

# Get Involved

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help in the delivery of our Fylde Sand Dunes Management Project.

We hold regular volunteer work parties, tackling everything from scrub removal to community engagement - there's something for everyone to get involved with!

If you are passionate about your local area and keen to make a difference please contact Catherine, our Volunteer Co-ordinator.

✉ [volunteer@lancswt.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@lancswt.org.uk)

☎ 01772 318374

Or alternatively register online at  
[www.lancswt.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.lancswt.org.uk/volunteer)



For more information on this project please visit  
[www.lancswt.org.uk/fylde-sand-dunes](http://www.lancswt.org.uk/fylde-sand-dunes)  
or contact Amy Pennington,  
our Sand Dunes Project Officer, by emailing  
[apennington@lancswt.org.uk](mailto:apennington@lancswt.org.uk)



## The Fylde Sand Dunes Project

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☎ 01772 318374

📍 St Annes Sand Dunes



Blackpool Council



Lancashire,  
Manchester &  
N Merseyside

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The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and N. Merseyside is a registered  
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Head Office: The Barn, Berkeley Drive, Bamber Bridge, Preston, PR5 6BY

# The Fylde Sand Dunes Project

Get involved  
with our  
Volunteering  
Opportunities



Lancashire,  
Manchester &  
N Merseyside



Blackpool Council



# Introduction to the Dunes

The Fylde sand dunes are an important feature of our coastline, covering approximately 80 hectares between Starr Gate in the North and Lytham in the South. The borough of Fylde contains more than 90% of Lancashire's sand dunes. However, unfortunately over the past 150 years, more than 80% of our sand dunes have been lost, mainly due to the urban expansion of Blackpool and Saint Anne's.

The range of conditions in a sand dune habitat supports a surprisingly rich variety of plants and wildlife that are well adapted to their environment. The dunes provide an important recreational resource for the community who come to enjoy the dunes through activities such as picnics, dog walking, bird watching, walking and horse riding.



The dunes are not only important for wildlife and recreation, they are also crucial for their flood defence properties. The dunes act as a natural barrier to the sea at high tide, and release sand during storm conditions to reduce wave action. Due to their importance for habitats, biodiversity, sea defence and recreation it is vital a management plan is implemented to conserve our dunes.

# The Fylde Sand Dunes Project

**The Fylde Sand Dunes Project is a partnership project between Fylde Council, Blackpool Council and The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside.**

It was established to conserve the dune system and to increase awareness of their significance. A management plan was commissioned in 2008 to evaluate the importance of the dunes and suggest management proposals to maintain or enhance key features. The partnership delivers the management plan by working with natural processes to grow the dunes towards the sea.

The main aims for management of the Fylde sand dunes are to:

- Enhance the nature conservation interest of the coastal habitats,
- Improve the efficiency of the dunes and saltmarsh as soft sea-defence
- Enhance public appreciation and enjoyment of the dunes

The project carries out regular practical conservation methods on the dunes which includes:

- Controlling invasive non-native species
- Repairing the dunes by thatching and filling blow-outs to reduce sand loss from the system
- Developing pathways to create recognisable access points and reduce dune erosion
- Creating dune slacks to encourage a greater diversity of wildlife
- Planting dune grasses and using chestnut paling and other natural materials to trap wind-blown sand and create new dunes on the foreshore.

If you are passionate about protecting this beautifully charming and unique landscape then please get involved. There are many benefits to volunteering including:

- Meeting new and like-minded people
- The ability to develop or learn new skills
- Gaining conservation experience
- Physical exercise
- Making a difference to protect local residents and businesses from floods and coastal erosion
- Having fun!

