



Western snowy plover nest inside of a lobster trap.
Photo by: Alexis Frangis taken at McGrath State Beach 2014

Western Snowy Plover Annual Report

2014

Channel Coast District

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INTRODUCTION

Goals and Objectives

The western snowy plover (*Charadrius nivosus nivosus*) (WSP) occurs on McGrath State Beach (SB), Mandalay SB, San Buenaventura SB, and Carpinteria SB within the Channel Coast District (CCD), of California State Parks. McGrath SB, Mandalay SB, and now San Buenaventura SB provide both critical winter foraging and breeding habitats for the WSP. Carpinteria SB provides only critical winter foraging habitat for the WSP. Figures 1-4 illustrate site information for these beaches. In 2001-2002, the CCD established a broad program for the protection of the federally threatened WSP and its habitat on the CCD beaches. The goal of the CCD WSP program is to aid in the recovery of the population by increasing the amount of suitable habitat on CCD beaches, reducing disturbance to nesting and wintering WSP, and by preventing the take of WSP nests and chicks. All of this must be accomplished while continuing to provide high quality outdoor recreation and educational opportunities for park visitors.

Ongoing Objectives:

1. Conduct comprehensive nesting surveys by a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) 10(a)(1)(A) permit holder.
2. Increase the hatch rate by protecting eggs and nests with the use of fencing and exclosures.
3. Reduce disturbance of WSP during the breeding season by educating park visitors and staff.
4. Reduce disturbance of WSP during the winter roosting and foraging season by educating park visitors and staff.
5. Continue collecting breeding and wintering roosting and foraging data from McGrath SB, Mandalay SB and San Buenaventura SB.
6. Continue adding data to the CCD survey database and Point Blue database.
7. Continue to use data collected in previous years to make both operational and resource management decisions.

2013-2014 Management Strategies

1. Increase monitoring capabilities and efficiencies by training additional CCD natural resources staff to be added to the 10(a)(1)(A) permit.
2. Enlist volunteers to assist with surveying and monitoring.
3. Conduct winter and breeding season population monitoring once per week.
4. Participate in campground fireside programs about WSP.
5. Install symbolic fencing for the breeding season.
6. Conduct breeding season nest monitoring once per week.
7. Continue efforts to reduce disturbance of WSP and loss of nests.
8. Monitor effectiveness of protection activities and modify if necessary.
9. Provide information to increase State Park employee, volunteer, and park visitor awareness of WSP and their habitat.
10. Collaborate and share information with other WSP program managers.
11. Reduce risk of nest vandalism by selective use of nest enclosures.
12. Provide updates to park staff at least once per week during the nesting season.
13. Collaborate with Ventura Audubon Society to start a Docent Program.

Program Overview and Milestones

- 2001 CCD begins a comprehensive WSP program involving nesting and year-round population surveys, nesting area protection, data driven management, public and staff education, and volunteer involvement.
- 2002 CCD staff installs a semi-permanent fence around the WSP and CLT nesting area near McGrath Lake to keep the area free from human activity, especially illegal Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) recreation and camping.
- 2003 the use of large triangular nest enclosures begins.
- 2004 CCD staff installs “dogs prohibited” signs at beach access points near nesting and winter roosting areas at McGrath SB. Staff suspects nest enclosures draw unnecessary attention to 2 nests which leads to vandalism and nest loss. A new mini enclosure is used for the remaining portion of nesting season.

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- 2005 winter storms deposit a tremendous amount of debris onto the beach and reduced the amount of available habitat. The beach berm impounds the estuary during nesting season and rising water levels destroy several nests.
- 2006 nesting areas change significantly due to changes in beach and lagoon morphology caused by winter storms in 2005.
- 2007 nest vandalism and off leash dog disturbances are still a major contributor to nest failures.
- 2008 nest hatch success rate is the highest since monitoring began in 2003 with 85% hatch rate. Incidents of human vandalism are down and predation becomes biggest cause of nest loss.
- 2009 state budget woes result in the inability to pay for a contracted 10(a)(1)(A) permit holder. Volunteers fill in the gaps. This year has most nesting attempts recorded since 2004. Human vandalism is biggest cause of nest loss this season
- 2010 10(a)(1)(A) permit holder, Reed Smith is contracted to assist with monitoring and to provide necessary training for CCD staff to successfully apply for a 10(a)(1)(A) permit for WSP.
- 2011 CCD Environmental Scientist obtains a 10(a)(1)(A) permit for WSP and CLT. This year has the highest recorded number of nests hatched on CCD beaches since nest monitoring began in 2003.
- 2012 Nest hatch success rate is lowest since 2003 at 55%; however this year has the most nesting attempts on record since nest monitoring began in 2003. Human vandalism incidents result in decision to discontinue the use of nest exclosures for the remainder of the season. San Buenaventura SB has its first documented nest.
- 2013 Nest hatch success is lowest since monitoring began in 2003 at 19%. Minimal use of nest exclosures resulted in high predation rates. Nesting continues at San Buenaventura SB.
- 2014 Nest hatch success increases with use of nest exclosures. Docent program begins. San Buenaventura fledges its first chicks.

METHODS

Survey Areas

McGrath State Beach

The 339-acre McGrath SB (Figure 1) is bordered on the north by the Santa Clara River Estuary Natural Preserve and to the south by the NRG generating station. The park can be accessed from Harbor Boulevard and the Ventura Harbor. It contains a campground, day use area, coastal dune complex, sandy beach, and a small back-dune lake located at the southern end of the property. The beach is divided into several sections for WSP monitoring purposes and reference to nest locations (Figure 5). McGrath SB has both wintering and breeding WSP populations.

Mandalay State Beach

Mandalay SB (Figure 2) is an undeveloped 100-acre beach parcel largely made up of sandy beach and disturbed coastal dunes. The site is accessed by public streets Harbor Boulevard and West Fifth Street. California State Parks owns Mandalay SB, but the unit is operated through a Local Operating Agreement with Ventura County Parks Department. Mandalay SB has both wintering and breeding WSP populations

San Buenaventura State Beach

The 131-acre San Buenaventura SB (Figure 3) is primarily a day-use park with grassy turf, picnic facilities, coastal dunes, and a broad sandy beach. The site can be accessed by many public streets off of Harbor Boulevard and is adjacent to a residential community in Pierpont Bay. The wide expanse of sandy beach is ideal for sunbathing, kite flying, picnicking, volleyball, and general beach recreation and the site hosts a junior lifeguard program. Intensive summer recreation at San Buenaventura SB makes it an unlikely

breeding site for the WSP. Only wintering WSP had been observed at San Buenaventura SB until a nest was documented in 2012.

Carpinteria State Beach

The 62-acre Carpinteria State Beach (Figure 4) is a highly developed recreational beach containing a campground, picnic areas, and a visitor's center. Intensive summer recreation at Carpinteria SB makes it an unlikely breeding site for the WSP. The sandy beach at Carpinteria can become very narrow and does not provide consistent WSP habitat. WSP are found occasionally on Carpinteria SB, usually during migration. Carpinteria SB is monitored irregularly by volunteers and CCD staff.

Monitoring

Population monitoring and nest monitoring are utilized to determine the progress of management. Year round population monitoring occurs on all beaches where WSP are found. The data collected consists of total number of WSP seen, location of WSP, and leg bands observed. Winter flock population monitoring and breeding season population monitoring is completed at least once a week by CCD staff and/or Ventura Audubon Society volunteers using the population monitoring protocols described in Table 1. During the breeding season, population monitoring is typically done in conjunction with nest monitoring by a 10(a)(1)(A) permit holder.

Table 1: WSP Population Monitoring Protocol

Monitors will:	Winter Season	Breeding Season
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start the survey as early in the morning as possible. • Walk the entire length of the beach in a large zigzag trajectory to see more of the beach at close range. • Use binoculars to frequently scan the beach for WSP. • Record the number of WSP and locations of banded WSP. • Record potential predators and anything else of interest. • E-mail data to the WSP Coordinator after each survey. • Avoid entering the designated or likely nesting areas. • Record the status of all known nests by observing them through binoculars or spotting scope. 	❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖	❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Nest monitoring occurs weekly during the breeding season. Objectives include identifying nest locations, protecting nests, and determining nest fate. This is done by entering known nesting areas which may cause adult WSP to flush off a nest. Only 10(a)(1)(A) permit holders or those accompanied by one are authorized to enter nesting sites during breeding season. Nest monitoring for the 2014 breeding season was completed by CCD Natural Resources staff members Alexis Frangis, Brooke Sheridan, Chelsea Fletcher, and Maggie Klope with assistance from volunteers Jennifer Gold, Karl Krause, and Anjanette Butler. WSP nest monitoring protocols are described in Table 2. A nest is considered a “hatch” if at least 1 egg is known to have hatched, “fail” if no eggs hatch, and “unknown” if fate cannot be determined for a given nest.

Overall nesting success for a breeding population is expressed as the percent of nests that hatch. Fledge rate cannot accurately be determined because chicks are not banded on any CCD beaches. To determine if a nest has hatched, monitors look for pips and/or chicks in the nest. Indirect evidence such as displaying adults, eggshell pieces, or chicks nearby may also indicate a nest has hatched. A fail designation is assumed if there is direct evidence of loss, abandonment, or signs of predation. Nests are labeled unknown when there is no

physical evidence of fate. Unknown designations are given to nests that lack chicks, eggshells, displaying adults, or signs of predation.

Table 2: WSP Nest Monitoring Protocol

Monitors will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perform tasks in Table 1.• Enter the designated or likely nesting areas.• Note locations of pairs exhibiting nesting or breeding behavior.• Record information about all new nests found, including number of eggs and whether the nest is being incubated or guarded by adults.• Use GPS unit to record location of nests.• Mark located nests with natural driftwood or a plain numbered tongue depressor to aid in locating the nest in next survey.• Protect nests with a mini enclosure, if deemed necessary.• Check the status of all known nests.• Determine 1 of 3 possible nest fates: hatch, fail, or unknown

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Superintendent's Closure Order

A Superintendent's Order is in place from March 15 to September 15 each year for McGrath SB (see appendix) to prohibit people and vehicles from entering nesting areas that are delineated with semi-permanent or seasonal symbolic fencing. The WSP Coordinator sends updates and reminders to park staff when this seasonal order is in effect.

Nesting Habitat Protective Fencing

Over 3.5 miles of fencing was in place to protect nests on CCD beaches during the 2014 season. The 2500 linear feet of year round semi-permanent fence composed of t-posts and durable synthetic mesh was in place around McGrath Lake. 7500 linear feet of seasonal symbolic fencing was installed at McGrath SB in March prior to the start of the breeding season and an additional 2000 linear feet of symbolic fencing was later installed to protect

several outlier nests. Oxnard City Corps (OCC) volunteers installed all fencing at McGrath SB. Ventura County Parks installed 3400 linear feet of seasonal semi-permanent fence at Mandalay SB and an additional 500 feet was installed to protect one outlier nest. Finally, 3000 linear feet of symbolic fence was installed at San Buenaventura SB.

Symbolic fencing consists of thimble eye bolt anchor rods strung together with rope and posted with WSP seasonal closure signs. Share the Shore children's signs are posted on symbolic fencing as well. The appendix contains an illustration of the WSP seasonal closure sign. Symbolic fencing was installed near McGrath Lake north and south of the semi-permanent fence and west of the campground. Individual symbolic fences were installed throughout the breeding season as nests were discovered in high use areas outside of the fencing. Fencing west of the campground has historically primarily protected a large nesting colony of federally endangered California least tern (CLT); however, it also provides protection for WSP and several other shorebird species using the nesting area. The blue lines on the map in Figures 6 and 7 indicate locations of fences put up to protect nesting areas.

Mini Nest Enclosures

The triangular enclosures originally described in the recovery plan were used to protect nests until mid-way through the 2004 breeding season. Mini nest enclosures similar to those field tested at Bolsa Chica were used after some nests protected by triangular enclosures failed due to human tampering. The smaller footprint and the fact that the wire blends in with the background makes mini enclosures more difficult to see at a distance. Mini enclosures were constructed from 2" x 4" mesh welded wire fencing. It has a square shape with 24 inch sides and a top to prevent predation by avian and mammalian predators. The photo below shows a mini enclosure used on CCD beaches.



Mini enclosure on a nest

An effort is made to install enclosures at times when adverse effects to nesting fate are minimal. The recovery plan indicates conditions when placing nest enclosures is appropriate. Guidelines require air temperatures less than 80 deg F, wind speeds less than 20 mph, and fair weather. Additionally, enclosures are placed on nests no sooner than 1.5 hours after sunrise or 2 hours before sunset. Since 2010, mini enclosures have been constructed out of lightweight garden wire which is a lighter and cheaper material with the same 2" x 4" mesh openings. The new material made construction and transportation of the mini enclosures onto the beach easier and more cost effective.

The CCD has been utilizing nest enclosures for over 10 years with no documented adult mortality or high rates of abandonment. Human disturbance is the greatest risk associated with the use of enclosures in the CCD. The CCD has relied heavily on nest enclosures to increase WSP hatch rate and reduce loss of WSP nests to predators. However, increased incidents of human disturbance to nest enclosures in recent years have driven the CCD to reexamine the use of enclosures. Enclosures are effective at deterring nest predators;

however the risk of human vandalism needs to be carefully considered when deciding whether or not to place an enclosure over a nest. In 2014 mini enclosures were reduced from 36 inch to 24 inch sides in an effort to reduce visibility and vandalism.

Public Education

WSP monitors routinely interact with park visitors recreating on the beach during population and nesting surveys. Typical contacts are initiated by monitors in order to address a situation where visitor activities are inconsistent with park rules and may disturb critical WSP habitat. Many contacts involve unauthorized dogs or dogs off leash. All dog owners encountered on the beach are reminded about the park rules pertaining to dogs on state beaches and provided with alternative areas within the park or nearby where dogs are allowed. The “Dog Owner’s Guide” created by park staff continues to be a great tool to provide for park visitors who wish to take their dogs to the beach (see appendix). Passive visitor education includes interpretive signs and educational pamphlets that include information regarding WSP status, threats, description of nesting and roosting zones, and how visitors can help protect the WSP. Informational signs are posted around all fenced areas. Pamphlets are distributed at the McGrath SB kiosk and by park staff when the park is open.

This year the CCD collaborated with the Ventura Audubon Society to start a Docent Program. The CCD WSP program coordinator conducted the trainings. Volunteers attended a 3 hour training consisting of 2 hours of classroom material covering snowy plover natural history, threats and protections, and how to make good public contacts. The classroom training was followed by 1 hour in the field observing snowy plovers and interacting with the public. Docents were trained to make public contacts to encourage compliance with beach rules and regulations pertaining to snowy plover and least tern protection. Docents spent a minimum of 2 hours a week on nesting beaches including San Buenaventura SB, McGrath SB, Mandalay SB, Hollywood Beach and Ormond Beach. In the appendix a Docent Guide can be found that was created by the Ventura Audubon Society and CCD Natural Resources staff.

Volunteer Efforts

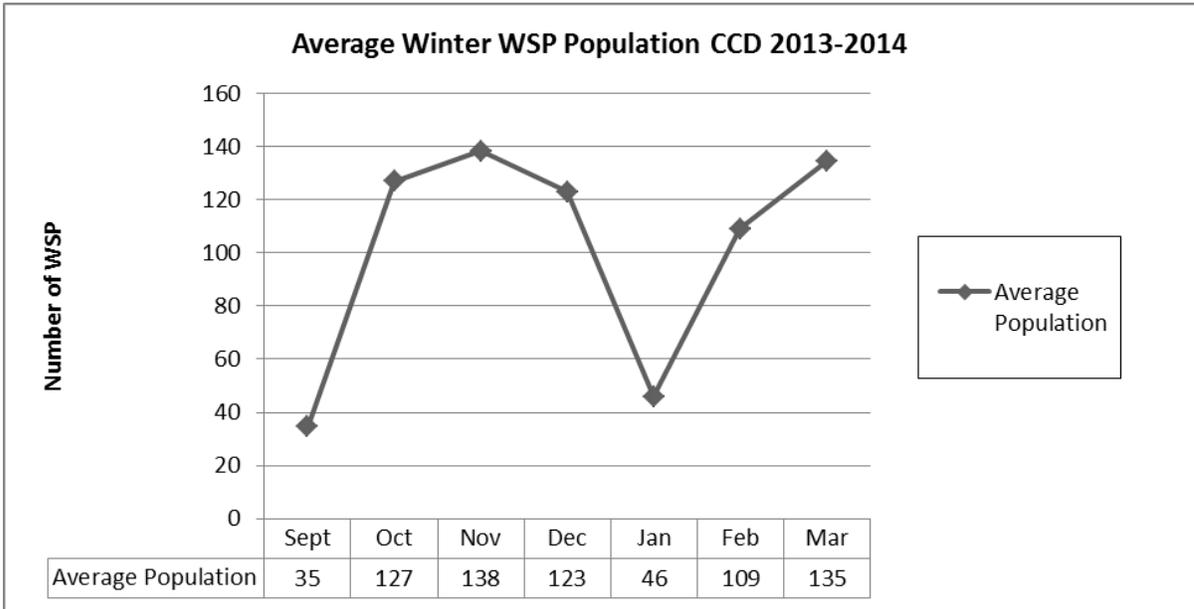
The Ventura Audubon Society and Oxnard City Corps (OCC) are the primary volunteers. Volunteers logged a total of 659 hours during this year's management efforts by monitoring wintering and nesting WSP, installing and removing protective fencing, and providing educational outreach. OCC volunteers put in 72 hours installing and removing fencing. Jennifer Gold provided 94 hours of winter and breeding season monitoring assistance. Ventura Audubon Society volunteer Karl Krause provided 77 hours of breeding season monitoring. Ventura Audubon Society volunteer Anjanette Butler provided 116 hours of breeding season monitoring. Docents volunteered a total of 300 hours during the breeding season. This season McGrath SB did not have a volunteer Natural Resources Campground Host. The McGrath SB campground typically experiences yearly closures due to flooding in the Santa Clara River Estuary during closed berm conditions. This past year the park was closed from October 2013 until April 2014 and closed again in August 2014 until the time of this report.

