOWN IN EACH PLOT IN JANUARY 1997. THE LONG RECTANGULAR AREA ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE SPIT IS THE REFERENCE AREA ESTABLISHED IN 2000 (AND EXPANDED IN 2002) USED FOR SUBSAMPLING REPRODUCTIVE PINK SAND-VERBENA ABUNDANCE. THE AREA DELINEATED WITH A WAVY LINE IS CENSUSED INSTEAD OF SUBSAMPLED. NORTH IS TOWARD THE TOP OF THE PAGE. THE AREA SEADED FROM 2006 TO PRESENT WEST OF THE FOREDUNE ROAD IS NOT SHOWN.



FIGURE 8. IN 2009, THE POPULATED AREA WAS DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTION, 1) THE ORIGINAL HABITAT (SOUTHEAST), 2) NORTHEAST AND 3) WEST OF THE FOREDUNE ROAD. EACH AREA WAS SUBSAMPLED USING THE METHODS DESCRIBED IN THE TEXT.

POPULATION TRENDS

Following re-introduction in 1997, pink sand-verbena populations grew steadily to an estimated peak of 349,658 in 2012 (Figure 9). The dramatic increase in population size from 2007 to 2009 likely is a result of both population growth and improved monitoring techniques initiated in 2009. In 2009, we modified our monitoring technique so that the entire population was subsampled. Despite the large increase in population size from 2011 to 2012, our observations were consistent with observations made in 2009-2011 that the size of reproductive plants seems to be diminishing as does seed yield (Cite a figure of table of the data).

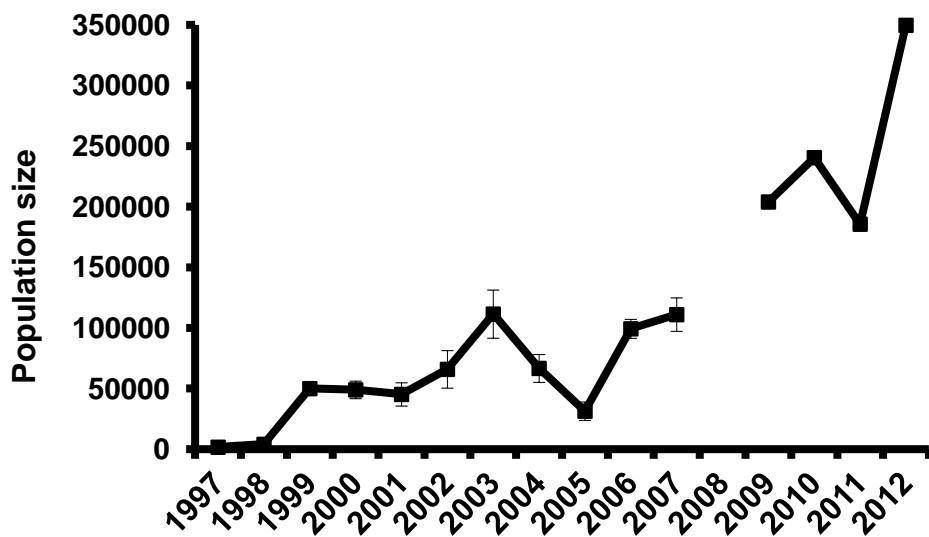


FIGURE 9. POPULATION TRENDS AT THE COOS BAY NORTH SPIT REINTRODUCTION SITE. THE AREA WAS SEADED IN JANUARY 1997 WITH 50,000 SEEDS FROM PORT ORFORD. POPULATION SIZE ESTIMATES FOR 1997-1999 ARE COMPLETE CENSUSES OF ALL PLANTS IN THE POPULATION, WHILE THOSE FROM 2000-2008 ARE ESTIMATED FROM A SUBSAMPLE OF A REFERENCE AREA AND CENSUS OF THE REMAINDER OF THE POPULATION. THE ERROR BARS FOR 2000-2008 ESTIMATES REPRESENT 95% CONFIDENCE INTERVALS. *IN 2008, AN ESTIMATE OF THE ENTIRE POPULATION SIZE WAS NOT POSSIBLE BECAUSE OVER 50% OF THE POPULATION HAD BEEN DISCED PRIOR TO OUR SURVEYS. SEE TEXT FOR A DISCUSSION OF POPULATION TRENDS. IN 2009, THE SAMPLING METHODS WERE MODIFIED SO THAT THE ENTIRE POPULATION WAS SUB-SAMPLED (AND NO AREAS CENSUSED). IN THIS CHART THE CI FOR 2009-2012 ARE NOT REPORTED BECAUSE THE POPULATION ESTIMATE IS A COMBINATION OF 3 DIFFERENT POPULATIONS, EACH WITH THEIR OWN CI.

In 2012 plant measurements were taken on 3 randomly selected plants along each transect (Table 2). These data will be used in future years to track changes in plant size and reproductive vigor at the Coos Bay North Spit. In addition to plant measurements, the number and species of plants within 0.5m were recorded as well as the percent cover of oyster shell. In recent years, the number of plants has increased dramatically, however the overall health of pink sand-verbena at the site is thought to be decreasing with less fruits per plant and more small plants. In 2012 it was noted that although there are significantly fewer plants per m² in the west habitat, the plants are significantly larger than those in the rest of the

population. Density of plants in the north habitat was the highest at 1.5 plants/m² and lowest on the west side with only 0.05 plants/m² (Table 2). The average number of fruits per plant varied in the three areas, as did the average plant size with the longest branches and most fruits per plant in the western habitat (Table 2).

TABLE 2. AVERAGE LENGTH OF THE LONGEST BRANCH, AVERAGE NUMBER OF INFLORESCENCES AND DENSITY OF PLANTS AT SELECT SITES MONITORED IN 2012. *NUMBER OF REPRODUCTIVE PLANTS FOR COOS BAY NORTH SPIT REPRESENT AN ESTIMATE BASED ON OUR SUBSAMPLES, THE REMAINING VALUES ARE BASED ON CENSUSES DONE AT EACH SITE.

Site	Average Length of Longest Stem (cm)	Average Number of Inflorescence s	Occupied Area (m ²)	Number of reproductive plants	Density (plants/m ²)
Coos Bay North Spit, North	18.6	8.6	126,558	198,063	1.5650
Coos Bay North Spit, Southeast (Original)	14.6	8.7	275,388	139,614	0.5070
Coos Bay North Spit, West	31.7	11.7	233,758	11,746	0.0502
New River	18.8	14.7	167,423	26	0.0002
Butte Creek	29.9	41.4	107,945	10	0.0001
Overlook , North	44.2	24.6	84,410	1,627	0.0193
Overlook, North	Overwintering	56.8	97.5	-	-
Overlook, South		23.6	6.3	70,569	628
Overlook, South	Overwintering	96.5	620.2	-	-
Tahkenitch			233,547	135	0.0006
Siltcoos			97,235	135	0.0014
Elk River			103,225	384	0.0037
Bandon South			53,859	84	0.0016

The Coos Bay North Spit is now the largest pink sand-verbena population in Oregon and serves as the primary seed source for reintroduction efforts in Oregon. Successful plant establishment and population growth has followed successful control measures for European beach-grass on the spit (described in Pickart and Sawyer [1998] and Kaye [1998]). No beach-grass control was conducted in 2004 and 2005, and the pink sand-verbena population declined in both of those years. In 2008, we observed that many of the plants in the north census area followed the previous year's disc line (Figure 15), suggesting that the discing may have exposed seeds to the proper conditions for germination. Thus, although the seedbank appears large enough for continual recruitment, the success of this site appears dependent on sustained management activities, particularly annual discing to control plant invasion and additional vegetation control north of the HRA. However, we have also learned that second year plants can become substantially larger than first year plants if left undisturbed. Therefore, in areas with no European beachgrass and abundant pink sand verbena, we recommend that discing be postponed to allow for some individual plants to reach larger sizes and produce larger amounts of seed. This could be accomplished by lifting the disc on the tractor to skip areas with no beach grass.

New River ACEC

SEEDING AND MONITORING

At New River, 50,000-150,000 seeds were dispersed within swales through the foredune almost every year from 1997 to 2011 (Table 1). The spit at New River has been breached in various places by storm waves, creating swales that have low vegetative cover but are bordered on two sides by established plants, primarily European beachgrass. From 1998 to 2005, the BLM made aggressive attempts each fall to reduce the abundance of European beachgrass and lower the foredune using heavy machinery. There was no disturbance in winter 2006 – 2008 and European beachgrass rapidly reinvaded the dunes. Discing resumed winter 2009. Although beachgrass remained throughout the site, the habitat was much more open in 2010 compared to previous years. Discing occurred on a portion of the area in 2010 reducing the cover of beach grass in the disced area. Population surveys occurred in September or October of each year since 1996. Immediately prior to the 1999 site visit, much of the area that had been seeded with pink sand-verbena was worked by a bull dozer to destroy European beachgrass. In the process, an unknown number of pink sand-verbena plants may have been buried, so the estimate of plant abundance at this site in 1999 may be below the actual number present. Estimates of population size from this site were not included in calculations of average plant establishment presented later in this report.

POPULATION TRENDS

The pink sand verbena population at New River has been sustained by direct seeding with 50,000 - 150,000 seeds from 1997-2012 (Figure 10). In the first year of seeding (1997), 118 plants established. Yearly beachgrass control and seeding led to continued population increases to a high of 2,174 plants (1,114 reproductive) in 2005. Beachgrass control did not occur from fall 2005 through spring 2009. Despite repeated seeding, the population declined to 62 plants (42 reproductive and 20 vegetative) in 2009. Beachgrass control resumed fall 2009, and in 2010 (after the distribution of 100,000 seeds) 810 plants were found at the site (369 reproductive) in the fall. These patterns suggest that increased competition from European beachgrass is likely to have contributed to the decrease in population size from 2006-2009. In 2011, only 237 plants were found (193 vegetative and 44 reproductive), and 2012 only 66 plants were found (20 reproductive). We recommend that seeding and beachgrass removal efforts continue at this site using the current approach of seeding following disturbance in the fall. In 2012 most plants at the site were found in areas that had been overwashed in winter/spring storms as well as on the shore side of the foredune.

