

C1. SALT MARSH DEVELOPMENT AND DUNE RESTORATION AT POPHAM BEACH STATE PARK: EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

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Description. This trip will provide hands-on experience in two parts, one in the salt marsh and one in the dune system. Half of the group will begin by walking to the salt marsh. There will be an introduction to contemporary salt marsh environments and how salt marshes develop on a centennial to millennial scale near Popham Beach. We will begin by characterizing present salt marsh zones, then collect cores along a transect. Participants will describe units in the cores and will construct a cross-section in the field to help evaluate the influence of sea-level rise and sediment deposition on the development of the salt marsh. Participants should expect to have wet feet - old sneakers or boots are highly encouraged - and should be comfortable walking across very uneven ground. We will get muddy.

The other half of the group will begin on the beach. We will learn about and contribute to ongoing dune restoration efforts at the State Park. Participants should expect to use shovels (provided) to excavate trenches, help carry driftwood pieces, and transplant dune grass. Bring appropriate footwear and work gloves. After lunch the groups will switch places, so everyone will experience the whole dune-marsh system.

Meeting Time and Place. 9:00 a.m., Sunday, October 13. Popham Beach State Park, 711 Popham Rd., Phippsburg. Park and meet near the western bath house, <https://maps.app.goo.gl/C3B1xuSXPo1wuA5FA> UTM 0435750, 4842929 (NAD83).

Other Logistics. Bring lunch and water for the day. The bathhouse may be closed for the season, but there are port-a-potty facilities. Be prepared for wind, especially on the beach.

C1 Limit. The total trip size is limited to 40 participants, 20 in each group, to minimize the impact on the salt marsh.

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