RESULTS

Winter Surveys

Three CCD beaches, (McGrath SB, Mandalay SB, and San Buenaventura SB), provide consistent winter roosting and foraging habitat for WSP. These beaches support a significant number of WSP during migration and through the winter, with over 200 birds observed at these locations. WSP population monitoring occurred weekly (weather permitting) during the 2013-2014 winter season. Observed band combinations indicate that birds hatched in Oceano Dunes SVRA, Vandenberg Air Force Base, Marina SB, Salinas SB, and Salinas National Wildlife Refuge in California, and Oregon wintered or stopped over during migration on CCD beaches. Numbers from the winter 2013-2014 season can be seen in graph 1 and survey data including band combinations observed can be found in the appendix.

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Graph 1. Average winter season WSP populations in the CCD.

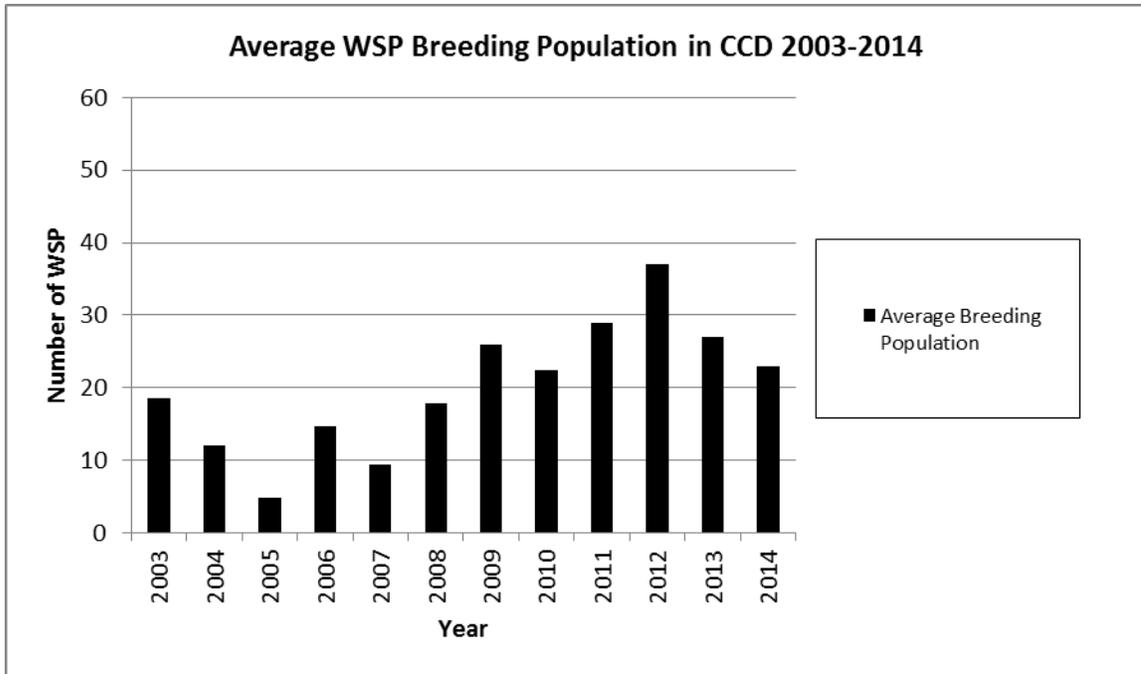
The results of monitoring efforts for the 2013-2014 winter season are summarized in Table 3.

Table 3: Winter Survey Season September 16, 2013 – March 14, 2014

Beach Site	# Surveys	Date First WSP Seen	Date Last WSP Seen	Max # WSP Seen	Min # WSP Seen	Avg # WSP Seen
San Buenaventura	24	9/26/2013	WSP continued into breeding season	153	0	83
McGrath	24	WSP occur year round	WSP occur year round	25	0	9
Mandalay	24	10/3/2014	WSP continued into breeding season	43	0	29
Carpinteria	1 Winter Window Survey	NA	NA	0	0	0

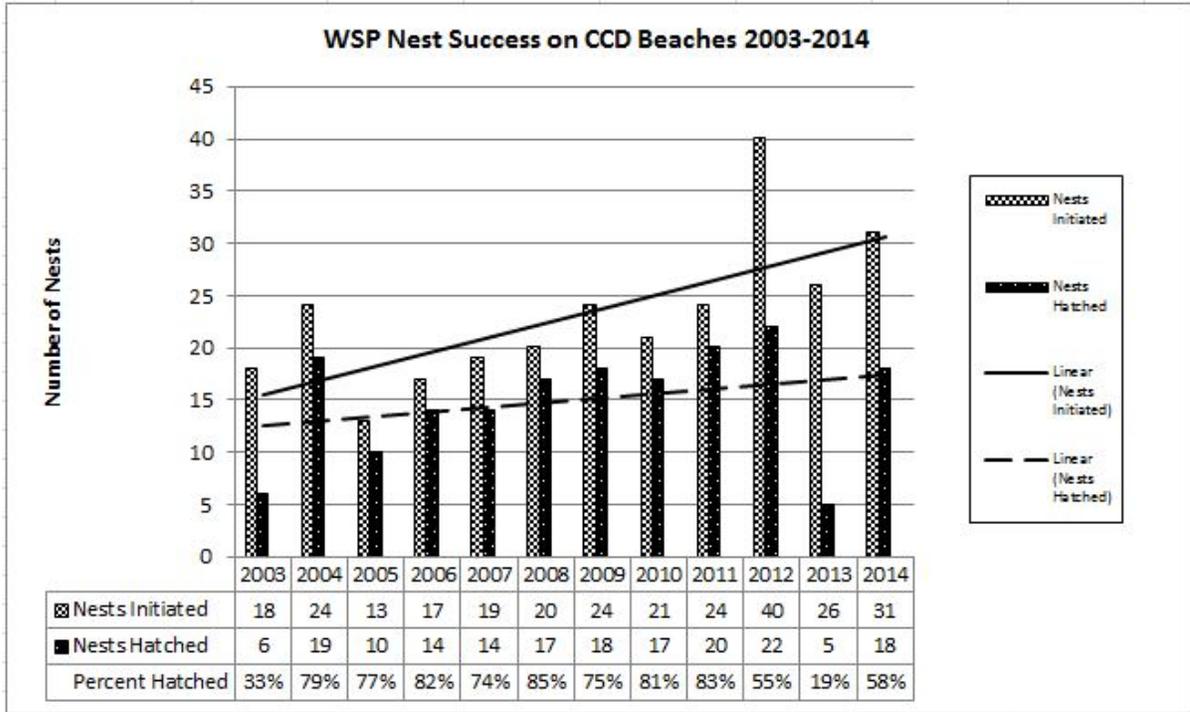
Breeding Season Surveys

McGrath, Mandalay, and San Buenaventura SB support breeding WSP. Average WSP breeding population numbers in the CCD from 2003 to present are summarized in graph 2 and graph 3 shows hatch rate success for all breeding sites.



Graph 2. Average breeding season WSP populations in the CCD based on average populations from May surveys. The management potential breeding numbers as defined in the Recovery Plan for McGrath and Mandalay SB is 60 breeding adults. No recovery goals were set for San Buenaventura SB.

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Graph 3. WSP hatch success for all CCD breeding sites from 2003 to 2014

The results of monitoring efforts in CCD for the 2014 breeding season are summarized in table 4. Maximum WSP numbers are observed during migration.

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Table 4: Breeding Survey Season March 15, 2014 – September 15, 2014

Beach Site	# Surveys	Date First WSP Seen	Date Last WSP Seen	Max # WSP Seen	Min # WSP Seen	Avg # WSP Seen	# Nests	# Eggs	# Nests Hatched	# Eggs Hatched	# Nest Failures
San Buena-Ventura	21	Winter Flock Arrived 9/7/2012	7/26/2013	80	0	13	5	15	1	2	4
McGrath	28	WSP Occur Year Round	WSP Occur Year Round	45	0	14	13	33*	4	10**	9
Mandalay	31	WSP Occur Year Round	8/6/2013	39	0	8	8	20	0	0	8
Carpinteria	1 Spring Window Survey	NA	NA	0	0	0	WSP do not nest at Carpinteria				

*Number of eggs in undiscovered nests is not known and is based on the number of chicks observed.

**One egg hatched in captivity.

McGrath State Beach

The first WSP nest of the 2014 breeding season at McGrath SB was found during the week of March 26, 2014 and the last nest was located July 10, 2013. This site had a total of 11 nests hatch out 17 known nests initiated by the end of the breeding season for a hatch success rate of 65 percent (Graph 4). See appendix for full nest data details and Figure 6 for nest locations. The SCRE was in a closed condition for the majority of the season and no nesting occurred on the sandbar in 2014.

The extensive nest vandalism experienced in the 2012 season a led to a decision to minimize the use of mini exclosures in the 2013 season. Without the use of exclosures in 2013 62% of nests were lost to predators or unknown causes resulting in an extremely low

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hatch rate. Nest exclosures were used selectively in the 2014 nesting season and hatch rates improved with only 23% of nests lost to predators or unknown causes. 2 nests were lost to ravens, 1 nest lost to wave action, 1 nest was abandoned pre-term, and a fate could not be determined for 2 nests. Windy conditions on the beach often make it difficult to identify possible predator tracks especially if the predation event occurred shortly after a weekly monitoring event.

Monitors attempting to locate a snowy plover nest in the McGrath Lake area observed a raven locate and predate the nest before an enclosure could be placed on it. Monitors entering the nesting area may have provided a visual cue to the raven that allowed it to discover the nest location. As monitors left the area to retrieve an enclosure, the raven landed on the top of the dune where the nest was located, immediately swallowed 2 eggs and flew off with the third.

The nest that was abandoned pre-term initially contained a full clutch of 3 eggs when it was first located. A mini enclosure was placed over the nest because of raven activity in the area. The nest was allowed to incubate for 3 weeks before it was determined to be abandoned. It is unknown if the enclosure was the cause of abandonment or if one or more of the adults were lost to mortality. An attempt was made to collect the abandoned eggs, but the eggs were extremely brittle and broke upon collection. All 3 eggs contained developed chicks and were buried on site to discourage attracting scavenging predators to the nesting area.

Trail cameras were deployed in the nesting area at McGrath Lake to monitor predator activity. The cameras documented several potential predators including raven, coyote, and opossum. One repeat human trespasser was also documented walking through the nesting area. The cameras also documented an abundance of deer mice. Crows and ravens are the primary plover nest predators in the CCD; however no nests lost this season could be attributed to crows. Based on field observations and camera monitoring it appears there was only 1 pair of ravens frequenting the beach and nesting area. Based on predators and tracks observed in and around the nesting area, additional suspected predators include raccoon, crow, white-tailed kite, red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk, northern harrier, peregrine falcon, American kestrel, and loggerhead shrike. Nest fates are shown in graph 5.

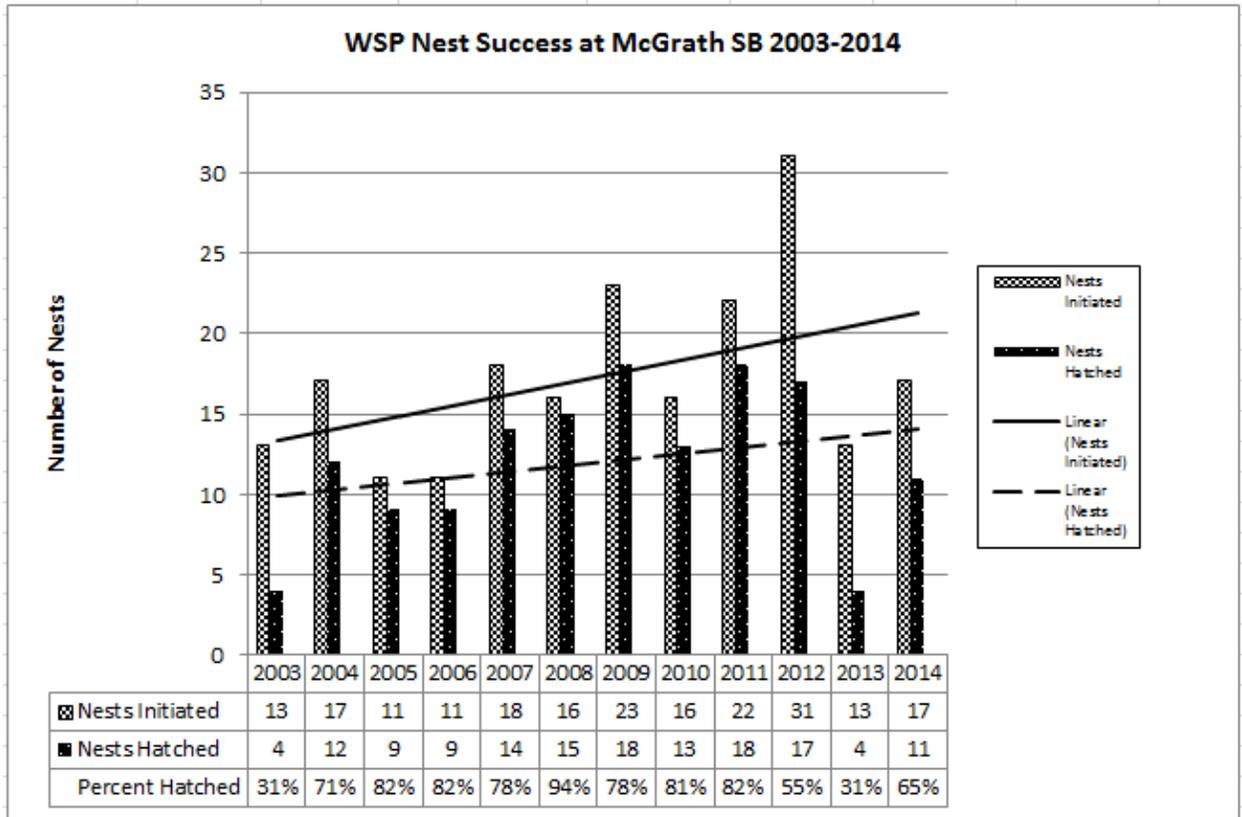
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7 of 17 WSP nests found were laid inside symbolic fencing and 10 of 17 nests were protected by mini exclosures. Of the 10 nests protected by mini exclosures 7 hatched. One nest was located inside of a washed up lobster trap. The lobster trap superficially resembles a mini exclosure. The female of this nest had a single silver/metal band on the right leg (U:S); however it was not possible to obtain identifying information from the band so the bird's origin could not be determined. However, a female WSP with a single silver/metal band on the right leg has nested in the same vicinity of McGrath SB since 2010. While we cannot determine with absolute certainty that it is the same individual, WSP tend to be site faithful so it is very likely that this is the same female who has nested at this site in the past. Mini exclosures have been placed on U:S's nests before.

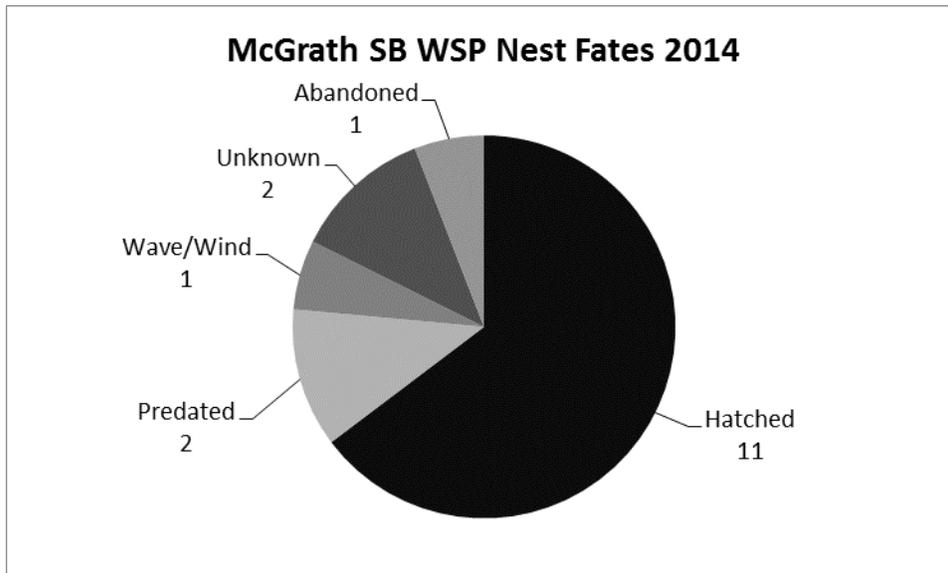
Three successfully hatched nest were never physically located by weekly surveys, but were determined to exist through indirect observations. Two nests were found as broods of 1 week old chicks that could not be associated with any known hatched nests. One nest was found with 2 chicks hatching and 1 egg still in the nest.