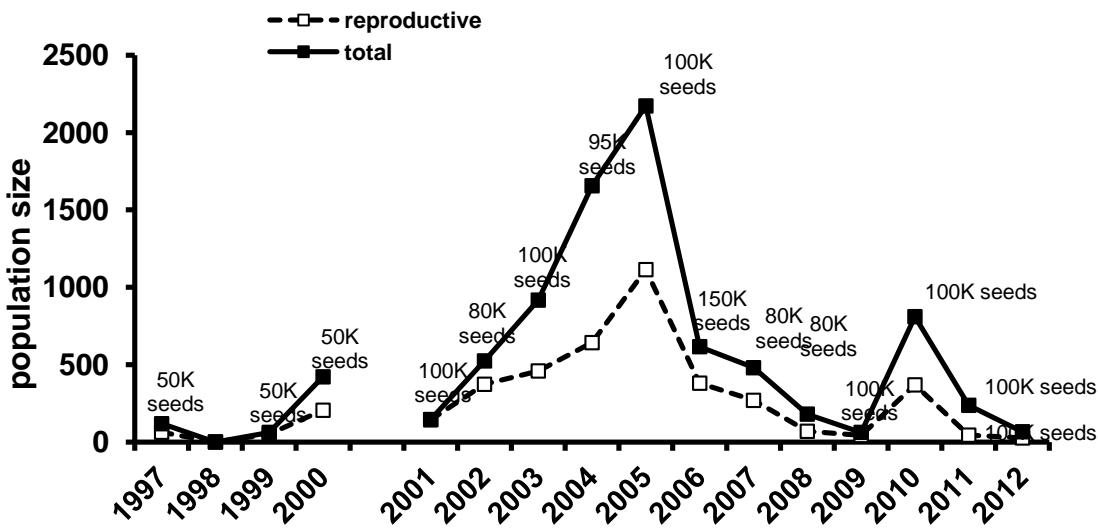


FIGURE 10. POPULATION TRENDS AT THE NEW RIVER ACEC REINTRODUCTION SITE. SEEDING HAS BEEN CONDUCTED IN ALL YEARS EXCEPT 1998.

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Bandon Beach South

In 2005, a new reintroduction site was established within the HRA approximately one mile south of the China Creek parking area (Appendix II). Prior to reintroduction work in the area, pink sand-verbena plants were located only at the mouth of China Creek.

In 2005, Oregon State Parks removed beachgrass and lowered the foredune in the area. In September 2005, we censused the site and found that although a substantial amount of beachgrass had re-grown into the habitat, 139 pink sand-verbena had become established. The relatively low number of plants in the project area in 2008 might reflect reduced habitat quality due to regrowth of European beachgrass. However, it is also likely that climate played a significant role. Since 2008 the population has continued to grow. In 2011, 476 plants were found (303 vegetative and 173 reproductive). Many large plants were found on the south end on the protected side of the dunes as in previous years. The majority of plants were in the main beachgrass removal area; however a few plants were found on the beach near the base of the dunes just south of the treatment area. The persistence of plants and strong recruitment in previous years suggests that with continued beachgrass removal, pink sand-verbena reintroduction may be successful at this site. In 2012, the number of plants decreased to just 161 (84 reproductive), this is likely due to the encroachment of beachgrass at the site. Herbicide was applied in the fall of 2012, and it is predicted that the sand verbena population will rebound in the 2013 season in response.

China Creek

The China Creek population has varied substantially since 1998, when the species was first seeded into the site by the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Plants have typically been observed in a protected depression between two large expanses of dunes. We counted 20 reproductive plants at this site in 2006; in 2007, the number declined to 6. Until 2012, no plants had been observed since 2007. In 2012, six plants were found in the China Creek area, 3 vegetative and 3 reproductive. Two plants were found

in the creek overwash and the remainder of the plants was found along the north end of the dune and along the edge of Crooked Creek. Poor recruitment at this site could be due to high level of disturbance in the area and the continued invasion of beach grass into the dune system.

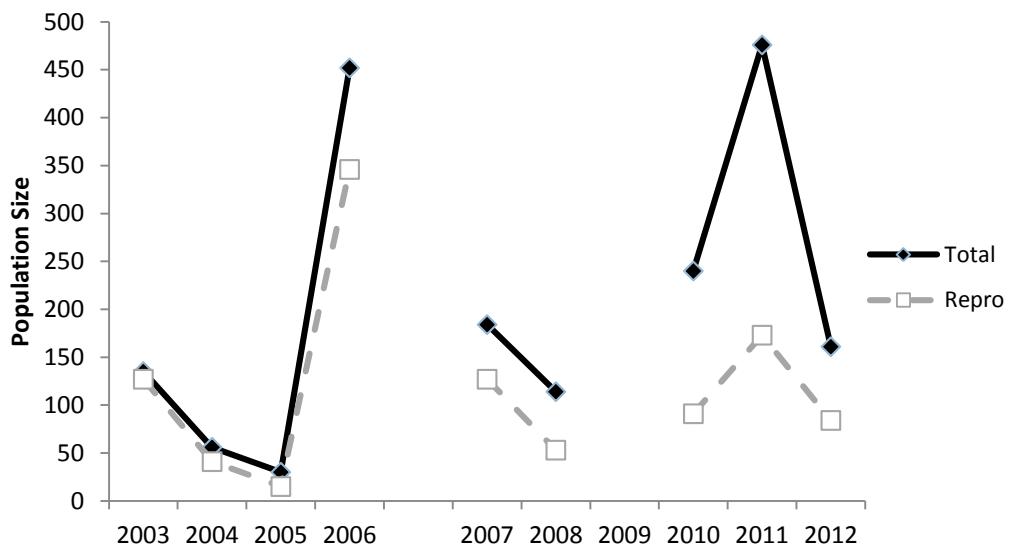


FIGURE 11. POPULATION TRENDS AT BANDON STATE PARK. EUROPEAN BEACHGRASS REMOVAL AND LOWERING OF THE FOREDUNE OCCURRED IN 2005. AT THAT TIME THE AREA WAS SEEDED AND THE NATURAL POPULATION AUGMENTED. THE AREA WAS NOT SURVEYED OR SEADED IN 2009.

US Fish and Wildlife Service

In 2010-2012, the USFWS funded seeding and monitoring at Bandon Beach south, owned by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (described above).

Elk River

In 2009 this area was bulldozed and efforts were made to reduce cover of European beachgrass. In 2009 seeding efforts were initiated at the site and 100,000 seeds were distributed. This resulted in 389 plants (353 reproductive). In 2010-2012, 100,000 seeds were distributed resulting in 122, 307 and 556 plants respectively (Figure 12). In 2012 it was noted that 12 plants were found on the north side of Elk River. This area has not been seeded in the past, nor are there historic records of pink sand verbena at the site. It is likely that these plants are the result of our seeding efforts in vicinity, or are natural recruits from the introduced population at Elk River. Continued seeding at this site is recommended and will contribute to the seed bank. Continued beachgrass control will be necessary for the success of pink sand-verbena at this site.

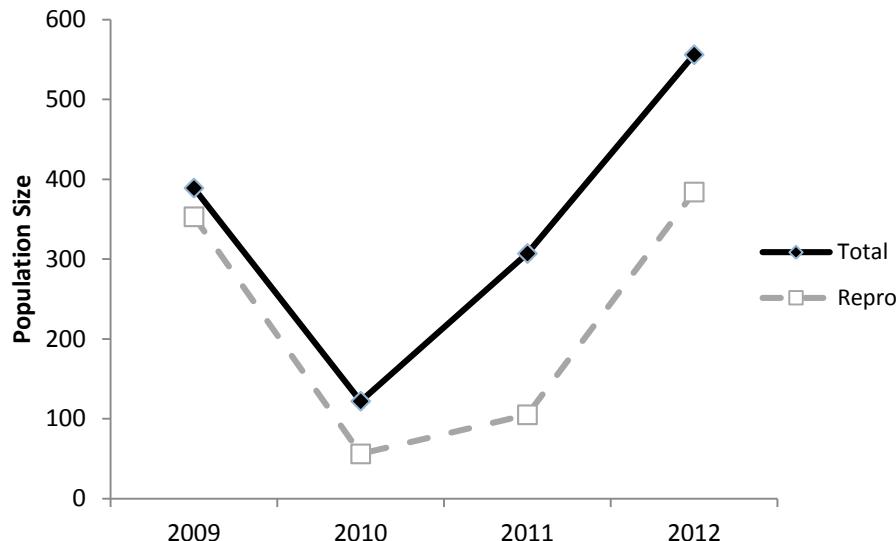


FIGURE 12. POPULATION TRENDS AT ELK RIVER. SEEDING BEGAN IN 2009.

TABLE 3. PLANT SPECIES NATIVE TO OREGON BEACHES AND DUNES: CANDIDATES FOR USE IN ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS. MORE INFORMATION IS NEEDED ON TECHNIQUES FOR GERMINATION AND PROPAGATION OF THESE TAXA.

Common name	Latin name
yellow sand-verbena	<i>Abronia latifolia</i>
beach pea	<i>Lathyrus littoralis</i>
maritime pea	<i>Lathyrus japonicus</i>
beach morning-glory	<i>Convolvulus soldanella</i>
silver bursage	<i>Ambrosia chamissonis</i>
black knotweed	<i>Polygonum paronychia</i>
American dunegrass	<i>Elymus mollis</i>
American glehnia	<i>Glehnia leiocarpa</i>
silvery phacelia*	<i>Phacelia argentea</i>
Wolf's evening primrose*	<i>Oenothera wolfii</i>
seaside dock	<i>Rumex maritimus</i>

*Listed as Threatened with the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture; Species of Concern with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Plant Measurements

Table 2 shows the average length of the longest branch and the average number of inflorescences per plant and select sites monitored in 2012. Also included is the estimated density of plants/m² at the sites, (range 0.001-1.5 plants/m²). Coos Bay North Spit had the highest density of plants overall with a high of 1.5 plants/m² in the northern portion of the population. In contrast, Overlook North (what we consider a fairly successful site) had only 0.02 plants/m².

The presences and count of plants within a 0.5 m radius of each measured sand-verbena plant was also noted. There was a total of 17 plant species found growing adjacent to sand-verbena, these species are listed in Table 4. The most common plant species found within a 0.5 m radius of pink sand-verbena were *Cakile* sp. (Sea rocket) followed by *Ammophila arenaria*, (European beachgrass), *Abronia umbellata* (pink sand-verbena) and *Camissonia cheiranthifolia* (Beach suncup) (Table 4). *Leymus mollis* (American beachgrass) was also common at both Overlook sites as well as in the western portion at Coos Bay North Spit. These data will be used to detect changes in plant community at each site as well as allow for comparisons between sites.

