

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH AT THE LANPHERE AND MA-LE'L DUNE UNITS OF THE HUMBOLDT BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



Research that enlarges our understanding of the dune system and particularly that which has direct applications to management is encouraged at the Lanphere Dunes Unit. Please follow the following guidelines to obtain a research permit and to conduct your research in a manner most consistent with our primary purpose of conservation.

1. If you are unfamiliar with the Lanphere Dunes, the first step is to obtain a general use permit to visit the dunes and become familiar with them. A general use permit (see brochure) allows for on-trail use.
2. Once you have formulated your research question, apply for a Special Use Permit (SUP), required for all research. To apply, email a research proposal in standard form (including statement of the question, detailed methods, and timeline, with proposed product if appropriate (report, data) to the Ecologist (andrea_pickart @fws.gov). **Processing of the permit may take up to several weeks, so allow for this in your timeline.** A map showing the location of any planned plots, collections, etc. is encouraged. You can obtain a digital, geo-referenced air photo on disk by contacting the Ecologist.
3. Your finalized permit will be mailed to you for your signature. **Be sure and take note of any special conditions.**
4. Carry your SUP when visiting the dunes, and place a xeroxed copy on your dashboard exhibiting your name when you park.
5. When you visit the dunes for your research, observe all of the regular visitation policies indicated on the general use brochure. Close the gate after you, park only in the parking places in front of the office and residence, and respect all adjacent private property. Use of soft-soled shoes is preferred to minimize erosion.
6. If you are visiting on weekdays, notify us in advance to be sure parking is available. We often have large CDF and CCC trucks that take up much of our parking. If we know you are visiting we can probably accommodate you, but if you arrive early and park without notifying us you may prevent a crew from being able to park and do their important (and expensive) work. You can email or call 822-6378, but if you don't reach us don't assume the parking is available. Obviously, it is best to let us know your entire schedule in advance if possible to prevent conflicts.
7. When going off-trail for research purposes, please DISPERSE your use. Do not approach your plots from the same direction repeatedly or a new trail will form.
8. No collection of any natural item is permitted beyond what is included in your SUP. Do not disturb any cultural sites or resources you may encounter.
9. Please be aware of safety issues. The dunes are remote, and sometimes there are unattended dogs or unofficial visitors. Please do not confront people in any way that makes

you vulnerable to a dangerous situation. If you observe anything that makes you uncomfortable, please report it to the office.

10. If you place any permanent or temporary markers, let us know in the proposal. **Remove all flagging, marking, etc as soon as your study is ended.** If it is up for more than a season, be aware that numbers on flagging may fade, the flagging may fall, and markers in the ground may be moved, so check it periodically.
11. You may bring a field helper along on your permit. However, there are strictly no dogs.
12. Use is daylight only unless specified in your permit.
13. Please be aware of your aesthetic impact, as the dunes are used by many people enjoying a near-wilderness experience. Minimize your use of obvious markers, be aware of where you are leaving tracks on pristine sand, etc.
14. You may obtain a plant, bird, or other species lists upon request.
15. Your permit will likely have a product due, such as a report, with a due date. If you are late, please request an extension (similarly, if you need more field time than expected and your permit expires, you can request an extension).
16. If your research involves a federally listed species, you may need an additional Section 10a1A permit, which may require additional processing time.
17. Last, enjoy this beautiful place, and please respect it.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Lanphere Dunes Unit, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, 6800 Lanphere Rd., Arcata, CA 95521. Phone 707-822-5378, fax 707-822-6406, email andrea_pickart@fws.gov

Unit staff: Andrea Pickart and Patti Clifford

Main station office: PO Box 576, Loleta, CA 95551, phone 707-733-7406, Refuge Manager Eric Nelson, Asst. Manager Shannon Smith, email Shannon_smith@fws.gov