Two banded female WSP nested at McGrath this year. NO:OY, hatched from Vandenberg Air Force Base in 2009, and has been documented nesting at McGrath since 2010. The other female U:S was described above. It was not possible to obtain numbers from the band so the origin of this bird is unknown.

Chicks were not observed on most surveys; however adult behavior indicated chicks were present. Chick survival rates are not known for McGrath, but the lack of fledgling age birds observed at this site suggests chick survival may be low. Finally, a single WSP egg from 1 nest failed to hatch. This egg was collected and delivered to the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology in Camarillo.



Graph 4. WSP hatch success for McGrath SB from 2003 to 2014



Graph 5. McGrath SB WSP nest fates 2014.

Mandalay State Beach

The first nest of the 2014 breeding season at Mandalay SB was discovered during the week of March 13, 2014 and the last nest was found during the week of July 1, 2014. March 13th is the earliest recorded nest for this site or any other CCD beach for that matter. A minimum of 6 breeding adults (3 pair) nested at Mandalay in 2014. By the end of the breeding season, this site had 4 nests out of 6 hatch for a success rate of 67 percent (Graph 6). See appendix for full nest data details and Figure 7 for nest locations.

The use of mini enclosures was eliminated last year at Mandalay SB due to a heavy human vandalism at this site during the 2012 breeding season. Still, the risk of predation is extremely high on this beach with crows and ravens being the primary predators. No nests hatched successfully during the 2013 season. Without mini enclosures nests were predated within the first week of initiation so a decision was made to use mini enclosures despite the elevated risk of human vandalism associated with their use.

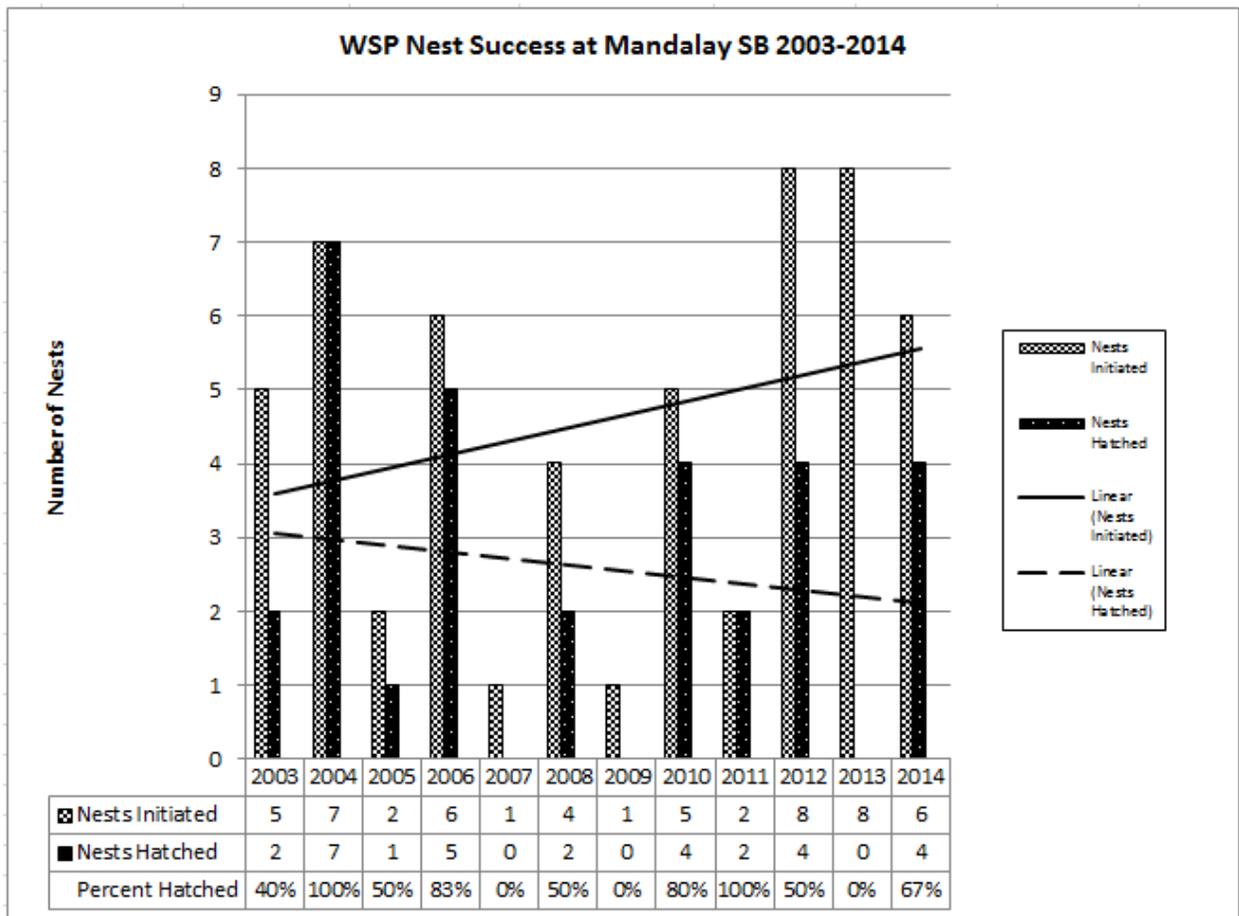
4 of 6 WSP nests found were laid inside symbolic fencing and 3 of 6 nests were protected by mini enclosures. All 3 nests protected by mini enclosures hatched. There were no human vandalism events of enclosures at this beach in 2014. One nest was found as a brood of first week chicks that could not be associated with a known hatched nest. This nest was not protected by a mini enclosure and likely was not inside of protective fencing. This is significant because nests at this site rarely survive beyond the first week without enclosures. 1 nest was found as a broken egg, the cause unknown. Windy conditions prevented monitors from identifying tracks or other evidence of nest loss. 1 nest was discovered as egg shell pieces and yolk in a scrape, lost to an unidentified predator, most likely a crow. Nest fates can be seen in graph 7.

Since Mandalay is a relatively small stretch of beach with only a few nests it is usually possible to track chicks with some degree of certainty. This season all nests hatched at least a week apart so it was even possible to distinguish broods based on the age of the chicks. It appears that egg predators are the biggest threat to plover nesting success on this beach and if nests can be protected with mini enclosures the chicks have a good chance of survival to fledging age. At least 1 chick from each hatched nest fledged. A total of 7 chicks

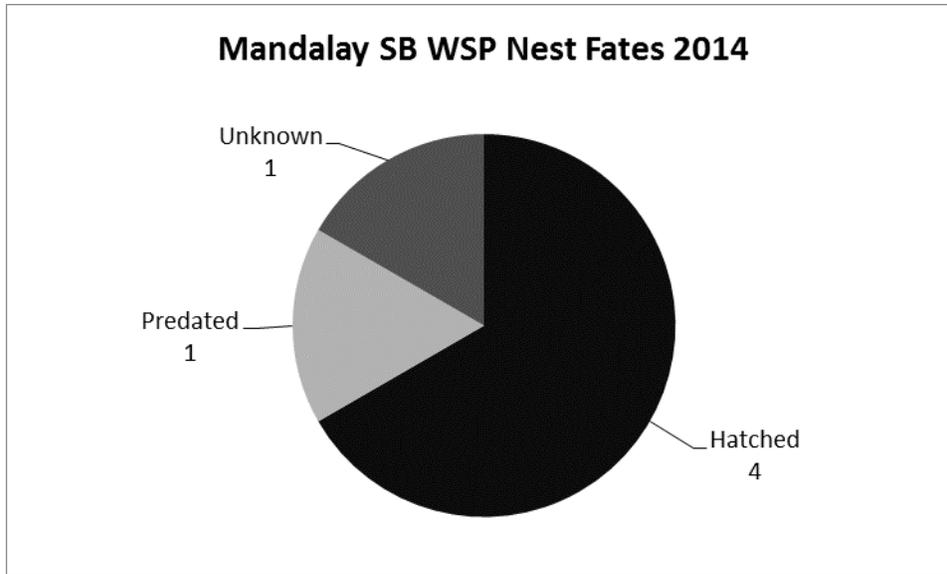
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reached fledging age (31 days) at Mandalay in 2014. 2 nests fledged 1 chick each, 1 nest fledged 2 chicks and another fledged the entire brood of 3 chicks.

Mandalay SB is adjacent to an extensive beachfront housing development and receives moderate to heavy use by the public. Few predators other than crows and the occasional raven are observed at this beach. Red-tailed hawks and peregrine falcons are rarely observed in the vicinity. The constant presence of people and dogs and surrounding developments likely results in less suitable habitat for many potential plover predators when compared to a site like McGrath. This lack of chick and adult plover predators may be a reason for greater chick success on this beach.



Graph 6. WSP hatch success at Mandalay SB from 2003 to 2014



Graph 7. Mandalay SB WSP nest fates 2014

San Buenaventura State Beach

The first nest of the 2014 season was found during the week of March 17, 2014 and the last nest was found during the week of June 9, 2014. A minimum of 6 breeding adults (3 pair) nested at San Buenaventura SB in 2014. This site had 3 nests hatch out 8 nests initiated by the end of the breeding season for a hatch success rate of 38 percent (Graph 8). See appendix for full nest data details and Figure 8 for nest locations.

A portion of the beach at San Buenaventura is groomed to accommodate beach activities such as sunbathing, beach volleyball, and the Junior Lifeguard Program. This selective grooming of the beach has created from year to year a relatively stable flat beach area at the base of the dunes. Cobble substrate above the wrack line at this beach is not targeted for grooming and as a result it provides prime winter roost and nesting habitat for WSP. This year WSP nested in a new area of San Buenaventura SB in the dunes just north of the Lifeguard Headquarters building. This area receives slightly less human disturbance than the main recreational beach since it is not directly adjacent to the day use parking area. Two nests were initiated in this area by 2 different pair of WSP. Chicks were observed on the beach from San Jon lagoon to the volleyball courts just north of San Pedro St. Symbolic fencing was installed around individual nests as they were located. 5 of the 8 nests were protected by mini exclosures and of those 5, 3 hatched. 2 nests were lost to crows; one

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scrape was located with crow tracks and yolk remains before it was confirmed a nest by monitors. 1 nest was lost to unknown causes; it was protected by a mini enclosure, but in the third week of incubation was found with no eggs, the enclosure intact and surrounded by crow tracks. 2 nests were lost to human causes. The first nest of the season was found as a crushed egg on the most heavily used part of the beach, fencing had not yet been installed. 1 nest was lost to human take over Easter weekend. Human footprints were observed trespassing into the fenced area, leading directly to the enclosure and all 3 eggs were missing from the nest one week before the expected hatch date. State Parks and USFWS law enforcement were notified, however no suspects were identified. Nest fates can be seen in Graph 9.

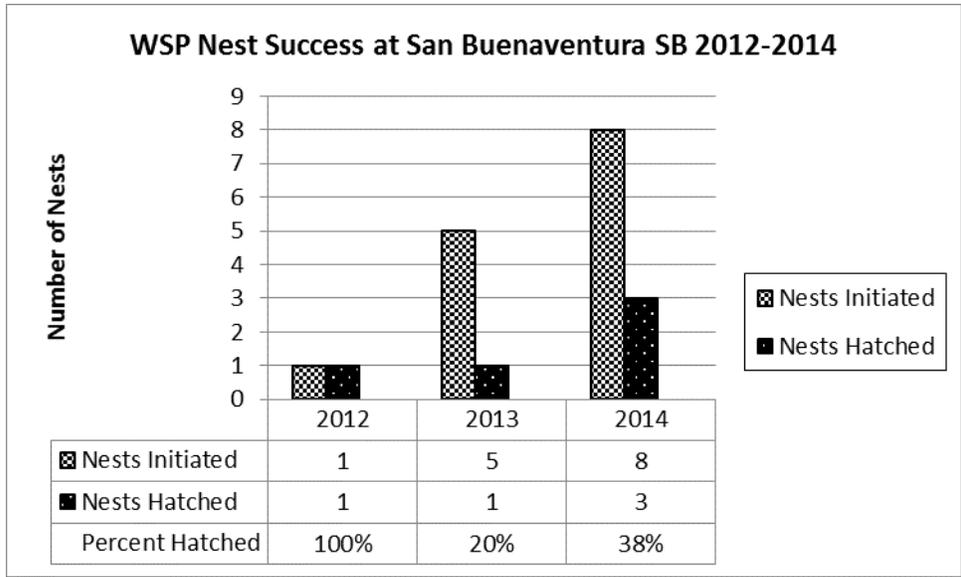
Of the 3 nests that hatched, chicks were not observed beyond the first week for 2 of the nests, however 2 chicks from one nest fledged (reached 31 days of age) this year at San Buenaventura SB. These are the first documented fledged chicks from this beach. Additional fencing was installed to provide the chicks a safe retreat from human disturbance. Docents were on the beach almost daily which undoubtedly contributed to the chick's survival.

One chick was determined to have been abandoned and taken into captivity for captive rearing. 2 chicks hatched from this nest. WSP monitors received a call from a docent who had been monitoring the nest for several days. The docent reported (and photo documented) that the nest had begun to hatch Friday evening and by Saturday afternoon the first chick was out of the egg with the other egg still not hatched. Only 1 adult was present and brooding the newly hatched chick. The second chick hatched at least 24 hours after the first chick. WSP monitor Alexis Frangis responded to the beach Monday morning and observed 1 chick lying exposed in the sand just outside of the fencing at the nest site and the one adult was attending to the other chick approximately 1500 feet down the beach. The lone chick was monitored and no adult came to brood it. It was unclear what caused the chick to become separated from the adult and the other chick, but plovers are known to abandon late hatching eggs. A call was made to the Ventura USFWS office and they authorized collection of the chick for captive rearing. An attempt to reunite the chick with the adult was not made because the cause of separation or abandonment could not be

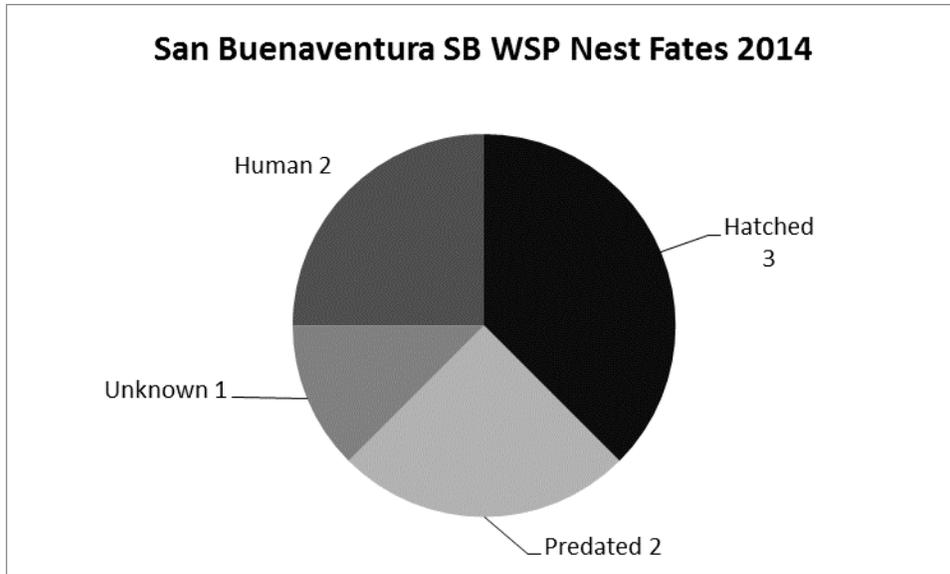
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determined and it was uncertain if the adult would accept the chick or if this would jeopardize the other surviving chick. The abandoned chick was transported to COPR and captive reared at Santa Barbara Wildlife Care. The chick received the band combination pa:Bw. The sibling was not observed beyond the first week and assumed to have not survived.

Crows and gulls are the most abundant predators on this beach. The adjacent landscaped picnic area and residential community provide abundant nesting areas for crows. A large gull roost forms on this beach, often utilizing areas fenced for plover nesting since it offers protection from human disturbance.



Graph 8. WSP hatch success at San Buenaventura SB from 2013 and 2014



Graph 9. San Buenaventura SB WSP nest fates 2014

CONCLUSION

Breeding Season

The 2014 breeding season should be viewed as a continuation of the recovery for the WSP in the CCD. While it is difficult to determine long term trends from the available data, we can conclude that since management efforts began in 2002, there appears to be an increase in overall nesting attempts and relatively stable hatch rates when nest exclosures are used and human vandalism is not an issue. The goals of the monitoring and management efforts put forth by the CCD WSP Program are to benefit WSP nesting success on CCD beaches. The total hatch success collectively for all CCD beaches containing breeding WSP in 2014 was 74 percent as seen in graph 3. This is a significant increase from last year's hatch rate of 19%. The increase in hatch rate this year can be partially attributed to use of mini exclosures. The recovery plan states a management potential of 60 breeding adult WSP for McGrath and Mandalay SB's combined and a recovery criteria that is 20% lower at around 48 breeding adults. This year these beaches averaged just over 20 breeding adults.