TABLE 4. AVERAGE, SUM AND COUNT OF PLANT SPECIES WITHIN 0.5M OF RANDOMLY SELECTED PINK SAND-VERBENA PLANTS. NAMES IN BOLD INDICATE NATIVE SPECIES. *BECAUSE IT IS DIFFICULT TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS OF BOTH AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN BEACHGRASS, PRESENCE/ABSENCE ONLY WAS NOTED.

Species	Average Number of Plants within a 0.5m Radius	Sum of Plants Counted within 0.5m Radius	Count of Species Occurrence within 0.5m Radius	Percentage of Plants with Species Adjacent
<i>Abronia latifolia</i>	0.00	1	1	0.4%
<i>Abronia umbellata</i> ssp. <i>breviflora</i>	2.71	619	128	56.1%
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	0.09	21	3	1.3%
<i>Cakile edentula/maritima</i>	3.84	876	138	60.5%
<i>Camissonia cheiranthifolia</i>	0.71	163	73	32.0%
<i>Convolvulus soldanella</i>	0.05	12	4	1.8%
<i>Fragaria chiloensis</i>	0.00	1	1	0.4%
<i>Glehnia littoralis</i>	0.04	8	6	2.6%
<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.02	5	3	1.3%
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	0.69	157	46	20.2%
<i>Juncus lesueurii</i>	0.71	162	4	1.8%
<i>Lathyrus japonicus</i>	0.03	7	5	2.2%
<i>Lathyrus littoralis</i>	0.03	7	4	1.8%
<i>Lupinus littoralis</i>	0.17	38	29	12.7%
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	0.18	41	10	4.4%
<hr/>				
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	1.03	235	135	59.2%
<i>Leymus mollis</i>	0.09	21	19	8.3%

Substrate Assessments

Substrate sample collected in 2012 were analyzed for pH using a Milwaukee pH55 pH meter with accuracy of 0.1 pH units. The unit was calibrated between each measurement. A 50 mg portion of each substrate sample was placed in 100 mL of distilled water and allowed to equilibrate for 10 minutes (and no more than 2 hours,) before a measurement was taken. The pH of the substrate samples ranged from 4.9-8.4. The highest pH values were recorded at the North Spit and in areas where the cover of oyster shell was high (Table 5).

TABLE 5. RANGE AND AVERAGE PH AT SELECT SITES MONITORED IN 2012. NOTE THAT THE SAND FROM THE AREAS WITH COVER OF SHELL GREATER THAN 5% HAD THE HIGHEST PH.

Site Name	pH Range	Average pH
Coos Bay North Spit (Shell cover < 5%)	4.6-6.1	5.5
Coos Bay North Spit (Shell cover > 5%)	6.6-8.4	7.4
Elk River	6.4-7.0	6.6
Floras Lake	5.2-5.9	5.6
New River	5.1-5.9	5.6
Overlook	5.4-6.3	5.9
Tahkenitch	5.0-6.0	5.6

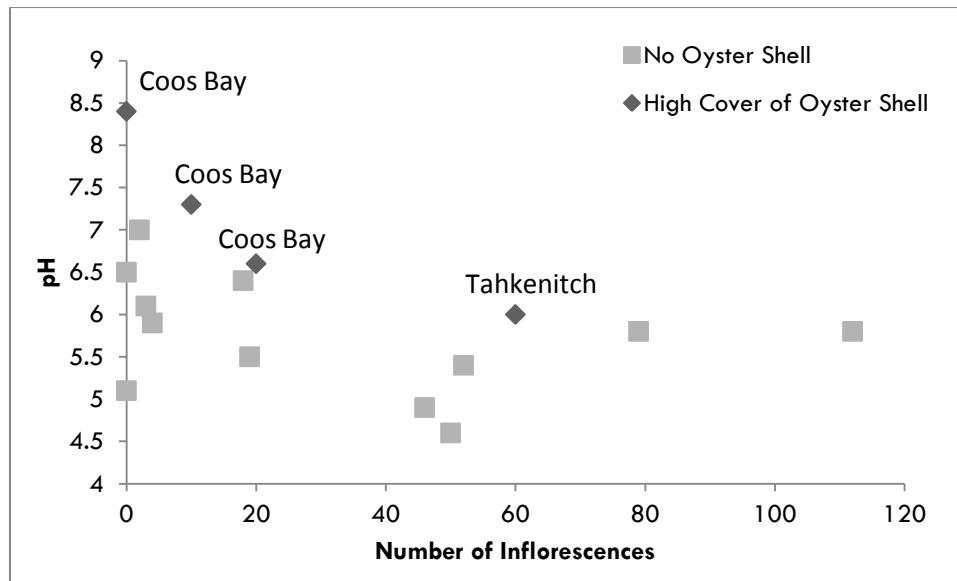


FIGURE 13. NUMBER OF INFLORESCENCES VS. PH OF SUBSTRATE SAMPLES COLLECTED IN 2012. NOTE THAT EXTREME PH VALUES (BOTH HIGH AND LOW) GENERALLY HAVE LOWER NUMBER OF INFLORESCENCES.

DISCUSSION

Transplanting

Transplanting pink sand-verbena can be a successful reintroduction technique. Survival of transplants at Tahkenitch, Siltcoos, and Tenmile averaged 47%, a value typical of earlier transplant efforts at a number of sites. Previous tests of transplant success resulted in an overall average of 51% survival (Kaye 1995, 1996). Factors that affect survival of transplants at any given site appear to include amount of wind blown sand that buries or excavates the plants, moisture availability in the sand at the time of transplanting, and the abundance or proximity of competing vegetation, especially European beachgrass. For example, in 2001, transplants at Tahkenitch did relatively well (76% survival), especially those near the shore and those that did not show evidence of intense wind damage. Transplants at Siltcoos in 2001 were extensively damaged by the wind; their root systems were excavated and overall survival was relatively low survival (16%).

Most pink sand-verbena plants are short-lived (mostly annual). Therefore, the success of populations reintroduced by transplants hinges on recruitment of new individuals from seed produced by the transplants or the planting of additional transplants. So far, offspring from transplants have been relatively uncommon, except after the 1997 Siltcoos transplanting that produced abundant plants the following year (but not subsequently).

Seeding

Similar to the results of the transplanting efforts, we found that seeding was often successful in establishing a pink sand-verbena population the year of seed addition, but that these populations did not usually persist in subsequent years without continued seed additions and beachgrass control. For example, no plants were present the second year following seeding at New River (1997), Bandon Beach (1998), or Driftwood Creek (1998). However, this obstacle to reintroduction may be addressed through repeated seeding efforts to build up a local seedbank (see seedbank discussion). At four reintroduction sites that have received multiple seeding or transplants attempts, (Siltcoos Creek 2003, Bastendorff Beach 2003, Floras Lake 2004 - 2006, Tahkenitch 2000 - 2004 and Bandon Beach 2003), medium to relatively large numbers of plants have been observed despite no seeding in that year.

The success of seeding is increased with a greater number of seeds. Seeding with 40,000-100,000 (typically 50,000) seeds produced an average of 232 plants per site (0.46% establishment rate), and at least some plants in 84 out of 95 attempts. Earlier seedings with only 5,000 seeds resulted in an average of only 4 plants (0.071% establishment rate), and only 6 of 13 attempts produced at least 1 plant (Kaye 1995, 1998).

The populations at Coos Bay North Spit and the Overlook sites are examples of reintroductions into beachgrass control areas that have done remarkably well. In 1996, 50,000 seeds were distributed at the Coos Bay North Spit. The population quickly grew from over 1,700 plants in 1997, to 4,111 in 1998 and at least 50,000 in 1999. From 2000 on, the plants were so abundant that a reference area was subsampled with randomly placed plots (Figure 4) and the abundance of the species in the rest of the spit was counted. Since vegetative plants do not contribute to the population (pink sand-verbena is usually an annual) and counting all plants would be infeasible because of time constraints, we counted only reproductive individuals at this site since 2000. It is important to note that in 2004 and 2005, the Coos Bay North Spit population declined significantly, which may be due to the lack of beachgrass management during the prior fall and winter. Without repeated discing to reduce invading vegetation

such as European beachgrass, pink sand-verbena may fail to increase in numbers and expand its area at this site. The total reproductive plant abundance in 2012 was estimated at 349,658, (95% C.I.: ±153,057), the highest population size recorded to date at any known site. Much of the population growth has been due to expansion into adjacent areas that have been cleared of vegetation, including an area that was first seeded in spring 2006.

At Coos Bay North Spit in recent years there has been an increase in the number of plants in the original habitat and in the northern area and an expansion of the habitat to include an area west of the foredune road, however, the size of the plants seems to have decreased since initiation of this study. This could be due to a number of factors including; annual variability in the populations due to climactic factors, intra-specific competition, competition with other annuals including *Cakile edentula*, *Cakile maritima* and *Hypochaeris radicata*, a decrease in the availability of nutrients, the timing and intensity of discing and plowing, a change in the pH caused by the oyster shells and the possible (if unlikely) presence of a contaminant on the oyster shells brought in for the plover habitat. In 2012 our monitoring at North Spit included some plant measurements which will serve as a baseline for comparison in the future.

We have occasionally observed plants in the interior of the beachgrass control zone at Coos Bay North Spit, on the lee side of the eastern dune edge at Overlook, and in other protected areas at several sites that had over-wintered from the year before. These plants achieved very large sizes ($>2\text{ m}^2$) and produced copious amounts of seed. Data collected in 2012 indicates that overwintering plants are both significantly larger and produce more seed than annual plants and may play an important role in developing a natural seedbank.

