



For Immediate Use

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- Media Advisory -

**1,000 Kids will be Restoring Coastal Habitat and Cleaning the Beach
At the Mike Thompson Wildlife Area, South Spit Humboldt Bay
on Thursday, June 7th, 2018**

- What:** 1,000 elementary and middle school students will visit the Mike Thompson Wildlife Area on the South Spit of Humboldt Bay for the 14th Annual Kids Ocean Day event. In preparation for the event, Friends of the Dunes educators have been visiting schools to teach the students about coastal biodiversity, human caused threats such as marine debris and the spread of invasive species, and a simple actions we can take to help protect our coast and ocean.
- On June 7, students will do their part to care for the coast by participating in a day of habitat restoration and a beach clean-up. After these activities, students, teachers and volunteers will sit in formation on the sand and create an image with a message from a great wave and a cormorant to be photographed from the air. Similar events are taking place at four other locations along the California coast.
- When:** Thursday, June 7, 2018
Beach clean-up & non-native grass removal: 9 to 11:15 a.m.
Aerial art formation: 11:15-11:45 a.m. with air photo at 11:45 a.m.
- Where:** Mike Thompson Wildlife Area, below Table Bluff on the South Spit of the Humboldt Bay. Hookton Road exit off Highway 101, south of Eureka.
- Who:** The Kids Ocean Day program is organized locally by Friends of the Dunes and the Bureau of Land Management's Arcata Field Office. The California Conservation Corps and US Fish and Wildlife Service also be present at the event. Kids Ocean Day was started in 1994 in Los Angeles by the Malibu Foundation for Environmental Education and is organized statewide by the California Coastal Commission.
- Photo Ops:** Organizers will be available on the beach from 10 to 11 a.m. Buses full of children will be arriving starting at 9 a.m. At 11:45 a.m., the students will sit in formation to spell out the message from the ocean, creating a great aerial photo (available by the end of the day).
- Schools:** Alice Birney Elementary, Grant Elementary, Coastal Grove Charter School, South Fortuna Elementary, Redway School, McKinleyville Middle School, Sunnybrae Middle, Trillium Charter, Trinidad School, Winship Middle, Laural Tree Charter School, Ferndale Elementary, Jacoby Creek and Zane Middle School.