In 2014, we saw an increase in the total number of nests initiated and hatched at McGrath SB as well as an increased hatch rate. There is an overall positive trend in nests initiated and hatch rate since 2003 at this beach, as shown in graph 4. However, in recent

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years there has been an increase in nests initiated with decrease in nests hatched. This can be attributed to early season nest loss which translates into increased re-nesting attempts. It is clear that mini exclosures can increase the hatch rate; however it is not possible to correlate this statistic to an increase in fledging success without banding chicks and more intensive monitoring.

Mandalay SB had an increase in the number of nests hatched in 2014 compared to 2013. Mandalay SB exhibits a positive trend in nests initiated, but a negative trend in hatch rate since 2003 as seen in graph 5. The increase in nests initiated is likely a result of the same pairs re-nesting after failed nest attempts and does not imply that the site conditions are improving, as evident by the negative trend in hatch success. This long term decrease in nest success is attributed to nest vandalism, crow predation and the constant human disturbances on this beach. The dunes at this site are also plagued with European beach grass which is not desirable nesting habitat. The fence surrounding the nesting area at Mandalay SB was in constant need of repair throughout the 2014 nesting season as it suffered repeated damage from human vandalism. Throughout the nesting season there was evidence of trespass from people and dogs inside the fenced area. Egg predators are more prevalent than chick or adult predators at this site.

Nesting occurred for the third straight year at San Buenaventura SB with WSP utilizing a new part of the beach and fledging 2 chicks. At the time the WSP Recovery Plan was written nesting was not expected to occur at this site; therefore recovery criteria and management goals for breeding adults was not established for San Buenaventura SB. There was an increase in nests initiated and hatched in 2014. However the increase in nests initiated was a result of re-nesting after failure, not an increase in the population. The risk of human vandalism and nest predation are high at this site making the use of mini exclosures a challenge. Chick survival is low at this site due to the abundance of predators as well as anthropogenic sources of disturbance. While conditions at this beach may not be ideal for successful nesting, it appears WSP will continue to use this site.

Although it is clear that predation on both WSP and CLT eggs and chicks does occur on CCD beaches, predator control efforts are not being pursued at this time. Lethal predator control is generally not feasible on heavily used public beaches such as those found in the CCD. Potential predators that have been observed in the vicinity of the nesting areas include

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gulls, crows, ravens, great blue herons, great egrets, loggerhead shrikes, peregrine falcon, red-tailed hawks, red-shouldered hawks, northern harriers, American kestrels, Cooper's hawks, white-tailed kites, merlin, coyotes, opossum, raccoon and ground squirrels. Trespass into nesting areas, vandalism of nest enclosures, off-leash dogs, and equestrian use on the beaches are an ongoing issues at McGrath SB and Mandalay SB. Greater efforts are needed to better protect WSP nesting areas from trespass by beachgoers as well as protecting individual nests from vandalism. In addition to human disturbances, WSP also face environmental threats in the form of inclement weather, strong winds, and high tides.

CCD 10(a)(1)(A) Recovery Permit

The State Parks Environmental Scientist/WSP program coordinator holds a current USFWS 10(a)(1)(A) permit with one additional CCD Environmental Scientist listed as an authorized individual. On-call volunteer monitors Debra Barringer and Danielle Glen are also recovery permit holders and volunteer monitor, Anjanette Butler, received 116 hours of training from CCD staff. CCD Environmental Services Interns Chelsea Fletcher and Maggie Klope each received 75 hours of training.

Public Education

Public education and awareness are an important component of snowy plover management and recovery on public beaches. This year the CCD collaborated with the Ventura Audubon Society to start a Docent Program. 20 volunteers attend docent trainings and spent a minimum of 2 hours a week on the beaches providing public education and awareness for WSP nesting on public beaches. Other education efforts consist of public contacts made in the field by CCD Staff and distribution of pamphlets that included information about WSP. Informational signs are placed around all fencing areas, including signs created by the Ventura Audubon Society's Share the Shore Children's Poster Project. The Ventura Audubon Society promotes WSP and CLT awareness in their activities and at events. This year there was no Natural Resources Campground Host at McGrath SB because

over the past few years the campground has been closed due to flooding during the peak use summers season.

Dog Owner Contacts

The majority of dog owner contacts at McGrath are either at the south end of the property with people who enter the beach from Mandalay or near the Santa Clara River Estuary with those who enter the beach from Surfer's Knoll at the Ventura Harbor. When the park is open dog contacts also occur near the campground beach access with park visitors who bring their dogs to the beach. Many dog owners who were contacted had their dogs off leash as well. One "No Dogs" signs as well as WSP and CLT interpretive signs are in place near Surfer's Knoll, but they are up on the dry sand where they are not threatened by high surf. The majority of dog owners entering the beach from Surfer's Knoll walk directly to the wet sand and head on to State Property without seeing the "No Dogs" signs and unaware that they have entered a State Park. This is in part due to the slope of the beach and distance of the signs. The Ventura Port District installed signs at the beach entrances from Surfer's Knoll indicating where dogs are and are not allowed.

Dog owner contacts occur regularly at Mandalay SB where dogs are often observed off leash. When asked to leash their dogs and exit the beach, the majority of dog owners comply. Local residents are generally the least likely to comply. Mandalay SB currently lacks signage indicating the location of the State Park boundary. Several "No Dogs" signs were affixed with adhesive to old wooden posts and large rocks at the beach entrance. The signs were vandalized and/or removed within one week of placement. The signs were immediately replaced and have stayed in place since. Temporary "No Dogs" signs were placed on T-posts on either side of the nesting area fence and close to the water's edge, but they too were removed by vandals within one week. Installing permanent signage at Mandalay SB could aid in WSP recovery by potentially reducing the need for enforcement of dog rules and regulations, and creating an opportunity for interpretation and public education regarding sensitive resources.

Dog owner contacts also occur at San Buenaventura State Beach. The majority of beach entrances and lifeguard towers are well posted with "No Dogs" signs; however out-of-

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town visitors and residents of the Pierpont beachfront community continually brings dogs onto the beach. Many dog owners enter the beach from the Ventura Pier area or from Marina Park where dogs are allowed without paying heed to “No Dogs” signs when they enter state property. Dog owners are contacted and directed to adjacent areas where dogs are allowed.

Equestrians

Equestrian use of McGrath SB and Mandalay SB is a continuing issue. Horseback riding is not a permitted activity at McGrath or Mandalay SB and can pose a significant threat to WSP nests and chicks. Equestrians have been observed accessing the beach from Fifth Street at Mandalay and riding north to McGrath SB. Evidence of equestrian use of the beach is frequently observed in the form of droppings. Contacts are made by State Parks environmental scientists, rangers, and lifeguards. Currently the park lacks any signage indicating that horses are prohibited. Attempts to install signage have been made, however signs are quickly removed by vandals.

Recommendations

Based on past observations and current funding, the recommendations for the 2015 season are to continue the existing level of protection and monitoring as well as to:

1. Continue to enlist the assistance of trained volunteers to assist with WSP and CLT monitoring.
2. Continue to install fencing and signage based on data and annual changes in breeding site preference and document locations. Install fencing pre-season at San Buenaventura SB.
3. Selective use of mini exclosures.
4. Install temporary “No Dogs” signs closer to the shoreline at McGrath and Mandalay SB boundaries during the breeding season. Replace or install new “No Dogs” signs at beach access points throughout McGrath and San Buenaventura SB.
5. Install permanent “No Horses” and WSP interpretive signs at Mandalay SB.
6. Assign well trained Natural Resource Host(s) to assist with visitor contacts, collaboration with docents, and WSP habitat protection.
7. Conduct pre-breeding season staff training and send memo to local agencies that may need to operate on CCD beaches.
8. Encourage McGrath SB and San Buenaventura SB kiosk staff to distribute WSP pamphlets to every visitor during the breeding season.
9. Continue to deploy remote cameras in nesting areas to document depredation events and human disturbance and use the information as a tool to guide management decisions.
10. Explore non-lethal methods to deter predators, particularly crows.
11. Update dog owners guide
12. Organize a pre-nesting season beach clean-up
13. Attend community meetings for Pierpont and Oxnard Shores, give snowy plover presentations and provide outreach.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all of the CCD staff for their cooperation and support protecting snowy plovers and all other beach nesting bird species. A special thanks to Ventura Sector Lifeguards and Maintenance Staff for assistance with fence installation at San Buenaventura SB. Thanks to Jennifer Gold with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for her assistance with surveys and monitoring. Huge thanks to Ventura Audubon Society volunteers Karl Krause and Anjanette Butler for their assistance with surveys and monitoring. Thanks to the Ventura Audubon Society for collaborating to develop a much needed docent program. A huge thank you to all of the Docents; Marianna Smith, Karl Krause, Glenda Dugan, Judy Dugan, Denise Clemen, Joe Knapp, Kathryn Robens, Linda Easter, Bill Lloyd, Tim Sidoti, Sharon Sidoti, Kathie Lanker, Richard Lanker, Laura Riege, Joyce Schoppe, Judy Kleiner, Melissa Reed, Anjanette Butler, Nicole Pinon and Gilbert Pinon for volunteering to protect nesting birds and increasing public awareness and support for WSP. Thanks to Christian Donehower, NRD Environmental Scientist, for loaning us her personal monitoring cameras. Thanks to Frances Bidstrup with Point Blue (formerly Point Reyes Bird Observatory) for providing color band information and compiling WSP data from across the range. Thanks to Coal Oil Point Reserve staff Cristina Sandoval and April Price and the Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network for captive rearing and releasing the abandoned snowy plover chick from San Buenaventura SB and thanks to Doug George for banding the chick.

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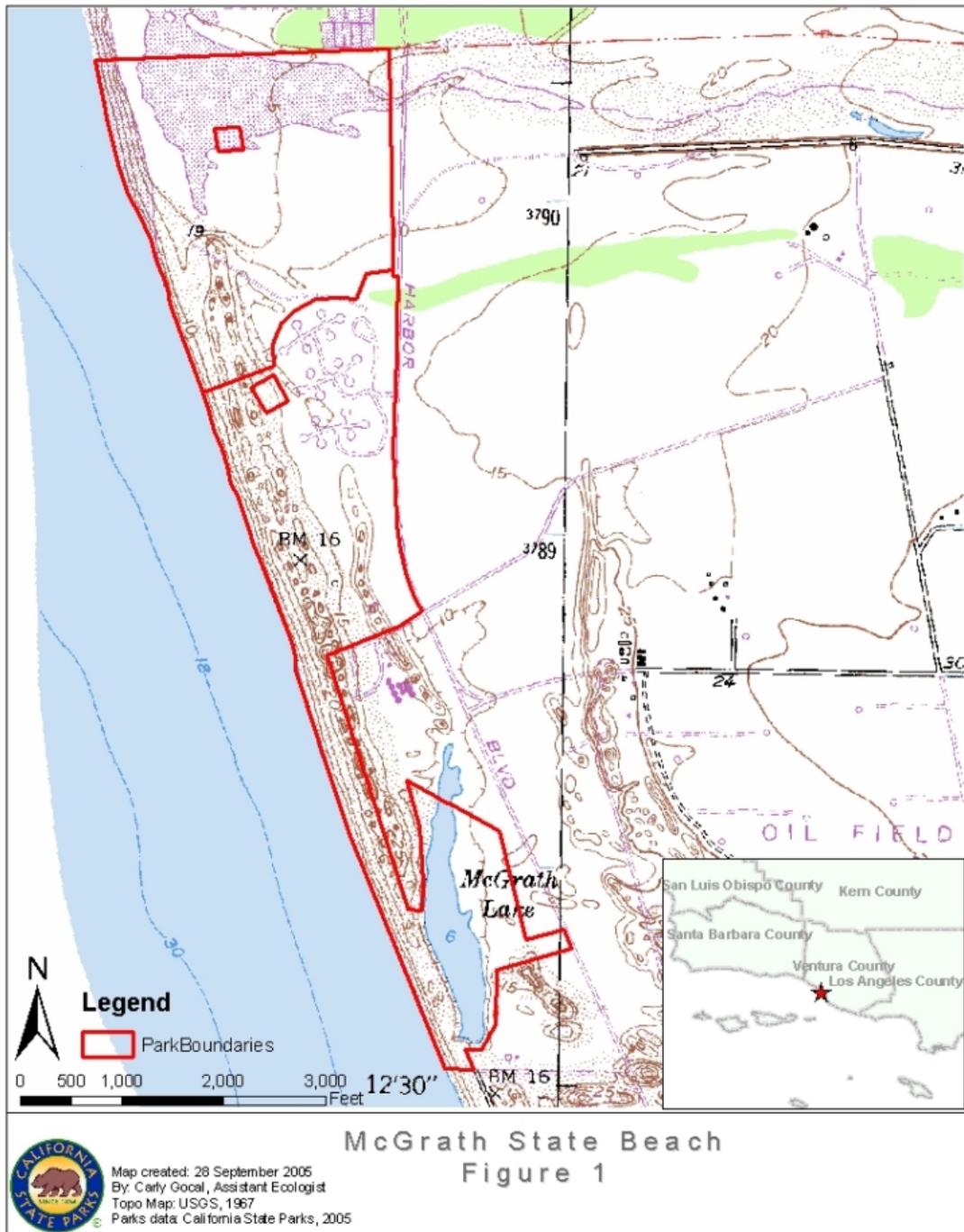
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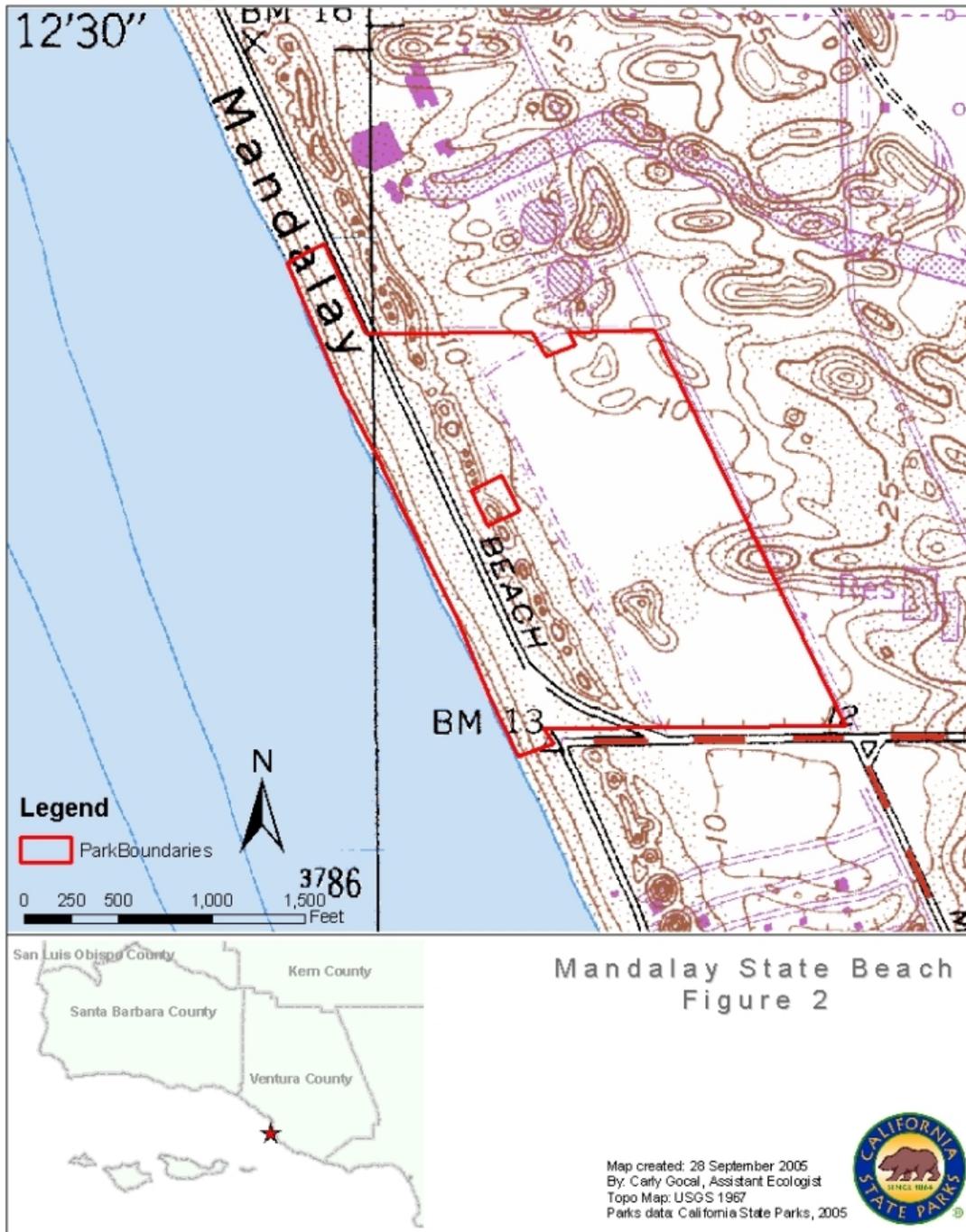
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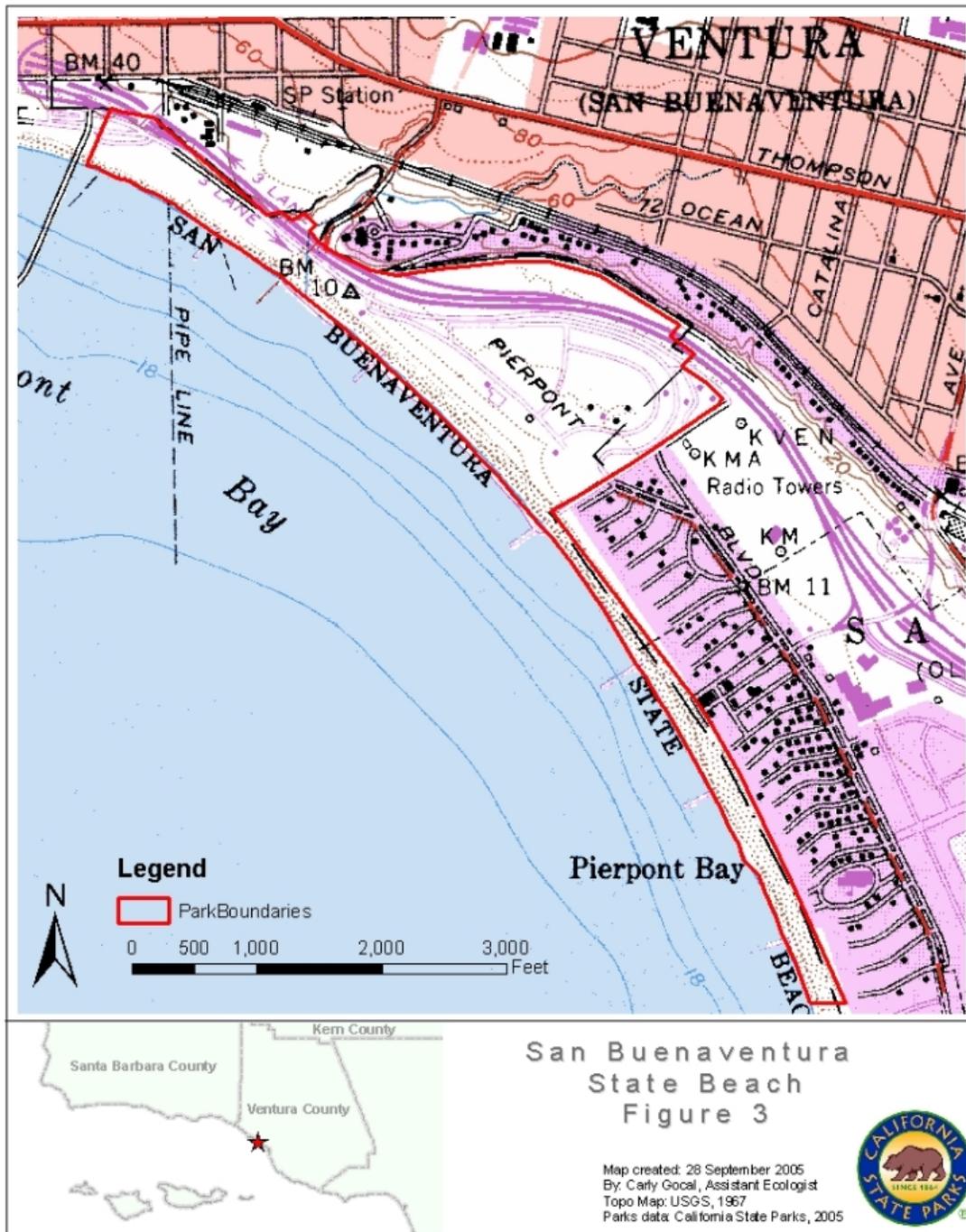
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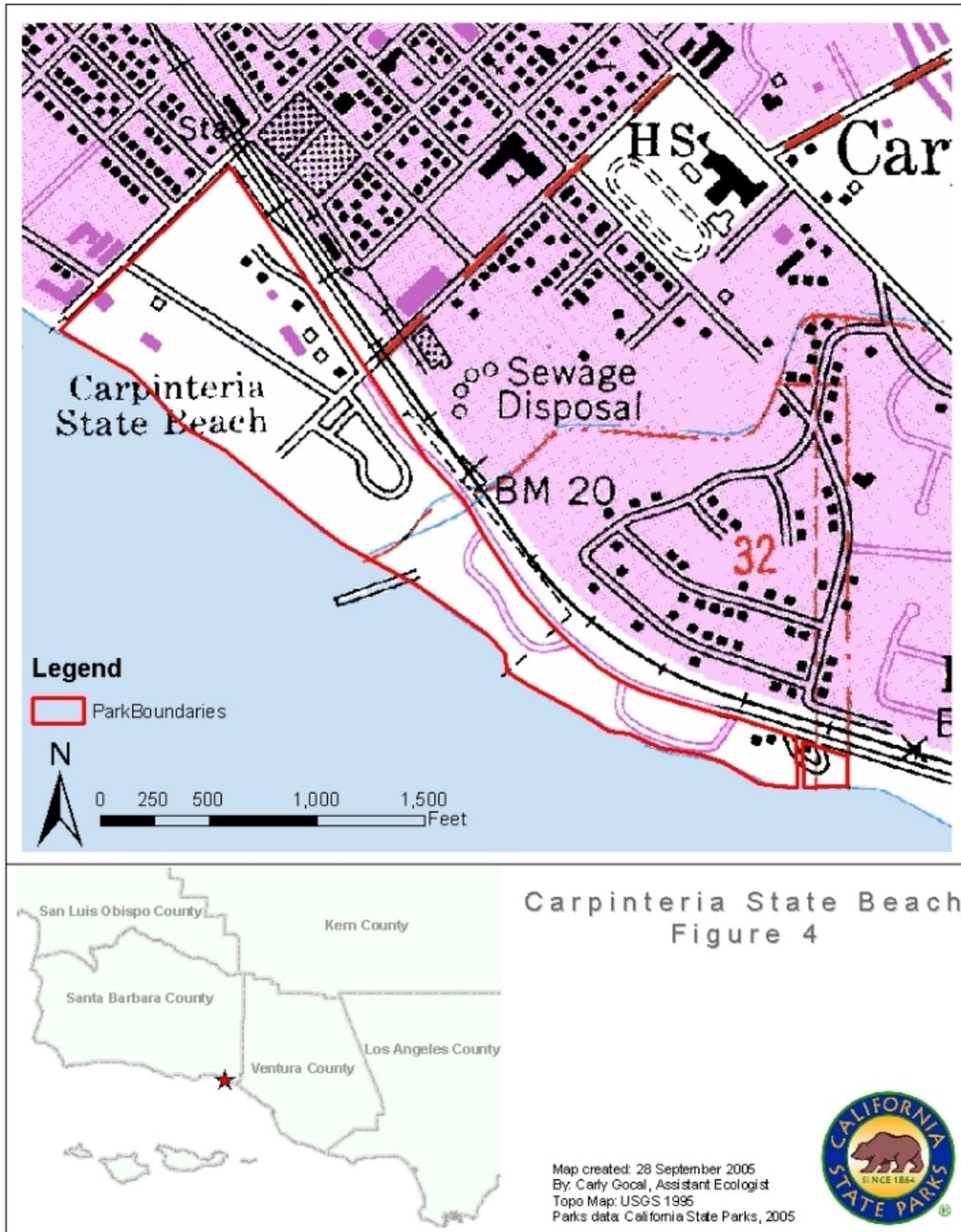
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McGrath State Beach
WSP Monitoring Sections
Figure 5