As with transplanting, the success of seeding may be related to habitat quality and susceptibility to the scouring effects of winter storms. For example, the presence of competing vegetation, especially in foredune habitats, may result in small plants that produce few or no seeds. Also, winter storms on the Oregon coast can have dramatic effects on beaches, removing large amounts of sand and even established foredunes. Any plants or recently deposited seeds on a beach could be removed from the site and carried away on ocean currents. For example, the seeding attempt at Floras Lake in 2000 resulted in only ten plants, but the beach at this site is subject to strong surf and winter storms, as evidenced by coarse sand and a short shelf and steep slope on the beach. Also, some recent winters in Oregon have been characterized by La Niña climatic patterns that include more frequent and intense winter storms. Harsh winters in 1997-2000 may have resulted in less population carryover after seeding attempts. The habitats at the Coos Bay North Spit and the Overlook sites are protected from these winter storms. At the North Spit, the population is located in the interior of the sand spit and at the Overlook site, populations are on the elevated foredune. This protection allows all seeds produced from the pink sand-verbena plants that grow there to remain on site, maximizing their chances of establishing seedlings the following year. Furthermore, the habitat at the Overlook site has repeatedly been disturbed during fall and winter months each year since seeding in 1996. This disturbance, which included discing and manual removal of beachgrass (Kaye 1998), has kept competing plant species from revegetating the site and has probably been crucial to the successful population growth of pink sand-verbena. Initial plant establishment at the Coos Bay North Spit in 1997 was highly negatively correlated with the local abundance of European beachgrass (Kaye 1998). Competition studies at Port Orford and

Gold Beach on dredge material also suggest that competing vegetation is a major factor affecting establishment and survival of pink sand-verbena (Kaye 1999).

Importance of a seedbank

Long-term persistence of pink sand-verbena at sites on the Oregon coast may depend on the development and maintenance of a long-lived persistent seedbank. Results from germination tests with seeds of various ages (stored in paper sacks at room temperature) show that seeds of this species can remain viable for long periods of time. Loss of viability over time appears to be very slow; seeds stored for nine years retained over 80% viability (Figure 14).

The stochastic behavior of natural and reintroduced pink sand-verbena populations suggests that seedbanks buffer populations from sharp declines and can allow re-colonization of a site. At Otter Point, a population decline to zero plants in 2000 was followed by the emergence of three plants in 2001; seven plants were counted at Cape Blanco in 2004 although none had been observed there in 2003. Seeding in 2002 at three reintroduction sites, Siltcoos Creek, Bastendorff Beach, and Bandon Beach, resulted in low plant establishment (fewer than 20 plants each) that year, but much higher populations (>100 plants) in 2003 without additional seeding. The appearance of some populations of pink sand-verbena long distances from natural populations, such as at Tenmile in 1995, Gearhart in 1993, and Vancouver Island in 2000 (after nearly 60 years of absence), suggest that some populations may establish from seed many years after the presence of any adult plants. Two new sightings (Tish-A-Tang and Arizona Beach) this year indicate that seeds may establish from the seedbank. Taken together, these lines of evidence provide strong support for the notion that pink sand-verbena is capable of maintaining a persistent seedbank, and that buried seeds may play an important role in the population dynamics of this species and should be fostered in reintroduction attempts.

Plant Measurements

In 2012 measurements taken on randomly selected reproductive plants at Overlook, Coos Bay North Spit and New River were taken. This data will be used in the future to track changes in the population of pink sand-verbena as well as the associated plant community.

Substrate Assessments

Preliminary work in 2012 shows that addition of oyster shells may cause changes in pH. Substrate samples collected from areas with high cover of oyster shell were also associated with higher pH levels and smaller pink sand-verbena with few inflorescences (Table 5 and Figure 13). More samples will be collected in 2013 will help to elucidate these trends.

Additional Research

Population modeling to assess recovery objectives

The Conservation Strategy for pink sand-verbena (Kaye 2006) calls for the development of recovery objectives that take into account our ability to successfully reintroduce populations of the species. However, we have no estimate of the number of populations needed to establish a successful pink sand-

verbena meta-population. Data gathered from population monitoring on natural population dynamics, population establishment success, and estimations of dispersal rates can be used to simulate population dynamics over time. Through the use of matrix models, the viability of individual populations may be estimated based on observations of individuals in populations through time. Pink sand-verbena may be a suitable 'model system' for structuring reintroduction programs and setting objectives, especially for rare beach plant species.

Additional beach species

Pink sand-verbena is only one of several beach species in decline on the Oregon coast. Efforts to control European beachgrass to improve habitat conditions for native species such as pink sand-verbena and the western snowy plover create large, open areas devoid of vegetation (if successful), similar to the type of habitats that were plentiful prior to beachgrass introduction. These areas would also likely provide good habitat for other native beach and dune plant species. Unfortunately, propagation methods for many beach species have not been developed. A preliminary list of 11 native plant species that could be useful in restoration projects of beach ecosystems is provided in Table 6.

Hypotheses for Future Research

The results of attempts to reintroduce pink sand-verbena to beach and dune habitats in Oregon, combined with observations made during field visits, have led to several hypotheses that require further testing before they can be used to guide additional reintroduction efforts.

Recently deposited or disturbed sand is a more suitable substrate for pink sand-verbena growth than older substrates. Natural and transplanted plants at Port Orford and Gold Beach consistently thrived on freshly deposited dredge material, but tended to decline in vigor two to three years after the sand was deposited. In 1995 at Coos Bay North Spit, transplants placed in an area that had recently (within three months) been disturbed during treatment for beachgrass thrived and achieved large size (greater than 50-cm) with substantial flowering (over 50 inflorescences each) while plants transplanted in an area where beachgrass had been removed two years before showed only moderate survival and growth. Furthermore, natural populations in southern Oregon and northern California often occur near the mouths of rivers and creeks where fresh sand is consistently deposited and disturbance is frequent.

Plants that grow close to shore (on the upper beach) are more likely to thrive in the short-term, but plants in the foredune are more likely to survive fall and winter storms. Observations of mortality patterns of transplants at Tillamook Bay and Hubbard Creek, where plants were positioned in sets both on the upper beach and in the foredune, suggest that the upper beach can be a very suitable (even superior) habitat for growth. However, fall and late summer storms damaged vigorous plants on the upper beach. The foredune transplants were not damaged and continued to thrive into fall (as late as November), and may survive the winter. Additional evidence suggests that competition from dune grasses can be detrimental to pink sand-verbena growth. Therefore, a strategy that places transplants among both habitats may improve overall success.

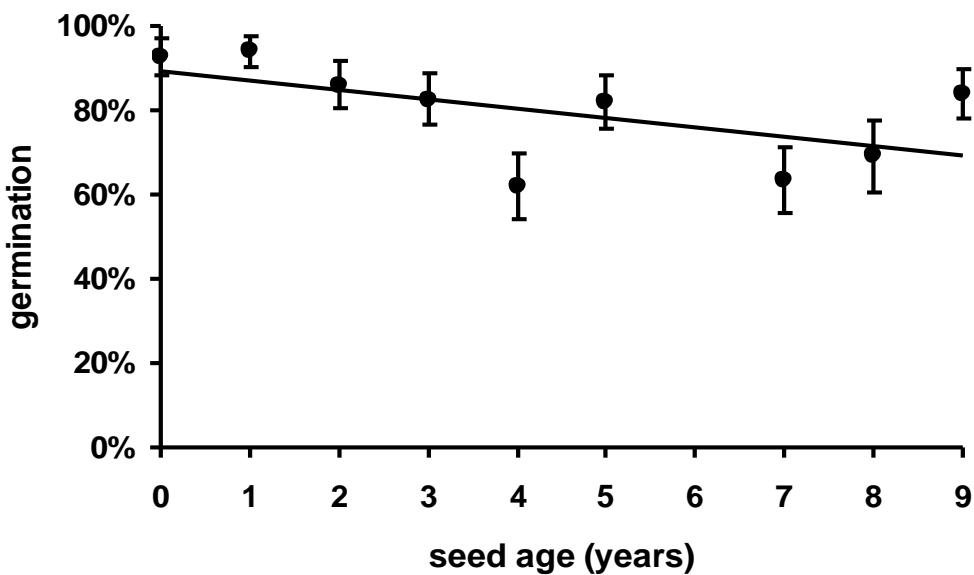


FIGURE 14. THE PERCENT OF SEEDS STORED FROM 0-9 YEARS. THE EQUATION FOR THE LINEAR REGRESSION IS $Y=-0.03X + 0.955$, $R^2 = 0.81$, $P = 0.015$.

TABLE 6. PLANT SPECIES NATIVE TO OREGON BEACHES AND DUNES: CANDIDATES FOR USE IN ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS. MORE INFORMATION IS NEEDED ON TECHNIQUES FOR GERMINATION AND PROPAGATION OF THESE TAXA.

Common name	Latin name
yellow sand-verbena	<i>Abronia latifolia</i>
beach pea	<i>Lathyrus littoralis</i>
maritime pea	<i>Lathyrus japonicus</i>
beach morning-glory	<i>Convolvulus soldanella</i>
silver bursage	<i>Ambrosia chamissonis</i>
black knotweed	<i>Polygonum paronychia</i>
American dunegrass	<i>Elymus mollis</i>
American glehnia	<i>Glehnia leiocarpa</i>
silvery phacelia*	<i>Phacelia argentea</i>
Wolf's evening primrose*	<i>Oenothera wolfii</i>
seaside dock	<i>Rumex maritimus</i>

*Listed as Threatened with the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture; Species of Concern with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

A persistent seedbank may be a necessary component of a viable population; repeated seedings or transplantings may be required for successful reintroduction and recovery. Pink sand-verbena seeds are long-lived and appear to be capable of persistence in beach sands for long periods of time (up to several decades). Therefore, buried seeds may play an important role in viable populations of pink sand-verbena, acting as a mechanism for population re-establishment after catastrophes or stochastic swings in population size. They may also serve to provide some genetic stability to populations by containing samples of genetic variability that are occasionally lost from the above-ground population. Successful reintroduction of this species may require the development of a large pool of buried seeds, so that introduced populations can rebound after periods of population decline. This suggests that at each site, repeated seedings or transplantings over several years may be required to build-up a seedbank.

Overwintering plants play an important role in the creation of a self-sustaining population. Large overwintering plants are larger and produce significantly more seed than annual plants under some conditions. Mechanical methods of discing and bulldozing commonly used for invasive beach grass control at many of the sand-verbena sites may need to be balanced with the need to allow at least some plants to overwinter and grow for a second year. Manual removal (where feasible), targeted herbicide use, or staggered discing treatments are possible ways to allow for both the control of beach grass and for some sand verbena plants to perennate. Especially in habitat patches where beachgrass is not established in any given year, lifting the disc equipment temporarily may allow more second year plants to flourish.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2013

In 2012~ 550,000 seeds were collected from Coos Bay, for distribution in 2013.

