

Appendix H Refuge Priority Management Area

RPMA #	RPMA Area (Acres)	Description
1	88.00	at least 95% of Refuge's western snowy plover breeding activity occurs in this area; also has good examples of coastal strand and coastal dune mat communities; surf thistle present at many locations; threatened by beach grass, ice plant, and purple ragwort
2	0.82	contains Myrtle Pond and Myrtle Marsh; La Graciosa thistle seeds planted here; marsh sandwort and Gamble's watercress planted here; California red-legged frog breed here; waterfowl; western pond turtle; breeding habitat for red-winged blackbird; also contains California wax myrtle; a hiking destination that should be kept native; perimeter of this area threatened by beach grass
3	18.56	includes Oso Flaco Peak - the highest point on Refuge; good example of coreopsis dune scrub; a hiking destination with great vistas; needs treatment for beach grass and ice plant
4	91.21	largest open sand sheet on Refuge; periodically supports western snowy plover breeding
5	44.65	good coreopsis dune scrub and open sand sheet; beach spectacle-pod present
6	20.24	best and densest coreopsis dune scrub on Refuge
7	15.15	good examples of open sand sheet, coastal dunes scrub, and coastal dunes swale; this area supports one of the densest population of beach spectacle pod on the Refuge
8	85.79	Hidden Willow Valley - the number one hiker destination for the inland portion of Refuge; contains several willow riparian communities; large Juncus/Carex wetlands; good coastal dune scrub; good habitat for neotropical migrant birds present here, primarily in willows; owl and hawk roosting; threatened by beach grass; a hiking destination that should be kept native
9	51.60	Lunar Craters - a very dynamic and very scenic migrating sand sheet; popular hiking destination; has dramatic 40-foot deep hollows from wind scour; threatened by beach grass
10	34.42	Phoebe Valley - one of best examples of coastal dunes scrub in entire dunes complex; a congregation area for Say's phoebe (in winter) and mule deer (year round); threatened by veldt grass (but is still controllable)
11	25.26	tallest forested area on Refuge - cottonwood/willow forest; contains only Santa Barbara sedge wetland on Refuge (1.56 AC); several scattered willow wetlands present; good examples of coastal dunes scrub; owl and hawk roosting; portions of this area threatened by veldt grass and poison hemlock

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12	60.27	contains eastern portion of Long Valley, Woodpecker Valley, and Southeast Sand Sheet; Woodpecker Valley contains largest continuous willow forest on Refuge; Snakebite Pond provides habitat for California red-legged frog, many neotropical migrants, and two-striped gartersnake; Gambel's watercress and marsh sandwort previously planted at Snakebite Pond; good examples of dune swales present; owl and hawk roosting; some good examples of native coastal dune scrub also present; this area threatened by veldt grass and feral swine
13	4.21	west end of Sparganium Valley; contains only known population of La Graciosa thistle on Refuge; good willow forest present; California red-legged frog present; Gambel's watercress and marsh sandwort previously planted here; owl and hawk roosting; threatened by feral swine
14	9.14	Four Pond Valley - Colorada Pond, Icebox Pond, and Four Pond Valley East Pond present here; California red-legged frog breed at most of these ponds; Gambel's watercress and marsh sandwort previously planted here; La Graciosa thistle seed planted here; owl and hawk roosting; threatened by feral swine
Total Acreage	549.32	
Percent of Refuge	21%	