Map Created: August 30, 2011
By: Alexis Frangis, ES
Aerial: Microsoft Bing Imagery

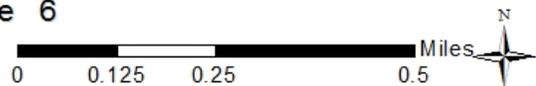




McGrath State Beach
 Western Snowy Plover Nests 2014
 Figure 6



Map Created: November 4, 2014
 By: Alexis Frangis, ES







APPENDICIES

**State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation
Channel Coast District**

Superintendent's Order No. 910-08-02

McGRATH STATE BEACH

1. To provide for the security, safeguarding, and preservation of natural resources, from March 15 to September 15 each year the area of McGRATH STATE BEACH described below shall be closed to people and vehicles. The area closed to people and vehicles is within the following borders:

Northern Border: The Northern bank of the Santa Clara River

Southern Border: The south end of State Park boundary

Eastern Border: The top of coastal dunes from south end of main beach road to McGrath Lake

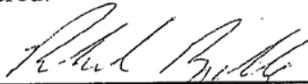
Western Border: Pacific Ocean high water mark

Annual nest enclosures, that are USFWS approved, will be constructed within the boundaries of McGrath State Beach

See attached map

2. State Parks employees and their vehicles can enter this area during emergencies.
3. Only those individuals and vehicles authorized by the District Superintendent may enter this area.
4. Exception to this closure order may also be granted in writing by the District Superintendent, Channel Coast District, 911 San Pedro St., Ventura, CA 93001
5. Nothing in this order shall affect private contract or property rights.
6. Nothing herein shall be construed in derogation of other provisions of law.

So Ordered:



Richard Rozzelle, District Superintendent

Authority: California Public Resources Code, Division 5, Chapter 1, Sections 5003 and 5008.
California Code of Regulations, Title XIV, Division 3, Chapter 1, Section 4305 and 4312.

DECLARATION OF POSTING

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S ORDER No. 910-08-02

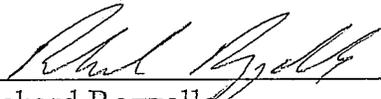
June 5, 2008

McGRATH STATE BEACH

I hereby declare that on June 5, 2008, the Department of Parks and Recreation, Channel Coast District posted order #910-08-02 attached hereto, and that the order was also posted at the Channel Coast District Office at 911 San Pedro, Ventura, CA 93301, as well as other locations which were determined necessary.

I declare under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed: _____


Richard Rozzelle
District Superintendent

Date: _____

3/9/09



Western Snowy Plovers and California Least Terns are just two of the wildlife species that find sanctuary within California State Parks.

Our Mission

The mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

Special Thanks to Ventura County, City of Ventura and City of Oxnard Parks and Recreation Departments for their assistance in compiling this information.

California State Parks does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. To receive this publication in an alternate format, write to the Channel Coast District at the following address.

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS
Channel Coast District
911 San Pedro Street
Ventura, CA 93001

A Dog Owner's Guide

To Selected Parks & Beaches in Western Ventura County

Providing opportunities for high-quality recreation while protecting California's priceless wildlife heritage is the difficult balancing act facing California's land management agencies. You as a dog owner can help.

As our coast becomes increasingly urbanized, wildlife species are being squeezed into smaller and smaller remnants of their once abundant habitat. Dogs, even when leashed, can frighten and harass wildlife, making their struggle for survival still harder.

There is an alternative. This brochure describes fourteen parks in western Ventura County that allow dogs. To protect coastal wildlife habitat, three beaches do not allow dogs. Dog owners can thus choose several areas to enjoy with their pets while at the same time helping to preserve critical coastal wildlife habitat.

Thanks for your cooperation!

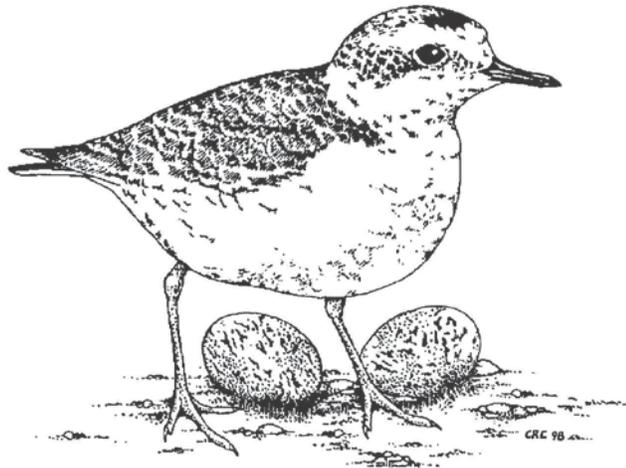


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A Dog Owner's Guide to Selected Beaches & Parks in Western Ventura County

	N	L	O	Comments
California State Parks				
(805) 585-1850 www.parks.ca.gov				
Emma Wood State Beach	*	✓		OK in camp & picnic areas. *Not on beach.
McGrath State Beach	*	✓		OK in camp & picnic areas. *Not on beach.
San Buenaventura State Beach	*	✓		OK in picnic area & bike path. *Not on beach.
Ventura County Parks (805) 654-3951 www.ventura.org/gsa/parks				
Faria Beach Park		✓		On leash only.
Hobson Beach Park		✓		On leash only.
Rincon Parkway Beach Park		✓		On leash only.
Ventura County Parks				
Soul Park in Ojai		✓	*	*Dog park only. Hours: 7:30 to dusk, daily.
City of Oxnard (805) 385-7995 www.ci.oxnard.ca.us				
Channel View Park		✓		OK on beach; on leash only.
Oxnard Beach Park		✓		OK on beach; on leash only.
Peninsula Park		✓		OK on beach; on leash only.
City of Oxnard Inland Parks				
College Park		✓	*	*Dog park only. Hours: dawn to dusk, daily.
City of Ventura (805) 652-4594 www.ci.ventura.ca.us				
Marina Park		✓		OK on beach; on leash only.
Harbor Cove		✓		OK on beach; on leash only.
Promenade Park		✓		OK on beach; on leash only.
Surfers' Point at Seaside Park		✓		OK on beach; on leash only.
City of Ventura Inland Parks				
Arroyo Verde Park		✓	*	*Off-leash hours: 6-9am, Tu-Sun; 6-8am,
Camino Real Park		✓	*	*Dog park. Hours: dawn-dusk. Wed 9am-dusk
N = Dogs not allowed. L = Dogs allowed on leash. O = Dogs allowed off leash.				

DO NOT ENTER



SENSITIVE NESTING AREA



VIOLATORS SUBJECT TO FINES

Appendix - Field Data

Monitors

AF= Alexis Frangis

JG= Jennifer Gold

BS= Brooke Sheridan

KK = Karl Krause

MK= Maggie Klope

CF= Chelsea Fletcher

AB = Anjanette Buttler

SF = Socrates Frangis

Notes

POE = (egg) put on end

3 E/F = female incubating 3 eggs

F/inc = observed female incubating and did not flush to check eggs

2 chicks/M = male with 2 chicks

Snowy Plover Nest Fates 2014							
Mandalay State Beach							
Nest #		14MN-01	14MN-02	14MN-03	14MN-04	14MN-05	14MN-06
Pred-Exclosure?		N	Y	N	Y	Y	N
Inside Fence?		Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Unk
Bands					female with rump bulge		
Expected Hatch Date		Unk	4/23/2014	Unk	7/23/2014	7/30/2014	
Lat N		34.200404	34.201384	34.200482	34.201632	34.199466	34.202083
Long W		-119.250275	-119.250693	-119.250156	-119.250772	-119.249684	-119.250744
DATE	Monitor						
3/13/2014	BS	1 broken E - Wind?					
3/25/2014	AF, BS, MK, CF		3 E/F				
4/3/2014	AF		3 E/F				
4/9/2014	AF		3 E/F				
4/18/2014	AF		3 E/F				
4/24/2014	AF, JG		Hatch - 3 chicks				
5/2/2014	AF		2 chicks/M				
5/7/2014	AF		2 chicks/M				
5/16/2014	AF		1 chick/M	Fail - Unk pred			
5/20/2014	AF, JG		1 chick/M				
6/25/2014	AF, AB				1 E/F		
7/1/2014	AF, JG, AB				3 E/F	1 E/M+F	First week chick/M
7/9/2014	AF, AB				3 E/F	3 E/F	2 chicks/M
7/16/2014	AF, AB				3 E/F	3 E/F	2 chicks/M
7/23/2014	AF, CF				Hatching 1 chick/2 E M+F	3 E/F	2 chicks/M
7/30/2014	AF, CF, MK				M+F displaying, 1 E POE	Hatching - 1 chick, 2 E	2 chicks (fledged)/M
8/6/2014	AF, AB				1 chick/M	3 chick/M	
8/13/2014	AF, KK, AB				1 chick/M	3 chick/M	
8/20/2014	BS, AB, CF				1 chick/M	3 chick/M	
8/27/2014	BA, AB, CF, MK				1 chick/M	3 chick/M	
9/3/2014	AB, CF, MK				1 Fledge	3 Fledges/M	