Based on the success of seeding and transplant efforts in previous years, we recommend that the following sites be the focus of seeding and restoration efforts in 2013:

Management Agency	Site	Seeding Conducted in 2012	Recommended Action. 2013
US Forest Service, Siuslaw N.F.	Siltcoos Creek	50,000	50,000
	Overlook, North	60,000	60,000
	Overlook, South	60,000	60,000
	Tahkenitch	100,000	100,000
Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay	New River	120,000	100,000
	Coos Bay North Spit	100,000	100,000
Private land (managed by USFWS)	Elk River	100,000	100,000
Oregon Parks and Rec. (restoration by USFWS)	Bandon Natural Area	100,000	100,000

We recommend that population surveys be conducted at the following sites in the fall of 2013:

County	Site
Lane County	Siltcoos Creek
"	Sutton Creek
Curry County	Cape Blanco
"	Elk River
"	Euchre Creek (Ophir)
"	Floras Lake
"	New River
"	Otter Point
"	Port Orford
Douglas County	Overlook North and South
Coos County	Bandon Beach China Creek
"	Bandon Beach South
"	Coos Bay North Spit
Lincoln county	Salmon River

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APPENDIX I. MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR POPULATION MONITORING

pin flags

data sheets

GPS

previous year's report

6 100m tapes (Coos Bay only)

flagging

APPENDIX II. SURVEY RESULTS FOR SEEDED AND NATURAL POPULATIONS

TABLE 7. RESULTS OF SURVEYS FOR PINK SAND-VERBENA AT COOS BAY DISTRICT BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT SITES ALONG THE OREGON COAST. IAE CONDUCTED SURVEYS FROM 2000-2012. POPULATION DATA FOR YEARS PRIOR TO 2000 ARE FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Site	natural or reintroduced	date surveyed	population size	Reintroduction history and other comments
Coos Bay *In 2008, due to early discing, <50% of the pop. was surveyed, thus 2008 cannot be accurately compared to estimates in other years.	reintro.	9/26/2012	~349,658 (repro.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		10/6/2011	~185,623 (repro.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		9/22/2010	~240,488 (repro.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		10/14/2009	~203,959 (repro.)	Seeded (90K seeds)
		10/15/2008	>10,929 (repro.)*	Seeded (90K seeds)
		2007	~111,063 (repro.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		9/27/2006	~99,354 (repro.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		10/3/2005	~31,411 (repro.)	---
		10/12/2004	~66,697 (repro.)	---
		10/2/2003	~111,496 (repro.)	---
		9/25/2002	~65,922 (repro.)	---
		9/14/2001	~45,257 (repro.)	---
		9/19/2000	~45,000 (repro.)	---
		1996	---	Seeded (50K seeds)
New River * A portion of the area had been newly disced expanding the suitable habitat since 2010	reintro.	9/27/2012	66 plants (26 repro., 40 veg.)	Seeded (120k seeds)
		10/5/2011	*237 plants (44 repro., 193 veg.)	Seeded (100k seeds)
		9/21/2010	810 plants (369 repro., 441 veg.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		10/5/2009	62 plants (42 repro., 20 veg.)	Seeded (80K seeds)
		10/16/2008	180 plants (69 repro., 111 veg.)	Seeded (80K seeds)
		9/29/2007	480 plants (269 repro., 211 veg.)	Seeded (150K seeds)
		9/25/2006	616 plants (380 repro., 236 veg.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		10/4/2005	2,174 plants (1,114 repro., 1,058 veg.)	Seeded (95K seeds)
		9/14/2004	1,628 plants (1,014 repro., 614 veg.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		10/1/2003	917 plants (459 repro., 458 veg.)	Seeded (80K seeds)
		9/11/2002	524 plants (373 repro., 151 veg.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		9/12/2001	145 plants	Seeded (70K seeds)
		8/15/2000	421 plants	Seeded (50K seeds)
		1999	---	Seeded (50K seeds)
		1997	---	Seeded (50K seeds)

TABLE 8. RESULTS OF SURVEYS FOR PINK SAND-VERBENA SITES MANAGED BY THE SIUSLAW NATIONAL FOREST ALONG THE OREGON COAST. IAE CONDUCTED SURVEYS FROM 2000-2012. POPULATION DATA FOR YEARS PRIOR TO 2000 ARE FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Site	natural or reintroduced	date surveyed	population size	Reintroduction history and other comments
Tahken itch Cr.	reintro.	10/1/20	381 plants (135 repro., 246 veg.)	Seeded (100k seeds)
		12		
		10/5/20	95 plants (38 repro., 57 veg.)	Seeded (80k seeds)
		11		
		10/2009	4 plants (2 repro., 2 veg.) *briefly surveyed by Marty Stein	---
			1 veg.	
		10/4/20	0 plants	---
		06		
		9/14/20	121 plants (72 repro., 49 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
		05		
Overlo ok North	reintro.	9/29/20	0 plants	Seeded (50K seeds)
		04		
		9/18/20	22 plants (14 repro., 8 veg.)	---
		03		
		9/25/20	50 plants (45 repro., 5 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
		02		
		9/18/20		Seeded (50K seeds) +50 transplants
		01		50 transplants
		9/20/20	32 plants (repro.)	
		00		

	9/14/20 05	3,210 plants (1,191 repro., 2,019 veg.)	---
	9/29/20 04	3,741 plants (2,632 repro., 1,109 veg.)	---
	9/18/20 03	1,478 plants (1,359 repro., 119 veg.)	---
	9/25/20 02	1,091 plants (574 repro., 517 veg.)	---
	9/18/20 01	482 plants (390 repro., 92 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	9/20/20 00	2 plants (repro.)	50 transplants (most pulled by accident)
Overlo ok South	10/1/20 12	2,247 plants (628 repro., 1,619 veg.)	Seeded (60k seeds)
	10/4/20 11	2,349 plants (988 repro., 1,361 veg.)	Seeded (60k seeds)
	9/26/20 10	1,052 plants (424 repro., 628 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	10/6/20 09	2,073 plants (1518 repro., 555 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	2008	Informal survey noted plants as present	Seeded (50K seeds)
	9/24/20 07	98 plants (76 repro., 22 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	10/4/20 06	10 plants (4 repro., 6 veg.)	---
	9/14/20 05	4,340 plants (2,581 repro., 1,759 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	9/29/20 04	9,554 plants (6,325 repro., 3,229 veg.)	---
	9/18/20 03	2,107 plants (1,954 repro., 153 veg.)	---
	9/25/20 02	1,726 plants (1,435 repro., 291 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	9/18/20 01	658 plants (427 repro., 231 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
Baker Beach	10/6/20 09	6 plants (5 repro., 1 veg.)	Seeded (40K seeds)
	10/2/20 08	70 plants (32 repro., 38 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	9/24/20 07	42 plants (30 repro., 12 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	9/5/200 6	12 plants (6 repro., 6 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	9/14/20	72 plants (11 repro., 61 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)

		05	
	10/28/20	93 plants (37 repro., 56 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	004		
	9/18/20	55 plants (27 repro., 28 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	03		
Siltcoos Cr.	reintro.	10/1/20	605 plants (135 repro., 470 veg.)
		12	Seeded (50K seeds)
	10/5/20	415 plants (309 repro., 106 veg.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
	11		
	9/27/20	148 plants (28 repro., 120 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	10		
	10/6/20	36 plants (15 repro., 21 veg.)	Seeded (55K seeds)
	09		
	10/2/20	41 plants (14 repro., 27 veg.)	Seeded (60K seeds)
	08		
	9/24/20	66 plants (54 repro., 12 veg.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
	07		
	10/4/20	385 plants (202 repro., 183 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	06		
	9/14/20	989 plants (961 repro., 28 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	05		
	10/28/20	355 plants (311 repro., 44 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	004		
	9/18/20	215 plants (195 repro., 20 veg.)	---
	03		
	9/25/20	19 plants (12 repro., 7 veg.)	Seeded (60K seeds)
	02		
	9/18/20	7 plants (all repro.)	45 Transplants
	01		
	9/20/20	249 plants (135 repro., 114 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	00		
	1999	---	Seeded (50K seeds)
Sutton Creek	reintro.	9/24/20	0 plants
		07	---
	9/5/2000	0 plants	Seeded (50K seeds)
	6		
	2005	0 plants	Seeded (50K seeds)
	10/28/20	150 plants (28 repro., 122 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
	004		
Tenmile Cr.	natural and augmented	10/23/20	1 plant (repro.)
		003	---
	9/25/20	0 plants	---
	02		

9/18/20 01	0 plants	---
9/20/20 00	0 plants	---
1999	---	150 transplants

TABLE 9. RESULTS OF SURVEYS FOR PINK SAND-VERBENA SITES MANAGED BY THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION ALONG THE OREGON COAST. IAE CONDUCTED SURVEYS FROM 2000-2012. POPULATION DATA FOR YEARS PRIOR TO 2000 ARE FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Site	natural or reintroduced	date surveyed	population size	Reintroduction history and other comments
Bandon Beach South	reintro.	9/27/2012	161 plants (84 repro., 77 veg.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		10/2011	476 plants (173 repro., 303 veg.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
		9/21/2010	260 plants (91 repro., 149 veg.)	Seeded (120K seeds)
		10/14/2008	113 plants (52 repro., 61 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
China Creek (Bandon Beach)		9/27/2012	6 plants (3 repro., 3 veg.)	---
		9/13/2007	173 plants (121 repro., 52 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
		9/26/2006	452 plants (346 repro., 106 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
		10/4/2005	139 plants (124 repro., 15 veg.)	Seeded (100K seeds)
Bastendorff Beach	reintro.	9/21/2010	2 plants (2 repro., 0 veg.)	---
		10/15/2008	9 plants (6 repro., 3 veg.)	---
		9/13/2007	2 plants (repro.)	---
		9/26/2006	11 plants (8 repro., 3 veg.)	---
		10/5/2005	536 plants (410 repro., 126 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
		9/13/2004	371 plants (245 repro., 126 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
		10/2/2003	110 plants(104 repro., 6 veg.)	---
		9/11/2002	13 plants (8 repro., 5 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
		8/15/2000	0 plants	---
		1998	---	Seeded (50K seeds)
		1997	---	Seeded (50K seeds)
		1996	---	Seeded & transplanted
		1995	---	Seeded & transplanted

***Abronia umbellata* var. *breviflora* on the Oregon coast: Reintroduction and population monitoring**

Harris Beach State Park	natural	9/15/2004	0 plants	Natural pop'n, but also seeded (5,000 seeds) in 1995 and transplanted
		9/10/2002	0 plants	
		9/13/2001	0 plants	
		8/16/2000	0 plants	
McWay Park	natural	8/16/2000	0 plants	appeared unsuitable
Pistol River	reintro.	10/5/2009	0 plants	---
		10/14/2008	1 veg.	Seeded (80K seeds)
Euchre Creek (Ophir)	reintro.	9/15/2004	2 veg. plants	---
		9/30/2003	7 plants (4 repro., 3 veg.)	---
		9/10/02 9/13/01	9 plants (all repro.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
		8/16/2000	0 plants	---
		1999	1 veg. plant	Seeded (50K seeds)
			---	Seeded (50K seeds)

TABLE 10. RESULTS OF SURVEYS FOR PINK SAND-VERBENA SITES MANAGED BY THE USFWS ALONG THE OREGON COAST. IAE CONDUCTED SURVEYS FROM 2009-2012.