Snowy Plover Nest Fates 2014									
San Buenaventura SB									
Nest #	14SB-01	14SB-02	14SB-03	14SB-04	14SB-05	14SB-06	14SB-07	14SB-08	
Pred-Exclosure?	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Inside Fence?	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
Bands									
Location	Volleyball courts	Volleyball courts	North jetty	North of VB Cts	South of LG tower 4	North jetty	LGHQ	LGHQ	
Expected Hatch Date	Unk	4/24/2014	4/24/2014	5/31/2014	Unk	Unk	6/30/2014	8/5/2014	
Lat N	34.26765233	34.2681725	34.2703215	34.26883383	34.26918517	34.27028667	34.27164717	34.27210833	
Long W	-119.2792385	-119.2796655	-119.2819083	-119.2800645	-119.2803268	-119.2819152	-119.283999	-119.28439	
DATE	Monitor								
3/17/2014	AF	1 crushed E							
3/21/2014	AF		1 E	1 E					
3/25/2014	AF, BS, MK, CF		2 E/M+F	3 E/F					
3/28/2014	AF		3 E/F	3 E/F					
4/3/2014	AF		3 E/F	3 E/F					
4/9/2014	AF		F incubating	3 E/F					
4/14/2014	AF		3 E/F	3 E/F					
4/18/2014	AF		3 E/F	3 E/F					
4/21/2014	AF		Fail - Take	3 E/F					
4/24/2014	AF, JG			Hatch - 3 chicks					
4/28/2014	AF			Chicks not observed					
5/2/2014	AF				1 E/F				
5/7/2014	AF				3 E/F				
5/8/2014	AF					3 E/F			
5/16/2014	AF				Fail - Unk	Fail - crow	Fail - crow		
5/30/2014	AF							3 E/F	
6/4/2014	AF, AB							3 E/M+F	
6/11/2014	AF, AB							3 E/F+M	
6/18/2014	AF, BS, MK, CF							3 E/F+M	
6/25/2014	AF, AB							Hatch - 3 chicks	
7/1/2014	AF, JG, AB							2 chicks	
7/9/2014	AF, AB							2 chicks	2 E/F
7/16/2014	AF, AB							Chicks not observed	2 E/F
7/23/2014	AF, CF, BS							2 fledged + M	2 E/F
7/30/2014	AF, CF, MK							2 fledges + M	2 E/F
8/4/2014	AF								Hatch
8/6/2014	AF, AB, BS								1 chick/M
8/13/2014	AF, AB								Chicks not observed
8/20/2014	BS, AB, CF								Chicks not observed

McGrath SB WSP Population						
Date	Male	Female	Unknown	Hatch Year	Chick	Total
3/6/2014	2	1				3
3/13/2014	4	2				6
3/18/2014	5	3				8
3/26/2014	5	2				7
4/2/2014	5	3	2			10
4/11/2014	7	5				12
4/17/2014	8	5				13
4/25/2014	8	7	3			18
5/1/2014	9	7	2			18
5/8/2014	8	8				16
5/15/2014	5	8				13
5/20/2014	5	7				12
5/29/2014	2	5				7
6/5/2014	7	6				13
6/12/2014	6	5				11
6/19/2014	4	6			1	10
6/26/2014	6	6		3	3	15
7/3/2014	6	4			1	10
7/10/2014	3	4				7
7/17/2014	1	2	2			5
7/24/2014		2		1		3
7/31/2014	2	1		1		4
8/7/2014	1					1
8/12/2014	3	1		2	3	6
8/21/2014	1	1	3	1		6
8/27/2014	2		8		1	10
9/4/2014			18			18
9/11/2014			16			16

Mandalay SB WSP Population						
Date	Male	Female	Unknown	Hatch Year	Chick	Total
3/5/2014	3	2	30			35
3/13/2014	5	2				7
3/17/2014	1	1	24			26
3/25/2014	2	2				4
4/3/2014	8	7				15
4/9/2014	3	5				8
4/18/2014	2	3				5
4/24/2014	3	3			3	6
5/2/2014	3	3			2	6
5/7/2014	3	2			2	5
5/16/2014	2	1			1	3
5/20/2014	5	4			1	9
5/30/2014	3	2				5
6/4/2014	2	3				5
6/11/2014	2	2				4
6/18/2014	2	2	1			5
6/25/2014	3	3	2			8
7/1/2014	5	4				9
7/9/2014	4	3			2	7
7/16/2014	3	4			2	7
7/23/2014	3	4			3	7
7/30/2014	4	3	3		2	10
8/6/2014	4	1		2	4	7
8/13/2014	3				4	3
8/20/2014	2				4	2
8/27/2014	2			1	4	3
9/3/2014	1			1	3	2
9/4/2014	1			4		5
9/11/2014			3			3

San Buenaventura SB WSP Population						
Date	Male	Female	Unknown	Hatch Year	Chick	Total
3/5/2014	2	2	103			107
3/13/2014			141			141
3/17/2014			107			107
3/21/2014	1	1	71			73
3/25/2014	1	2				3
3/28/2014	2	3	60			65
4/3/2014	2	3	90			95
4/9/2014	23	18				41
4/14/2014	22	16				38
4/15/2014		2	15			17
4/18/2014	11	8				19
4/24/2014	11	6				17
4/28/2014	3	3				6
5/2/2014	3	1				4
5/7/2014	1	3				4
5/16/2014	2	3				5
5/20/2014	1	2				3
5/23/2014	2	3				5
5/30/2014	3	2				5
6/4/2014	1	1				2
6/11/2014	1	1				2
6/18/2014	2	2				4
6/25/2014	1	1	2		3	4
7/1/2014	2	1			2	3
7/9/2014	1	1			2	2
7/16/2014	1					1
7/23/2014	2	3		1	2	6
7/30/2014	1	2		2		5
8/6/2014	1		17		1	18
8/13/2014			15			15
8/20/2014			31			31
8/27/2014			41			41
9/3/2014			65			65
9/11/2014			76			76

Nest Num	Date	Nest Notes - McGrath
14MC01	3/26/2014	Lake, outside fence. Installed symbolic fence. Placed ME
	4/11/2014	Footprints inside fence. Installed additional signs.
	4/25/2014	Hatch. Pip shell located in scrape. Male and female calling, displaying but chicks not observed.
	5/1/2014	Male and female calling, chicks likely present but not observed.
14MC02	4/2/2014	Male incubating. Nest in wrack/at tide line.
	4/3/2014	Placed ME, no adults present.
	4/25/2014	Fail, wave wash. No eggs. Wrack on front of ME. Scrape unidentifiable. Pair nearby, no display.
14MC03	5/1/2014	Female incubating 3 eggs. Under sea rocket next to fence/LG access road. No ME
	5/20/2014	Fail - Raven (tracks) no eggs, no pips, no chicks
14MC04	5/1/2014	Female incubating 3 eggs. Back dunes. No ME
	5/8/2014	Unk predator. No pips, no chicks. Previous days were very windy, no tracks.
14MC05	5/15/2014	South corner of lake fence in beach bur.
	5/20/2014	Fail - unknown predator, possibly crow or small mammal. Many crow tracks surrounding enclosure. Enclosure intact, but lifted slightly on one side. Yolk crusted sand, shell membrane inside enclosure. Possibly 2x2 enclosure is too small to prevent crows from reaching eggs or small mammal entered enclosure and ate eggs, crows were attracted.
14MC06	5/15/2014	Outfall, saltbush. Likely reneest from 14MC02. Fence installed, placed ME
	6/5/2014	Hatch, 2 pip shells located. Male calling/displaying likely for chicks at lagoon near campground.
14MC07	5/15/2014	Male and Female at nest, displaying. Lagoon mudflats.
	5/20/2014	Staked sign "fence", ME placed.
	6/12/2014	Hatch, male and female calling and displaying.
14MC08	5/20/2014	Fail - Raven. Observed raven take egg and fly off. Went to retrieve enclosure, upon return with enclosure raven returned, landed at nest swallowed second egg, picked up third egg and flew off.
14MC09	5/20/2014	Campground. Nest lined with small pebbles, shells, next to small piece of metal tubing/pipe?
	6/11/2014	Hatch. 1 pip located.
	6/12/2014	Chicks observed with pair calling/displaying

Nest Num	Date	Nest Notes - McGrath
14MC10	6/5/2014	Lake, outside fence. Inside lobster trap. Expanded fence seaward to encompass nest. Female with single metal leg band (u:s), likely same bird has nested in past years in same vicinity.
14MC11	6/5/2014	Nest under beach bur canopy
14MC12	6/11/2014	Undiscovered nest. 2 newly hatched chicks, 1 egg (3 egg total) South of campground along LG access rd. parallel to lagoon. NO:OY (F)
14MC13	6/19/2014	Undiscovered nest. Male with first week chick at shoreline at lake
14MC14	6/20/2014	Nest discovered by lifeguards. Campground outer beach.
	7/17/2014	Hatch, 3 pips
14MC15	7/10/2014	Full clutch. Nest likely at least 1 week old. Female observed displaying in the area pervious week, unable to locate nest. Placed ME.
	7/17/2014	3 E/F
	7/31/2014	No adults present, suspect abandoned.
	8/1/2014	No adults, likely abandoned
	8/7/2014	No adults, 2 eggs POE, 1 egg with hole, insects crawling in/out. Egg broke open (brittle shell), contained almost fully developed chick (feathered, but large yolk sack attached) placed 2 remaining eggs on end, nest likely abandoned.
	8/12/2014	Attempted to collect remaining eggs, still on end. Egg shells extremely brittle, broke open upon collection. Each egg contained a developed chick. Buried onsite.
14MC16	7/10/2014	Outer beach at outfall/lagoon, no fence. Staked signs and ME.
	7/17/2014	3 E/F
	8/1/2014	Hatching 2 chicks, 1 egg, male and female present.
	8/7/2014	1 unhatched egg placed on end. Male calling near nest, likely for chicks
	8/12/2014	Collected 1 egg still on end (assumed non-viable)
14MC17	8/12/2014	Undiscovered nest. 2 first/second week chicks with male.

Date	Field Notes - McGrath
3/6/2014	Lake to campground then surfers knoll to estuary breach. Lake - 1 pair, 1 lone male. PEFA at SCRE. Dredge demobilizing.
3/13/2014	Lake to campground. Estuary open. Lake - AMKE, 1 pair, 1 male. North lake - 1 male. Injured/dying sea lion. Outfall - 1 pair
3/18/2014	Lake to campground. North Lake - NOHA, CORA, 3 AMCR. Lake - several killdeer scrapes in back dunes. Coyote and crow tracks. Sun-bleached killdeer egg from last season. South Lake - scrape, 1 male. Lake - 2 scrapes outside fence. Outfall - 3 scrapes, fresh plover tracks and decoration (nest soon). Campground - CORA. SCRE -
3/26/2014	Lake to campground. First WSP nest at lake.
4/2/2014	Lake to campground. South lake - 1 pair (nesting). North lake - 3 male, 1 female. Surfers Knoll to SCRE - Osprey.
4/7/2014	Dunes south of campground. No WSP. Possible killdeer nest in dunes west of campground.
4/11/2014	Lake to surfers knoll. Estuary closed. Lake - NOHA, coyote tracks. Scrape outside fence. South lake - several new scrapes, 1 pair. North Lake - 2 males, scrape. Campground outer beach 1 pair. Scrape in mudflats south of LG road. 2 osprey overhead. SCRE - 2 avocets
4/17/2014	Lake - CORA eating egg? in dunes. 2 killdeer calling, scrapes. South lake - pair making scrape inside fence. Trespass near driftwood hut. North Lake - pair at LG rd. Several lone males, 1 par, scrapes inside fence. Outfall - 1 scrape under driftwood @ tide line. 2 AMCR. Campground - RTHA, killdeer pair, scrape near estuary bank.
4/25/2014	Lake - female calling near north end. 3 scrapes. CORA tracks. South lake - killdeer sitting in scrape near signs. 2 scrapes in front fence. North lake - 2 pair, several new scrapes. Outfall - pair from failed nest MC02. Campground - killdeer. SCRE - avocet pair.
5/1/2014	Hot, windy. Lake - 1 female, north end. Possibly 1 or 2 nests unfound. Male and female calling for chicks. AMCR tracks. North lake - several males, 1 female. Outfall - pair, possibly renesting from washed out nest MC02. Freshly blown sand enabled us to follow tracks to locate nest.
5/8/2014	Lake - male calling, likely for chicks but not observed. 3 female, 1 male. 2 CLT overhead. Trespass (footprints). AMCR - 2. South Lake - pair, lone male. North lake - pair, female likely nest unfound. Outfall - female nest unfound. Campground - pair in LG rd.
5/15/2014	Hot, sunny. Lake - CORA tracks. Pair at south end. Lone female, likely nest unfound. South lake - male calling, flying likely for chicks not observed. North lake - 2 CORA, pair near 2 scrapes, lone female, likely nest unfound. Outfall - female calling, flying. Campground/SCRE - pair WSP.
5/20/2014	Lake - Tracks - opossum, raven, crow, coyote. CORA - 2. North lake - 1 pair, 1 male. Outfall - raven tracks. Avocets nesting - lake, outfall/lagoon, SCRE north bank.
5/29/2014	Lake - 3 CLT overhead. Trespass (footprints) in fence. Raccoon, opossum, coyote tracks. Gull roost. Scrape at south end outside fence, male nearby. 4 scrapes outside fence mid to north end, pair nearby. Lone female at north end, nest unfound. South lake - killdeer, trespass (footprints). North Lake - 5 TUVU feeding on sea lion carcass. 2 scrapes. Outfall - killdeer, avocet nests. 2 killdeer chicks (second week) in dry lagoon.

Date	Field Notes - McGrath
6/4/2014	Survey from SCRE to Campground. AMCR - 4
6/5/2014	Lake - 2 CLT flyover. 2 male WSP at symbolic fence. South lake - lone male. CORA - 2 (pair). Outfall - dead sea lion, 10 turkey vultures, gull flock. 2 Killdeer chicks. Lagoon - male calling for chicks, displaying (14MC07). 2 pair at dry lagoon (NO:OY) possible scrape. NO:OY flew into campground fence.
6/6/2014	Lake - expanded fence around 14MC11. Dog contact (off leash). 6 CLT flyover.
6/11/2014	Campground - dunes just south of campground undiscovered nest 14MC12 hatching. Nest right next to access road that parallels lagoon, no fencing. 2 fresh chicks and 1 egg in scrape. Female NO:OY. Predators: WTKI
6/12/2014	Lake - Avocet nests hatching. Horned lark with food (for chicks). Euro Starlings in dunes at lake. 4 CLT flyover, forage from lake. South lake - Pair at power plant outfall. North lake - 1 pair. Dead sea lion attracting 10-15 TUVU. Campground/lagoon - Male calling for 14MC12 (NO:OY) chicks. Pair (14MC07) calling. Newly hatched chicks in lagoon/crossing south LG access rd. Campground - NOOY in fence with male. AMCR - 3
6/18/2014	Survey from SCRE to Campground. Predators: CORA, AMCR
6/19/2014	Survey from Lake to Campground. Lake - CORA - 2, RTHA - 1, coyote tracks. Avocet colony inactive. Male with first week chick in exposed cobble below tide line (undiscovered nest). South lake - 1 pair. North lake - 1 pair, possibly 2. Several scrapes in fence. Outfall - LOSH. Avocets mobbing raven. 1 avocet chick (2 weeks) with pair. Lagoon - Horned lark fledge. Campground - 1 female on outer beach. SCRE - lone male. AMCR - 4
6/25/2014	10-20 CLT at south end of lake
6/26/2014	Lake to Campground. Lake - Coyote, CORA - 2. Male with chicks near lobster trap, likely from nest 14MC10. Staff reported 2 young chicks near lobster trap. Pair calling for chicks at south end of lake, chicks not observed. LETE - 15 foraging, flyover and landing on beach. South Lake - adult with 1-2 week chick (14MC13). North Lake/outfall - male with 1 week chick. Outfall - possible nest not located, 5 plovers in the area. Lagoon - mallard nest, avocet chick. CORA -2. Campground outer beach - lone male. SCRE - pair, killdeer chick. Campground fence - Male
7/3/2014	Lake to campground. LETE - 17, mobbing gulls and TVs in nesting area. Lake - RTHA - 1. Male calling for chicks at lobster trap. Male and female calling at south end of lake fence, likely 14MC11 hatch. Pair mid-fence. South Lake - Male with third week chick (14MC07?) 3 dead sea lions, 7 TUVU. North Lake - 3 males outside fence. Dead sea lion outside fence. Outfall/Lagoon - mallard nests, 1 active, 1 predated. Avocet chick almost fledged. Pair WSP. LETE flyover. Campground - PEFA -1. First LETE nest located at lake in afternoon.
7/10/2014	Lake to Campground. Lake - CORA - 3, tracks and human footprints (trespass) in nesting area. 2 dead sea lions. CLT ~12, courtship, mating. 1 first year CLT? Lone male at south end (chicks?). High wave wash. North end lake fence, likely CLT nest next week. Outfall Killdeer nest 4 E. Lagoon - Avocet fledge + 2 adults. ~6 killdeer calling. Campground CORA - 2 (same 2 from lake?).
7/17/2014	Lake to Campground - Flock of adult and fledge CLT, 3 scrapes in lake fence. North Lake - lone male. Outfall - killdeer nest, no eggs, raven tracks, crusty sand. Lagoon - killdeer calling (chicks), Campground - PEFA on fence post. Chicks not observed. Horned larks - 1 fledge and 1 pre-fledge. 1 dog off leash not contacted.