Site	natural or reintroduced	date surveyed	population size	Reintroduction history and other comments
Elk River	Intro	9/25/2012	556 plants (384 repro., 172 veg.)	Seeded (100k seeds)
		10/4/2011	307 plants (105 repro., 202 veg.)	Seeded (100k seeds)
		9/21/2010	113 plants (86 repro, 27 veg.)	Seeded (100k seeds)
		9/20/2009	389 plants (353 repro., 36 veg.)	Seeded (100k seeds)
Crook Point	Intro	9/21/2010	2 (1 repro., 1 veg.)	Seeded (50k seeds)

TABLE 11. RESULTS OF SURVEYS FOR PINK SAND-VERBENA SITES ALONG THE OREGON COAST MANAGED BY VARIOUS LAND MANAGERS INCLUDING THE STATE PARKS DEPARTMENT. IAE CONDUCTED SURVEYS FROM 2000-2012. POPULATION DATA FOR YEARS PRIOR TO 2000 ARE FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Site	natural or reintroduced	date surveyed	population size	Reintroduction history and other comments
Charleston Beach	reintro.	9/21/2010	0 plants	---
(State and County Parks)		9/11/2002	0 plants	---
		8/15/2000	0 plants	---
		1996	---	Seeded and transplanted
		1995	---	Seeded and transplanted
Otter Point	natural	9/13/2007	0 plants	2000 was the first year since 1993 that no plants were observed at this site
Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation		9/26/2006	0 plants	---
		9/15/2004	0 plants	
		9/30/2003	0 plants	
		9/10/2002	9 repro. plants	
		9/13/2001	3 repro. plants	
		8/16/2000	0 plants	
		1999	9 plants	
Heceta Beach	reintro.	9/12/2001	0 plants	---
		10/18/2000	0 plants	---
		1995	---	Seeded (5K seeds)
N of Cape Blanco/ S of	natural	9/12/2009	1 flowering plant	N42.8655 W124.53432

Blacklock pt.

Oregon			(identified by D. & D. Bilderback)
Department of Parks and Recreation			
Cape Blanco	natural	9/26/2006	1 veg. plant
Oregon		9/15/2004	7 plants (3 repro., 4 veg.)
Department of Parks and Recreation			
Floras Lake	reintro.	10/1/2003	0 plants
Oregon		8/16/2000	2 repro., 1 N & 1 S of creek.
Department of Parks and Recreation/BL		1999	1 plant
M		1984	several plants
Hubbard Creek	reintro.	9/25/2012	67 plants (8 repro., 59 veg.)
Oregon		10/6/2009	0 plants
Department of Parks and Recreation			
		9/13/2007	0 plants
		9/26/2006	65 plants (41 repro., 24 veg.)
		10/4/2005	20 plants (all repro.)
		9/14/2004	220 plants (81 repro., 139 veg.)
		10/19/2000	10 plants (7 repro., 3 veg.)
		1996	Seeded (50K seeds) Seeded (5K seeds)
		9/14/2004	4 repro. plants
		10/1/2003	0 plants
		9/11/2002	0 plants
		8/15/2000	0 plants
		1999	1 plant
		1996	---
			Seeded & transplanted

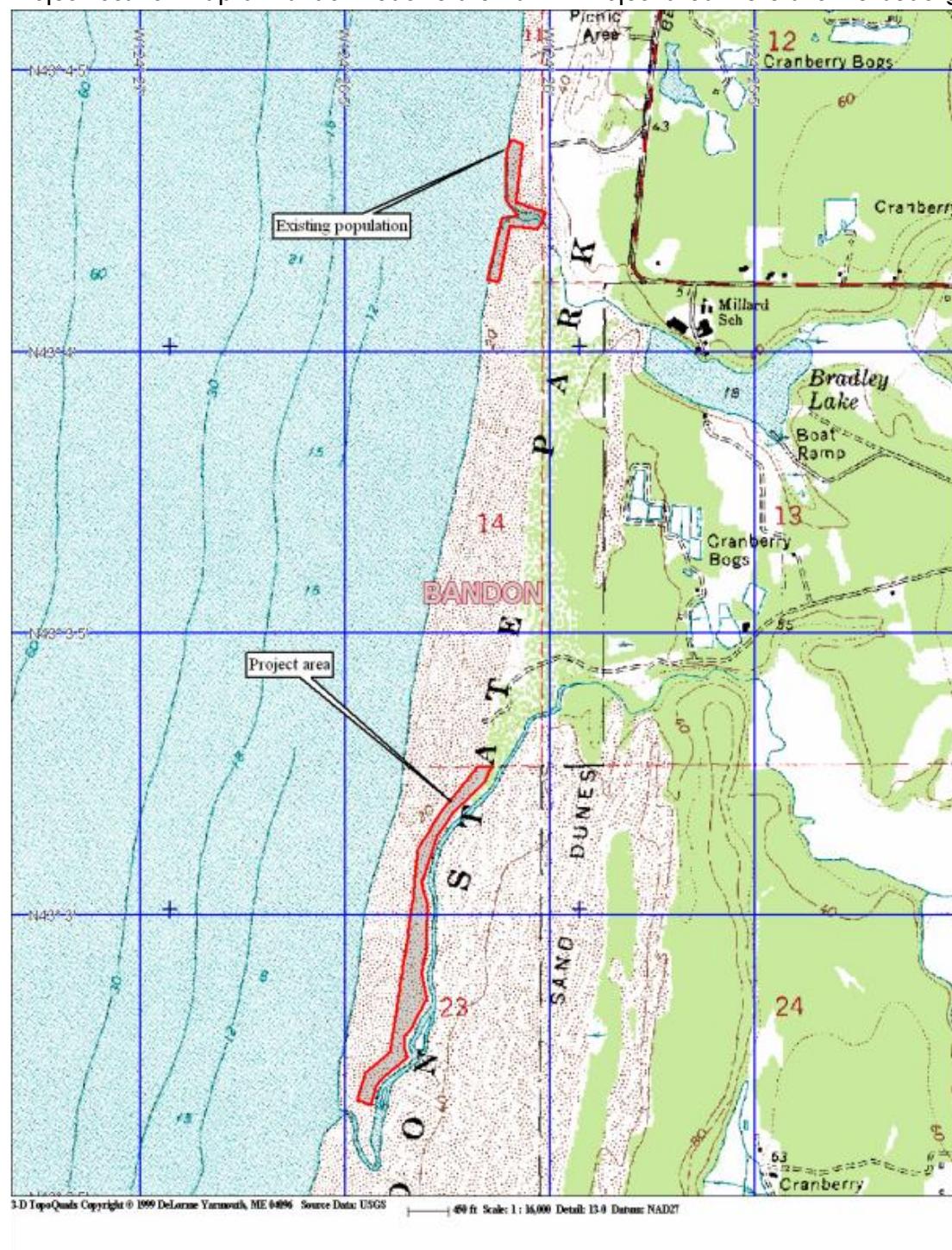
***Abronia umbellata* var. *breviflora* on the Oregon coast: Reintroduction and population monitoring**

		1995	---	Seeded & transplanted
Port Orford	natural & augmented	10/2011	146 reproductive plants	---
Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation		9/21/2010	136 reproductive plants	---
		10/20/2009	269 plants (237 repro., 32 veg.)	---
		10/16/2008	226 plants (only repro. counted)	---
		9/13/2007	1,412 plants (846 repro., 566 veg.)	---
		9/26/2006	660 plants (454 repro., 206 veg.)	---
		10/4/2005	740 plants (392 repro., 348 veg.)	---
		9/14/2004	909 plants (556 repro., 353 veg.)	---
		9/30/2003	552 plants (159 repro. plants, 393 veg.)	---
		9/10/2002	1,146 plants (480 repro. and 666 veg.)	---
		9/13/2001	2,607 (1,467 repro. and 1,140 veg.)	---
		2000	1,834 plants	---
		1999	7,169 plants	---
Winchuck River	natural	9/10/2002	6 repro. plants	New site in 2000; N & S of creek mouth
Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation		8/16/2000	5 repro., 1 veg.	
Salmon River	reintro.	9/22/2012	0 plants	---
Camp Westwind (Westwind Stewardship Group)		9/26/2009	0 plants	---
		10/22/2005	92 plants (52 repro., 40 veg.)	---
		11/20/2004	1 repro. plant	---
		10/24/2002	163 plants (129 repro., 34 veg.)	Seeded (50K seeds)
		9/10/2001	741 plants (488 repro. 253 veg.)	Seeded (40K seeds)

APPENDIX III. MAPS OF SELECTED SITES- SEEDED OR MONITORED

Bandon Beach State Park

Project location map at Bandon Beach State Park. "Project area" refers to the beachgrass control.

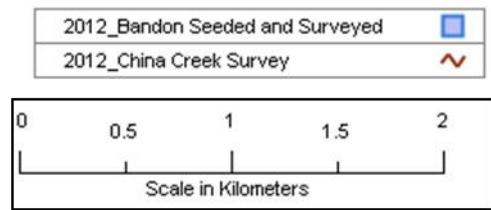


Bandon Beach and China Creek

Bandon Beach

Area shaded in blue represents area surveyed and seeded with *Abronia umbellata* ssp. *breviflora* in 2010-2012.

Brown line represents survey track in the northern China Creek portion.