Date	Field Notes - McGrath
7/24/2014	Lake to Campground. South Lake CLT flock Adult - 20, Fledge - 7. 1 lone HY WSP. Lagoon 16 killdeer (including fledge).
7/31/2014	Lake to Campground. Lake - CLT adult 12, fledge 1. All CLT nests hatched. 4 adult (2 pair) CLT with chicks, defending nesting area against gulls. KEST - 1. 1 male and HY (banded). Outfall/lagoon - 3 avocets, Wilson's phalaropes ~35. CORA - 2. Campground - WTKI - 1. Horned lark 6 (1 fledge)
8/7/2014	Lake to Campground. CLT pair agitated, behavior indicates chicks present, but chicks not observed. 1 dog off leash with jogger not contacted. Outfall - male calling, likely for 14MC16 chicks.
8/12/2014	Lake - Predator tracks - CORA, opossum, coyote, skunk or raccoon. Agitated CLT at south end of lake, chicks not observed. Forage/roosting CLT including fledges (banded from Oceano). 1 brownie fledge, assumed fledged from McGrath. WSP - male calling north lake fence, chicks not observed. Lagoon - male, female, 2 second/third week chicks in dry mudflats/sea rocket. Campground - PEFA - 1. Male with third/fourth week chick on outer beach. Three sets of chicks and only 2 recently hatched nests, undiscovered nest.
8/21/2014	Lake to Surfers knoll. 1 chick with male, 1 female, 1 hatch year, 1 fledge.
8/28/2014	High swell. CLT roost at Lake. Male with chick at outfall.
9/4/2014	Survey from Lake to Surfers Knoll. Roost of 8 WSP at Surfers Knoll jetty, 2 at outfall, 6 roosting outside the north lake fence, and 2 at the south end of the lake. CLT roost at Lake, 8 adult, 11 fledges (2 fledges from McGrath).
9/11/2014	Small flock of 12 at Surfers Knoll. 3 at north lake (including 1 fledge), 1 fledge at Lake. No CLT present. End nesting season.

Nest Num	Date	Nest Notes - Mandalay
14MN01	3/13/2014	1/2 of broken egg, full of sand. Small amount of egg membrane/yolk in sand. Previous day very windy, unable to observe predator tracks or re-locate scrape. Potential scrape nearby. Fail - unknown/wind
14MN02	3/25/2014	3 eggs, north end inside fence. Placed ME.
	4/24/2014	3 newly hatched chicks with male and female in and outside of north end of fence near nest site.
	5/2/2014	2 first week chicks with male outside of fence, back side from north end to mid fence.
	5/7/2014	2 second chicks with male observed in and out side of fence at north end.
	5/16/2014	1 third week chick with male
	5/20/2014	1 fourth week/almost fledged chick.
14MN03	5/16/2014	Fail - Predated. Scrape with yolk crusted sand, many fresh plover tracks, unknown predator, most likely
14MN04	6/25/2014	1 egg outside of fence, north end of beach. No adult. Returned in afternoon to install additional fencing, female present. ME placed.
	7/23/2014	Hatching. 2 eggs, 1 chick, foraging in wrack. Male and female present.
	7/30/2014	1 egg unhatched placed on end. Male and female displaying, chicks not observed.
	8/6/2014	of fence
	8/13/2014	1 chick with male
	8/20/2014	1 fledged chick with male
14MN05	7/1/2014	1 egg - both male and female present, no display.
	7/9/2014	Very tolerant female incubating. Did not flush until approached within 6 feet of nest.
	7/16/2014	Female incubating
	7/30/2014	Hatching. 1 chick, 1 egg. Male and Female displaying.
	8/6/2014	3 first week chicks with male outside fence
	8/13/2014	3 second week chicks with male
	8/20/2014	3 third week chicks with male
	8/27/2014	3 fourth week/fledged chicks with male.
14MN06	7/1/2014	1 first week chick with male outside fence north end. Undiscovered nest.
	7/9/2014	2 chicks with male
	7/16/2014	2 chicks with male
	7/23/2014	2 chicks with male
	8/6/2014	2 chicks fledged

Date	Field Notes - Mandalay
3/5/2014	2 pair WSP in nesting area. Lone male at north end.
3/13/2014	2 pair, 4 scrapes
3/17/2014	1 off-leash dog contact, compliant. Trespass (human footprints) inside fence. 1 pair at north end, scrape outside fence. Back corner, 1 scrape with fresh plover tracks. AMCR - 8
3/25/2014	4 new scrapes, 2 pair at north end, 1 with nest.
4/3/2014	AMCR - 2 in fence, several new scrapes, decorated and with fresh tracks. 2 pair outside fence at north end. Flock of 8 at power plant outfall. Scrape outside north end of fence in old bonfire.
4/9/2014	1 pair inside fence, 2 pair outside fence at north end. 7 new scrapes, 2 outside fence in dunes closer to power plant (north of large driftwood hut). Trespass (human footprints), tent in dunes outside fence (illegal camping). 1 dog contact - compliant. Pair outside north end of fence south of large driftwood hut.
4/18/2014	1 pair outside fence south end. Several new scrapes inside fence. Pair at north end inside fence. Female with large black bulge in rear end (dark, shiny, round object, possibly a large tar ball or prolapsed organ and necrotic tissue?) paired with male. AMCR - 1
4/24/2014	AMCR - 5. New scrapes. 2 pair; 1 outside fence, 1 north of fence (female with rear end bulge (photos taken)
5/2/2014	AMCR - 7. Fence repair ~15 minutes. Fence was cut and zip-tied open, trespass/footprints inside fence. Dog contacts - 1 on leash, 2 off leash, all compliant. Pair inside fence. Male calling for chicks. 2 new scrapes. Female with bum right foot. Female with bulge paired with male north of fence near power plant property. 1 scrape outside of fencing, north of large driftwood hut. 2 first/second week chicks outside of fence, back side.
5/7/2014	AMCR - 3, Brewers blackbird- 2. Pair inside fence with 2 scrapes. Male with 2 chicks in/out of fence. Dog contact 2 off leash, compliant. Female with rump bulge paired with male north of fence.
5/16/2014	Squirrel on beach south of fence. Trespass (human footprints inside fence). Opossum tracks. Pair mid-fence, 4 new scrapes. Male calling at north end (power plant) with third week chick. Dog contacts - 3 off leash, 1 on leash. Scrape outside fence in dunes north of large driftwood hut.
5/20/2014	Window Survey. AMCR - 1, opossum tracks. 2 pair inside fence. Almost fledged chick (14MN02) at north end of fence with male nearby. Pair, male making scrape inside fence at north end. 1 lone male, 1 lone female at power plant outer beach.
5/23/2014	Male and female at north end, female calling. New scrapes inside fence. Male actively scraping at top of large ice plant covered dune, backside of fence at north end.
5/30/2014	1 semipalmated plover at power plant. 2 pair WSP north of fence. 2 scrapes outside fence. Lone male. Heavy trespass inside fence (human footprints). 2 scrapes with crow tracks, possibly predated nests.
6/4/2014	Pair inside fence at north end. 2 new scrapes inside fence. Pair outside north end of fence, female with rump
6/11/2014	AMCR- 2. Pair outside fence at north end. Several of the new scrapes located last week have crow tracks. Female with rump bulge at north end of beach. Trespass (human footprints) inside fence. 1 dog contact, on leash, compliant. 1 dog off leash, not contacted. Placed new no dogs/no horse signs at 5th street, adhered to old wood

Date	Field Notes - Mandalay
	No Dogs/No horse signs removed. Staked no dogs sign at shoreline removed. Trespass inside fence (human footprints). Jackrabbit in dunes. Pair WSP at north end of fence, female with bulge paired with male.
6/25/2014	2 dog contacts (off leash), one complaint, one negative/non-compliant. 2 no dogs signs and T-posts removed from beach and thrown inside of fence. Backside of fence 4 posts down. Pair WSP mid/north end of fence and one adult showing territorial behavior. Lone female at north end. Female with bulge and male at north end of beach by
7/1/2014	Muskrat came from large ammophila dunes and walked toward 5th street riprap. Possible juv dispersing from McGrath Lake? Trespass (human footprints) inside fence. Lone female at north end. Lone male near nest 14MN05. 5 (presumed migrant) plovers roosting near power plant outfall.
7/9/2014	Heavy trespass (human footprints). Fireworks (2) inside fence. 2 dead dolphin, 7 TUVU on beach. 3 horned lark fledges. Pair WSP at south end of beach outside fence. 2 second week chicks with male at north end of fence. Lone male at power plant. 1 dog contact, compliant.
7/16/2014	Minor fence repair. No dogs sign adhered to rock riprap had decal scratched off. Trespass (human footprints). Possible pair north of nest 14MN05. Possible pair outside fence at north end. Male with 2 second/third week chicks outside fence, north end at wrack line.
7/23/2014	Trespass, fence ripped open. Fireworks inside fence. 1 dog on leash not contacted. 2 third week chicks with male at north end of fence. Lone female at north end. 1 chick from MN04 on beach foraging.
7/30/2014	Trespass (human footprints, dog tracks). No dogs sign removed from rock riprap. Low flying helicopter. 4 dog contacts off leash, all compliant. Male with 2 fledges at north end of fence. Male and female displaying (14MN04) chicks not observed. Male and Female displaying for 14MN05 hatching. One additional female displaying, nest
8/6/2014	AMCR - 3. Trespass (human footprints), writing in sand. 2 dogs of leash, not contacted. Horse droppings on beach. Male with 3 first week chicks (14MN05) outside fence. Male with 2 fledges outside fence. Male calling for first week chick (14MN04). Male and female (migrant roost) foraging at south end.
8/13/2014	AMCR - 1. Trespass (human footprints) inside fence. Fence repair ~10 minutes. 3 second week chicks, one third week chick in the same area.
8/20/2014	3 chicks with male, 1 fledged? chick with male, 1 hatch year.
8/27/2014	High surf. 3 fledged? chicks with male, 1 fledged chick with male, 1 hatch year.
9/3/2014	3 fledges with male, 1 hatch year. End nesting season.
9/11/2014	3 fledges/hatch year birds.

Nest Num	Date	Nest Notes - San Buenaventura
14SB01	3/17/2014	1 crushed egg, appears to have been stepped on. Many footprints, difficult to locate scrape. VB Cts/San Pedro western-most ammophila dune in cobble.
14SB02	3/21/2014	1 egg, cobbles at north-most VB ct. No adults present. Pair at tower 4 near another scrape. Installed fence and placed ME with help of seasonal LG Jesse.
14SB02	3/25/2014	male incubating 2 eggs, female nearby
14SB02	4/9/2014	nest/eggs shifted towards front of exclosure because of wind.
14SB02	4/14/2014	trespass (multiple sets of footprints) inside fence.
14SB02	4/21/2014	Possible take. No eggs, no chicks, male and female outside fence, no display or call. Human footprints (trespass) inside fence leading to exclosure. Exclosure had been lifted on one side, many footprints around exclosure (adult sized shoe). Eggs likely taken. Post-Easter weekend. beach and fence littered with plastic Easter eggs and trash. Notified State Parks peace officers, USFWS biologists and LE.
14SB03	3/21/2014	1 egg/F, north end of beach near LGHQ jetty. Installed symbolic fence and ME
14SB03	3/28/2014	trespass (foot prints)
14SB03	4/9/2014	nest/eggs shifted towards front of exclosure because of wind. Adjusted ME.
14SB03	4/14/2014	trespass (foot prints) dog tracks inside fence. Male foraging nearby.
14SB03	4/24/2014	2 eggs piping around 9am, 3 chicks hatched by 1pm.
	4/28/2014	No chicks observed or adult behavior to indicate chicks present.
14SB04	5/2/2014	Female incubating 1 egg. Between volleyball courts and tower 4. Maintenance staff assisted with fence install. Placed ME.
14SB04	5/7/2014	Female incubating 3 eggs.
14SB04	5/16/2014	Exclosure appears lifted on one side (anchor pins lifted). No evidence of human footprints because of wind conditions. Many crow tracks around ME and fresh plover tracks. No eggs. Yolk crusted sand in and outside of ME. Plover nearby calling.
14SB05	5/8/2014	Nest located by Mike Glenn and Pierpont elementary class field trip. Fence installed by natural resources staff. No ME.
14SB05	5/16/2014	Fail, crow tracks, yolk crusted sand.
14SB06	5/16/2014	Fail - Crow. Yolk crusted sand and crow tracks. Scrape located last week.
14SB07	5/30/2014	Nest north of LGHQ/jetty, south of San Jon, in cobble and dunes between LG access rd. and fore-dunes.
14SB07	6/25/2014	chicks.

Nest Num	Date	Nest Notes - San Buenaventura
14SB07		Docent observations - chicks moved south of jetty to fenced area and dunes.
14SB07		Chicks observed between north tower 4 and LGHQ fences.
14SB07	7/1/2014	Male brooding 2 chicks in LGHQ fence
14SB07	7/5/2014	Docent observations - 2 chicks
14SB07	7/7/2014	Docent observations - 2 chicks
14SB07	7/8/2014	LG observation 2 chicks in southern most fence south of Tower 4.
14SB07	7/9/2014	2 chicks/M in north volleyball court fence.
14SB07	7/12/2014	Docent observations - 2 chicks near volleyball courts
14SB07	7/16/2014	Chicks or adults not observed.
14SB07	7/23/2014	2 chicks with male
14SB07	7/30/2014	2 chicks fledged with male
14SB08	7/7/2014	Nest discovered by docent
14SB08	7/9/2014	2 eggs/female
14SB08	8/2/2014	Docent observation - AM - Nest hatching, 1 chick dry and out of enclosure, one egg unhatched. 1 adult present. PM - 1 egg still in nest.
14SB08	8/3/2014	Docent observation - Second egg hatched, 1 wet chick in nest. First hatched chick off and foraging, still only one adult present.
14SB08	8/4/2014	Docent observation - Second chick appears abandoned, laying exposed in sand at nesting area. Adult brooding first hatched chick approx. 1000 ft. down the beach. Chick was monitored and no adult came to brood it. Call placed to USFWS for approval to remove chick for captive rearing.

Date	Field Notes - San Buenaventura
3/5/2014	flock north of volleyball courts, pair at Vb cts, pair north of tower 4
3/13/2014	large flock, 1 pair, 4 semi-palmated plovers
3/17/2014	pair at tower 4, pair at VB cts, possible pair between VB cts and tower 4, scrape south of tower 4. Previous weekend very warm weather, busy beach. LGs estimate visitation 10,000 people over weekend.
3/21/2014	large flock, 1 pair, semi-palmated plovers. 2 scrapes with tracks and decoration under saltbush north of VB cts/tower 4 area.
3/25/2014	1 pair, 2 new scrapes south of tower 4
3/28/2014	flock of 60 north tower 4 location. AMCR - 2, gulls, ruddy turnstone. 2 pairs. Several windy days earlier in week.
4/3/2014	AMCR, 4 semipalmated plovers. 2 pair, flock north of tower 4, mostly male, 2 with small amount of oil on chest, female with bum foot.
4/9/2014	flock of 30 north of tower 4. female missing left foot. AMCR in dunes, flushed 14SB02 incubating female
4/14/2014	Survey from Marina Park to Pier for LG tower placement. Plover only observed between San Pedro and LGHQ jetties. 6 off leash dogs, 2 contacts. Osprey, black and ruddy turnstones, gulls, AMCR - 5. 1 lone female foraging at San Pedro jetty. CORA mobbed by AMCR. Flock south of tower 4. sea lion pup at San Jon.
4/15/2014	monitoring for LG tower placement. Flock of 15 south of tower 4, around 10am moved closer to SB02 fence, foraging in wet sand.
4/18/2014	AMCR - 2, gull - 5, 2 small flocks north and south of tower 4. 2 new scrapes in SB02 fence, 2 just outside fence.
4/21/2014	Possible take 14SB02. See nest notes below. AMCR- 12, gulls.
4/24/2014	AMCR - 2, 4 scrapes in SB02 fence, pair nearby (likely pair from failed nest)
4/28/2014	Field observations from LGs - many AMCR on beach. Previous weekend very windy sat, sun nice beach weather. Status of chicks unknown, not observed. Monitor for LG tower phone line install, 3 AMCR. F north of tower 4, flew to SB02 fence, chased off by pair. Scrape just south of tower 4. 3 WSP pair between tower4 and SB02 fence. Scrape just forth of SB02 fence, 2 scrapes on south side of fence.
5/2/2014	AMCR -3, gulls. Lots of people on the beach. 3 males north of tower 4.
5/7/2014	AMCR - 2. Male at volleyball courts, lone female north of SB04 fence. F inside north/LGHQ fence with scrape
5/8/2014	nest located by Mike Glenn south of tower 4 between tower and VB cts. Reported a bird displaying near VB cts closest to San Pedro. no nest located.
5/16/2014	CORA - 1 AMCR - 3 Pair chasing at north jetty to tower 4. female defending territory at SB05. 1 new scrape in SB05 fence.
5/20/2014	Window Survey. 1 male at tower 4, scrape in dunes. Pair with 2 scrapes (male actively scraping) north of LGHQ in dunes next to LG road.
5/23/2014	AMCR - 4. Trespass in south tower 4 fence. Lone female at tower 4 fence. Scrape in north fence. Pair at LGHQ with 2 scrapes. Dog contact - owner did not comply

Date	Field Notes - San Buenaventura
5/30/2014	Pair in VB court fence, male making scrape in cobble at front of fence. Scrape in back of fence. Crow tracks. Pair in north fence at jetty also in dunes behind.
6/4/2014	AMCR - 1
6/11/2014	AMCR - 2, tracks in all fences. Flock of HEEG ~25
6/18/2014	AMCR - 12. Pair at north jetty fence. Gull Flock - HEEG, WEGU, RBGU
6/25/2014	AMCR - 4. Gull flock ~100 HEEG and CAGU. Volleyball Court fence - 4 new scrapes. Pair flew out of fence to wet sand. South tower 4 fence, no new scrapes. North Jetty fence, many gull tracks (roost).
7/1/2014	Pair at VB court fence. Large flock of HEEG. Several new scrapes. AMCR - 6.
7/9/2014	AMCR - 7. Dead dolphin at LGHQ jetty. Large HEEG flock in south tower 4 fence. Male + 2 chicks in north volleyball court fence. Juvenile killdeer north of LGHQ. New nest north of LGHQ.
7/16/2014	AMCR - 7. No WSP on main beach, only 1 incubating female. Walked San Pedro to San Jon.
7/23/2014	Male with 2 almost fledged chicks, volleyball court fence. Small migrant flock (4). AMCR - 2
7/30/2014	Lifeguard (MJ) noted 3 plovers at tower 3 the last 2 days. 2 semi-palm plovers, 1 female WSP in VB CT fence. AMCR - 2. Male + 2 fledges in north jetty fence.
8/6/2014	AMCR - 10. Roosting flock of 17 WSP inside volleyball court fence. 1 chick with male between north jetty fence and LGHQ.
8/13/2014	AMCR - 4. Large gull roosts and shorebird flocks. Small flock WSP (5) at volleyball courts, flock (10) in fence north of tower 4. Trespass (human footprints).
8/20/2014	Roost/migrant flock 31. End nesting season.
8/27/2014	Roost/migrant flock 41
9/3/2014	Roost/migrant flock 40 at volleyball courts, 25 in fence north of tower 4.