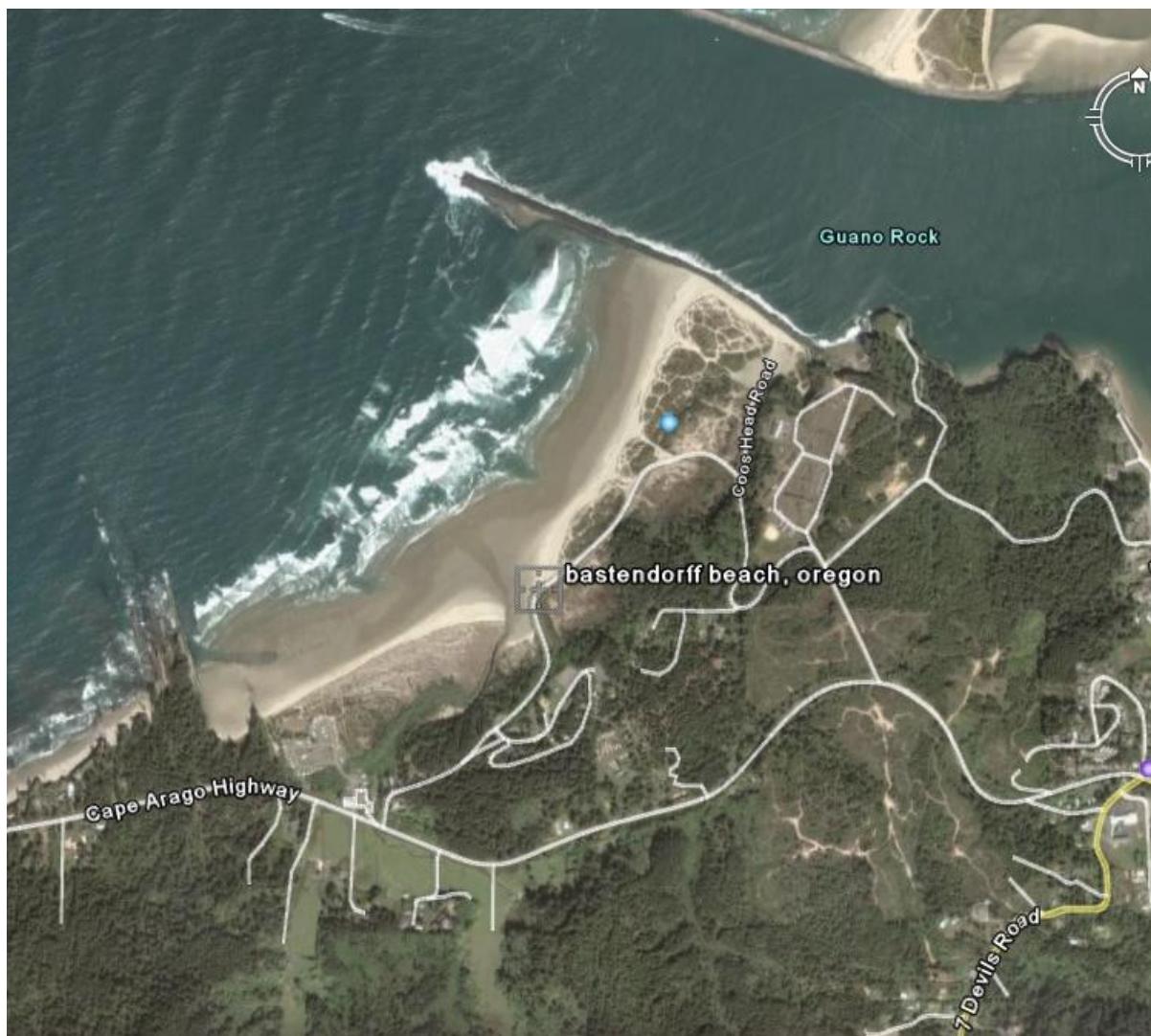
China Creek

Brown line represents survey track in 2012.

Red squares represent *Abronia umbellata* ssp. *breviflora*, and
Abronia latifolia found in the northern portion of the area



Bastendorff Beach

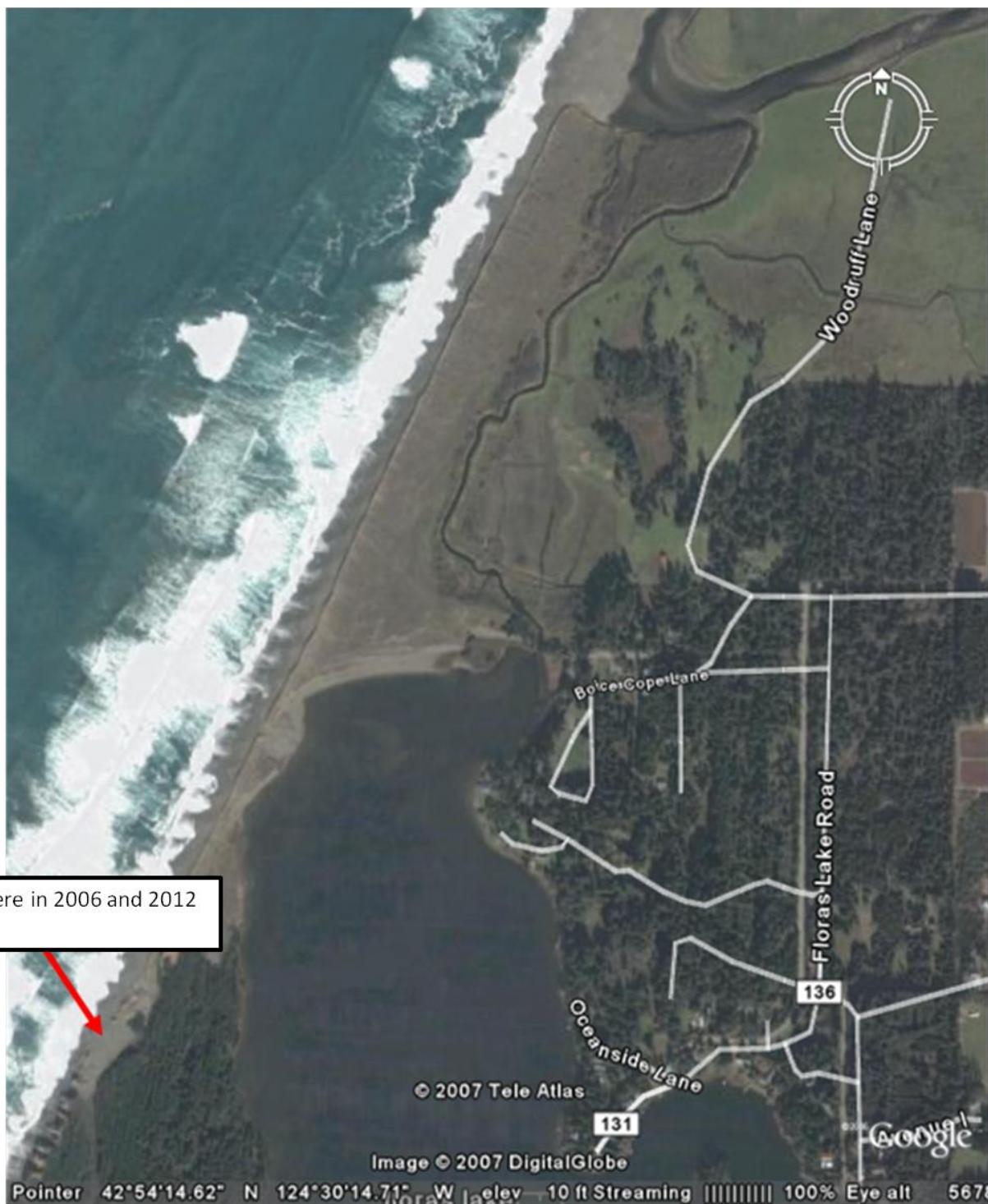


Elk River

Shaded area represents area seeded and surveyed in 2009-2012.



Floras Lake



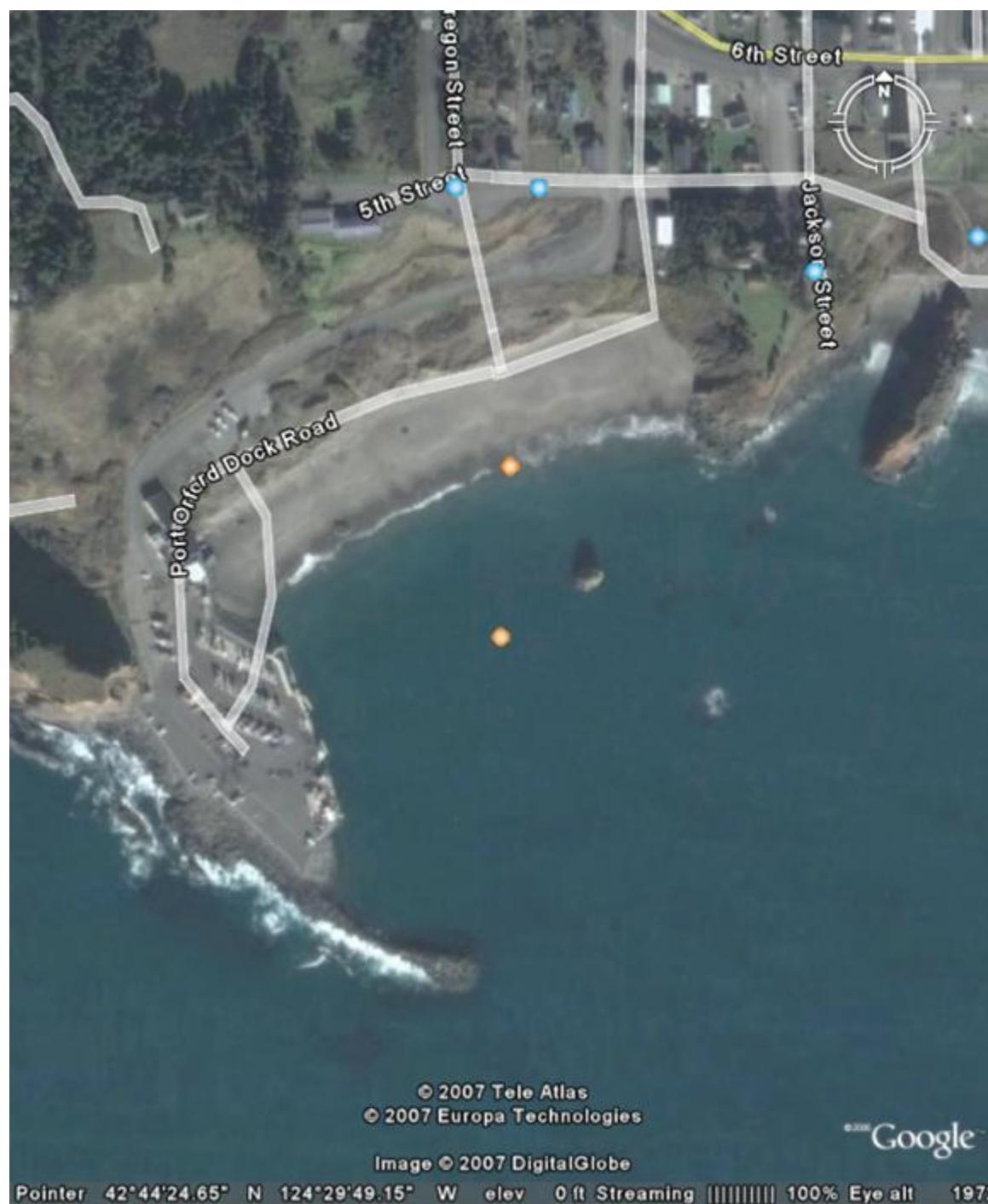
New River



Overlook North and South



Port Orford



Ophir/Euchre Creek

park on highway, walk down gravel road (ignoring no trespassing sign), knock on door of house on way to beach. a few years ago, Nancy Brian (BLM) talked to them and they were nice ... if not home, continue to do survey, but stop by house again on way back



Otter Point



Siltcoos



Tahkenitch



APPENDIX IV. POPULATION MONITORING AND SEED ADDITION AT OTHER SITES

BAKER BEACH

Seeding at Baker Beach has consistently had moderate success, resulting in a range from 12 plants (6 reproductive) in 2006 to 93 plants (37 reproductive) in 2004 (Table 8). We generally found plants south and east of the snowy plover habitat area in areas protected by larger dunes. In 2009, 6 plants were found (5 reproductive and 1 vegetative). In 2010, 2011, and 2012, no seeds were distributed at this site and it was not monitored.

BASTENDORFF BEACH

This site received both transplants (1995 and 1996) and seeding (most years between 1995 and 2005, Table 11). No plants were found until 2002, when 8 reproductive and 5 vegetative plants were counted. The population continued to increase to its maximum level in 2005 of 536 plants (410 reproductive). Seeding last occurred in 2005 and although small (between 2 and 11 plants), we have observed plants each year we have monitored, including nine plants (six reproductive) in 2008 and 2 plants (both reproductive) in 2010.



FIGURE 15. PINK SAND-VERBENA IN THE NORTH CENSUS AREA AT THE COOS BAY NORTH SPIT. PINK SAND-VERBENA TENDED TO BE FOUND ALONG THE RIDGES LEFT BY THE DISC HARROW. THIS PATTERN WAS ALSO NOTED AT THE OVERLOOK SITES IN 2009.

CAPE BLANCO

The natural population at Cape Blanco has been below seven individuals in the five surveys conducted since 1999.

DRIFTWOOD CREEK

Fifty thousand seeds were distributed at Driftwood Creek in 1998. No plants were counted in 1998, 2000, or 2001 surveys. In 2010 the site was revisited and no plants were found at the site.

EUCHRE CREEK

Although seeding resulted in only a few plants in 2000 and 2002, individuals continued to germinate in 2003 and 2004. We recommend that this site be resurveyed in 2011.

FLORAS LAKE

Direct seeding at Floras Lake in 1996 (5,000 seeds) and 2000 (50,000 seeds) resulted in only seven and 10 plants in each year (respectively). However, in 2004, 220 plants were observed growing in an area protected from wave action by a sandstone outcrop. We counted 65 plants in 2006. No plants were found in 2007 or 2009. The persistence of the Floras Lake population, despite low reintroduction effort, suggests that this habitat may be a good site for future seeding.

ONA BEACH

In 2000, two plants were counted at the mouth of Beaver Creek; this was the first time plants had been documented at this site. In 2001, no plants were found and no surveys have been completed since that time.

OTTER POINT

The wild population of pink sand-verbena at Otter Point has shown dramatic swings in size since 1993. From 1993-1996, the number of plants varied from 9 to 16, but in 1997 and 1998, the population rose to 177 and 136 plants, respectively. The population declined substantially after that, dropping to 0 in 2000 and rebounding to only 3 plants in 2001 and 2002. No plants were observed from 2003-2007 (the site was not surveyed in 2005; Figure 10). Re-colonization of the site after dropping to 0 plants in 2000 suggests that the population at Otter Point (and possibly others) can re-establish from a persistent seedbank. Monitoring should continue at this location, and if the species continues to be absent, the possibility of reintroducing the species should be evaluated.

PISTOL RIVER

Plant establishment at Pistol River State Park was extremely low. Eighty thousand seeds were distributed at the site in April 2008. In October 2008, only one vegetative plant was located. Although seeding pink sand-verbena in April has been successful in the past, there may not have been sufficient time for cold stratification in the weeks following seeding in 2008. This likely contributed to the low germination rate. In addition, a bench that had been seeded in April had eroded to beach level during the summer, significantly reducing the amount of pink sand-verbena habitat present at the site. In 2009, no plants were found at the site.

PORTR ORFORD

The population at Port Orford is both natural and augmented. In 1999, over 7,000 plants were counted; since that time there has been a downward trend in yearly population numbers (Table 11). In 2007, the population size more than doubled compared to the previous year (1,412 plants, 846 reproductive). Of these, 168 plants (118 reproductive) appeared to be hybrids with yellow sand-verbena. In 2008, 226 reproductive plants were counted, 79 of which were potential hybrids. In 2009, 269 plants were counted, 237 reproductive and 32 vegetative. In 2010, 194 plants were counted, 58 of which appeared to be hybrids. In 2011 146 plants were counted at the site. This habitat is relatively well protected from ocean storms and has the potential to be quite large. Given that this is one of the few (partially) natural populations that remains on the Oregon coast, we strongly recommend renewed attempts to remove European beachgrass.

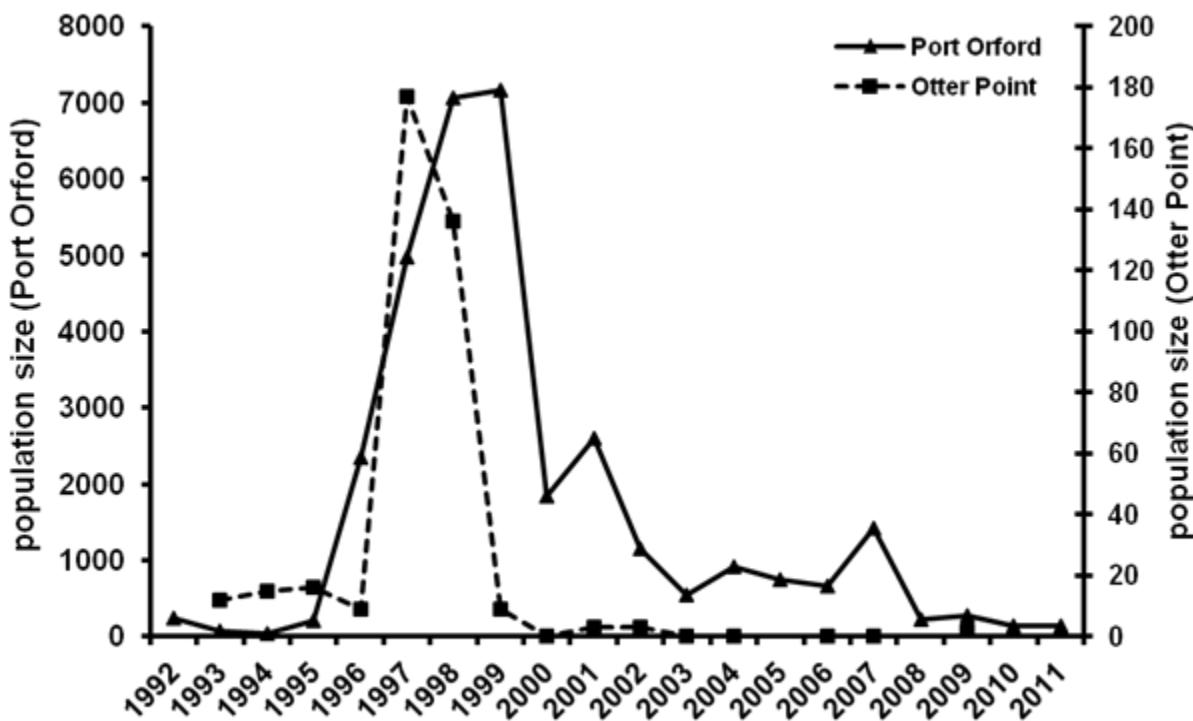


FIGURE 16. POPULATION TRENDS OF PINK SAND-VERBENA AT OTTER POINT, A NATURAL, UNMANIPULATED POPULATION AND PORT ORFORD, A NATURAL POPULATION THAT HAS RECEIVED INTENSIVE RESTORATION IN THE FORM OF AUGMENTATION (TRANSPLANTING), PARTIAL ELIMINATION OF BEACH GRASS BEHIND THE FOREDUNE, AND DISTURBANCE WITH MACHINERY (1992-1999). THERE ARE NO DATA FOR OTTER POINT IN 2005 OR 2008 TO PRESENT.

SALMON RIVER

Restoration seeding took place at Salmon River in 2001 and 2002. These efforts resulted in 741 and 163 total plants in 2001 and 2002, respectively. In 2005, 92 plants (52 reproductive) were present, despite no seeding that year. This site was not surveyed in 2006, 2007, or 2008. The recruitment of plants from the seedbank in 2005 suggests that this population could be maintained with management activities including beachgrass control and seeding.

SUTTON CREEK

Seeding at Sutton Creek had low success in two out of the three years it was seeded. In 2004, 150 plants (28 reproductive) established after a spring seeding. No plants were found at the site in 2005, 2006, or 2007 despite seeding in 2005 and 2006. This site appears to receive a relatively high level of disturbance from wind, wave action, flooding, and bed-movement by Sutton Creek. Due to the disturbance and the poor recruitment, we did not seed the site in 2007 and subsequently found no new plants.