WELCOME!

Welcome and thank you for participating in the Beach Decent Program.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR:

Alexis Frangis
(805) 217-4833 (cell)

PROGRAM GOALS

Overall

The goal of the Beach Decent Program is to assist in the protection of the Western Snowy Plover and California Least Tern on Ventura County beaches by promoting educational opportunities and increasing the level of awareness of beach users and community members.

Specifically

- To protect and preserve the habitat of the Western Snowy Plover and California Least Tern at Ormond Beach, Hollywood Beach, Mandalay State

Beach, McGrath, and San Buenaventura State Beach.

- To communicate information about the natural history and conservation of the Western Snowy Plover and California Least Tern, their habitats, and the Ventura County coastline.
- To educate visitors of the importance of following regulations which have been implemented to protect the plovers, terns and their habitat.
- To facilitate a positive connection between members of the public and the conservation efforts along the Ventura County coast.

This manual is to help insure your effectiveness as a Decent. It outlines the duties and expectations of volunteers, provides documents and information that will supplement your training and provides answers to many of the questions and problems likely to be encountered.

SPONSOR

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Beach Decent Program is an outgrowth of the VC Shorebird Guide Program and is the product of the work of many individuals from many

groups: US Fish & Wildlife Service, CA Coastal Conservancy, CA State Parks, CA Fish & Wildlife, members of Ventura Audubon Society, coordinators of other Snowy Plover/Least Tern Volunteer Programs along the Coast of California, and others too numerous to mention have all contributed to the inception and development of this program.

INTRODUCTION

Snowy Plovers and Least Terns along the Ventura County coast

The coastal population of the Western Snowy Plover occurs year round along the Ventura County coast, using the beaches for wintering as well as nesting. The California Least Tern uses the beaches for nesting during summer. Sites include: Ormond Beach, Hollywood Beach, Mandalay State Beach, McGrath State Beach (including the Surfer's Knoll), San Buenaventura State Beach, and Pt. Mugu Naval Base.

Research has shown that nesting and wintering plovers and nesting terns are not able to tolerate high levels of disturbance caused by human recreation on the beach.

Historically, active management for plovers and terns on our public beaches has been conducted by Ventura Audubon, US Fish & Wildlife Service, and CA State Parks. Management efforts have included fencing of nesting habitat, restoration of dune habitat, installation of informational signs, as well as population and nest monitoring.

Beach Docent Program

LOCATION: Ormond Beach, Hollywood Beach, Mandalay State Beach, McGrath State Beach and San Buenaventura State Beach.

Summary of Position

A Beach Docent is a trained volunteer who maintains a level of expertise about these species and their habitat. The volunteer will be responsible for interpreting information about Western Snowy Plovers, California Least Terns and their habitat to beach users, recording basic data and interpreting site rules and regulations to the public in ways that encourage visitors to voluntarily comply with those rules. The Beach Docent position is an essential component to successful management and recovery of

threatened/endangered species.

Qualifications

- A positive and enthusiastic attitude towards engaging people in conversation.
- Ability to communicate well with others and be sensitive to their needs and views.
- Ability to work independently and resourcefully in accordance with guidelines.
- Good written, verbal and observational skills.

Benefits/opportunities

- Expand your awareness, understanding, sensitivity, and appreciation for our local natural areas and wildlife.
- Participate in educating others about an issue that is important to you.
- Link with other plover volunteer programs throughout California, Oregon, and Washington, and become more involved in local conservation issues.

THE BEACH DOCENT ROLE

The purpose of having a Beach Docent Program on Ventura

County Beaches is public education. What does that really mean?

Basically, it means that Docents help people learn how to share the beach with plovers and terns. Given the history of unregulated access to many of our sites, a wide variety of people use the beach for a host of acceptable and unacceptable recreational activities. Many people are simply unaware of the impacts of their activities. Public education is intended, over time, to minimize the unacceptable practices without diminishing the acceptable ones and to implant the idea that our beaches are used and relied upon for survival by species other than humans.

Having a positive ambassador speaking with people about plovers and terns is the most effective educational tool possible. People like to learn from other people, not from textbooks or other educational media. If you talk to people, you can share your knowledge of plovers and terns. Once they have begun to learn, they can begin to care. People who understand why they should care about the birds are more likely to change their behavior.

As a docent, you play two important roles:

1. Educator
2. Protector

As an educator, you can contact beach visitors by making yourself available and approachable.

Education includes:

1. Providing beach users with accurate information on the natural history and biology of snowy plovers
2. Helping beach users identify snowy plovers and other shorebirds through a spotting scope or binoculars
3. Interpreting rules for beach users and providing an explanation for their existence
4. Offering brochures and public handouts
5. Encouraging questions and learning on all levels

As a protector, you may contact beach visitors by intercepting those who are not respecting the site's regulations or those who pose a potential threat to the birds. (see "RULES AND REGULATIONS").

Protection includes 3 areas of concern:

1. Unleashed Dogs
2. Trespassing into enclosure
3. Active Recreation

1. UNLEASHED DOGS

As a Docent, it is your duty to ensure that all dogs, within the site boundaries on which they're allowed, are leashed and under the control of a visible owner at all times. Oxnard City Ordinance 5-40 states that all dogs must be in restrained (leashed) while in or on public land.

The owner of an unleashed dog should be asked to leash it. You may explain that it is a city ordinance, enforced by Oxnard Animal Control, which carries a potential fine, if cited..

Note: Dogs are not permitted on State Parks Beaches at all. They are permitted in the camping areas of McGrath but, must be on leash. It is helpful to let people know where they can take their dog. Dog Owners Guide brochures are available.

2. TRESPASSING INTO ENCLOSURE

A Docent also ensures that the boundaries of the fenced nesting areas are respected, and appropriately addresses

the situation when trespassing does occur.

When a human trespass occurs into the fenced nesting area, do not try to stop the trespasser with shouts or frantic hand signals. Under no circumstances should you enter the fenced area. Calmly motion them to come out, intercept them, and advise them of their error and the reasons why the nesting area is a “No Trespassing” area. Ask them politely to avoid the area in the future. Ample signs should be in place, but are not always available due to high tides or terrain. This is why it is important that you are there! If someone is in the nesting area and not moving, from outside of the fence approach them politely and ask them to leave, explaining why.

If you feel that a ball or frisbee game is in too close of proximity of the nesting area, such that the ball may fall inside the roped area, ask the players to move farther away. A ball or anything that lands in the enclosure may not be retrieved by anyone.

3. ACTIVE RECREATION

There are many activities that are not allowed on the beach, such as camping, bonfires,

riding off-road vehicles, using firearms, collecting eggs, lighting fireworks, and more. (See RULES AND REGULATIONS)

PROCEDURES & PROTOCOLS

1. Arrive at the site at the scheduled time.
2. If you relieve another Docent, get updated on the current situation.
3. Provide your own spotting scope / binoculars
4. Chair, if desired
5. Clipboard- with data sheets, if available

RULES AND REGULATIONS AT THE BEACH SITES

Permitted

Surfing, Wildlife viewing,
Sunbathing,
Walking/jogging,
Hiking on designated trails.

Not Permitted

Unleashed dogs, Bonfires, Littering, Motorized Vehicles, Trespassing, Camping, Fireworks, Firearms, Egg collecting, Activities that disturb wildlife (e.g. kite flying, ball playing near nest habitat.) Dogs are not permitted on State Park beaches.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Good public relations may be defined as the “development and maintenance of public understanding, appreciation, and support for the objectives and programs” put forth by a specific group or institution. Public Relations do not simply mean the dissemination of information; in fact, the quality of the communication with the public is key. We must remember not only what we are trying to communicate, but with whom we are communicating -- a sincere concern for the welfare of the public should always be at the forefront of our minds.

Making a positive contact

Every contact with the public -- whether it is on the beach, through a letter to the editor, or in line at the grocery store represents an opportunity to foster understanding and gain support for our program. Make an effort to be helpful and friendly at all times when dealing with the public. Our goal with the Beach Docent Program is to help people enjoy the beach while learning to share it with other species -- not to be the Plover Police. We need to remember that people

are just on the beach to relax and have fun (just as many of us do when we are not volunteering), and they need to be treated with respect and courtesy at all times.

One thoughtless statement or action on the part of one Docent can spoil the positive efforts of many; for this reason, we all need to make a constant effort towards friendly, courteous and effective interactions with the public when representing or discussing the Beach Docent Program. The trick to remaining positive about someone doing something wrong is to give them the benefit of the doubt. Ninety percent of the trespassers are not paying attention and feel embarrassed by their action. Help them to not feel bad by saying “You may not know, but this area is protected because of threatened birds that live here”.

There may be times when you experience angry or unreasonable people. If it ever comes to the point where an individual is being abusive, confrontational, refuses to comply, or is a repeat offender, back off and refer the situation immediately to the Program Coordinator, call the police or State Parks Peace Officer (see

“IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY”).

When people are approached by Beach Docents, they often have a series of questions. Give them as much information as they need. When you are posed a question that you cannot answer offhand and you cannot find the answer in your Manual’s reference material, then be honest and say you don’t know the answer. It is very important not to give out false or misleading information – even unintentionally -- because it can confuse the visitor and damage the public relations of the Program. Be sure to write down the question which ‘stumped’ you and talk to the Program Coordinator about it later – he or she will help you learn the answer so you will be ready next time!

As a Beach Docent, you can help interest the casual visitor in the site’s natural and ecological value. By explaining and interpreting the interrelations of plants, animals and humans to their environment in a factual and interesting manner, the Docent may help acquaint the visitor with the great opportunity to both enjoy and preserve the natural environment. Education is the first step

toward understanding, appreciation, and eventually support. Not every contact has to be reactive. Engage people and enhance their beach experience.

Steps to a good public contact:

1. Greeting. A friendly “Hello, how are you today”
2. Introduce yourself. “My name is _ and I am a docent with Ventura Audubon”
3. Explanation. “This is a State Beach and we don’t allow dogs here”
4. Identify a solution. “You can walk your dog on leash in the park, on the city beach...”
5. Closing. “Thank you and have a nice day”

FREQUENTLY ENCOUNTERED SITUATIONS

Many of the people who recreate on the beach are unaware that it is also a habitat. They often have no idea that rules and regulations are in place to protect the federally-listed birds. Part of your job as a Beach Docent will be to inform people of these rules -- often at a time when they are violating one of them (e.g. walking inside the fenced

area). In these situations, we want to avoid negative interactions at all costs -- to ensure an enjoyable beach experience for the visitor and your own safety. You must remember to be diplomatic and explain the reasons behind the rules.

DO NOT EVER PUT YOURSELF IN A CONFRONTATIONAL SITUATION. If someone gets argumentative or aggressive, contact the Program Coordinator or the Oxnard Police (911) or a State Park Ranger immediately. Here are some common questions and comments from beach users and suggestions on how to field them:

My dog never chases birds.

Even if your dog is not actively chasing plovers and other birds, most birds will react to people and their dogs as if they were their natural canine predators. Birds will fly from predators- an activity that is costly, using large amounts of energy. If their energy is used to fly from disturbances, it can prevent the other behaviors that they need to survive, such as feeding, incubating eggs, and can ultimately jeopardize their ability to reproduce.

So, if I can't run my dog off leash here, where can I?

There are county, city and state ordinances that says dogs must be leashed in public areas. State Park beaches don't allow dogs at all. If you want to walk your dog on the beach, the dog needs to be on a leash. (See pamphlet Dogs on Beaches)

Why can't the birds just move down the beach to where there are no/fewer people?

Snowy plovers and least terns need a specific type of beach for resting, feeding, and nesting. This habitat tends to be wide, flat and open, so they can see potential predators approaching. Seaweed that washed ashore provides food. Sand dunes are an important component and provide a safe place where they can take cover in extreme high-tide conditions and storm events. The birds can't move down the beach, but we, humans, can!

Just let natural selection proceed -- if the bird was meant to die off, then it will!

The decline of the Pacific Coast population of plovers and terns is due to UNNATURAL events, such as human recreation, domestic animals, habitat loss

to development of coastal property, introduction of exotic plants and animals, and an increase in crows on beaches (attracted to garbage left behind by visitors). Plovers have lived here and have been using the beaches much longer than humans, and it is only recently that human encroachment has impacted their survival and nesting success. This beach is very important for wintering birds and a critical breeding site as well.

I just want to play ball with my friends. Why do you want me to move?

Active recreation is discouraged near nesting areas because of the sensitivity of the area. The action of a group of people running around near the nesting area and tossing a ball through the air is very stressful for the plovers. They are forced to spend a lot of energy in vigilance -- watching to make sure that those stomping feet and flying balls are not a direct threat to their safety or the safety of their chicks or nest -- and running or flying away when they do feel threatened. That not only wastes valuable energy, but could leave the nest or chicks exposed and vulnerable to predators and abandonment.

Why haven't you removed the marine mammal carcass that appeared a few days ago?

The carcasses provide food for many native shore animals. It is a natural process and should also be left undisturbed.

There is an injured marine mammal or a sick bird that can't fly, over in the wet sand!

Thank you, for bringing this to my attention. The best thing you can do is leave it alone. I will contact the Marine Mammal Center or Seabird Rehabilitation Center right now and they will address the situation. (see IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS) When leaving information with an animal rescue service, be sure to give the exact location where you found the animal, date and time, and your phone number in case animal care technicians have any questions.

IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY

While volunteering as a Beach Docent, you may find yourself in the position to observe conditions that constitute potential or direct hazards or violations. It is part of your duty to recognize and report

such conditions. Please do not attempt, on your own, to handle any situation with which you feel unsure or uncomfortable -- always call someone to help you. Judgment is important, of course, in deciding whether the situation should simply be noted and routinely reported to the Program Coordinator, or whether it is serious and time-sensitive enough to make an immediate report to Animal Control or Police. Following are the important phone numbers you should know, and the procedures for handling various emergency/safety situations, including whom to call for what type of incident. You may not ever need any of these phone numbers or procedures, but in case you do find yourself in a situation, which calls for additional assistance, follow these guidelines to decide whom to call or report to:

Call 911

- Any medical emergency, which is potentially life-threatening and requires an ambulance (do not attempt to render aid until you have called for help)
- Swimmer needing assistance
- Violence of any type

- Use or obvious possession of firearms

Call Police or Animal Control

- Disturbances approaching violence (including threats to volunteer's safety by angry visitors)
- Property damage in progress (i.e. vandalism of signs, fences, vehicles on beach, etc.)
- Off-leash dogs without a visible owner, or owners who refuse to leash their dog.
- Argumentative, vocally uncooperative visitors who harass volunteers.
- People/dogs/off-road vehicles entering fenced area, who have refused to obey your request to leave.

Tips To Remember When Reporting Emergencies

- STAY CALM
- Don't exaggerate or downplay the situation -- tell it like it is.
- Give enough information to give a clear picture of what is happening or what has happened.
- Give your cell phone number to the police and stay where you are to provide assistance to the officers when they arrive.

- If someone has reported the incident to you, try to get that person's name and phone number, so he or she can be contacted at a later date if necessary. Also try to get as many details about the incident from the reporting person as possible (e.g. what was the suspect wearing/driving, extent of injuries to victim, where

and when it happened, etc.) -- and write them all down.

- If you are carrying a camera, take a picture of the person and/or dog that caused the problem.

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency/Medical:	911
Oxnard Police (non-emergency)	385-7973
Oxnard Police (from cell phone)	486-1663
Oxnard Animal Control	385-7810
Channel Islands Harbor Patrol	382-3000
Ventura County Sheriff Dispatch	654-9511
Ventura Harbor Patrol	642-8618
Alexis Frangis (CA State Parks)	207-9469
Debra Barringer (VAS Monitor)	(303) 880-0308
Michael Glenn (USFWS)	644-1766 x328
(cell)	889-8915
Bruce Schoppe (Ventura Audubon)	689-7025
Marine Mammal Rescue:	
Channel Islands Marine & Wildlife Institute	567-1505

Adapted from VC Shorebird Guide written by Chris Kahler in 2009 which was, in turn, adapted from the Coal Oil Point Reserve's Docent Manual