



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Point Reyes National Seashore
Point Reyes, California 94956

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Determination of Temporary Beach Closure

36 CFR 1.5 Closures and Public Use Limits

- (a) Consistent with applicable legislation and Federal administrative policies, and based upon a determination that such action is necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, aid to scientific research, implementation of management responsibilities, equitable allocation and use of facilities, or the avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities, the Superintendent may:
- (1) Establish, for all or a portion of a park area, a reasonable schedule of visiting hours, impose public use limits, or close all or a portion of a park area to all public use or to a specific use activity

1. Temporary Beach Closure Location:

The beach area marked by fencing between north and south parking lots at Limantour Beach.

2. Duration of Temporary Beach Closure:

The beach area will be closed from Saturday, June 24th through Monday, September 4th. The beach area will be closed for each day in its entirety.

3. Who is affected by the Temporary Beach Closure?

Except in an emergency and for the duration of the closure to the above listed beach area, all public use shall be prohibited.

4. Justification for Temporary Beach Closure:

To ensure the survival of federally-threatened western snowy plover nests and chicks within this area during the busy summer season.

5. Additional Justification/Details for Temporary Beach Closure:

Western snowy plovers, a federally-threatened species, have chosen an area of Limantour Beach between the two parking lots for nesting. So far this season, four nests have been established there. Public visitation at Limantour Beach has reached an all-time high in 2017. Park staff have witnessed multiple occasions in which people and dogs disturbed the nesting plovers despite ample signage and other protection measures. Disturbance by park visitors in plover breeding areas prevent plovers from incubating their eggs, can separate chicks from the adults, and the chicks may then not be able to forage efficiently, thermoregulate properly, and hide from predators.


Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore

6/22/17
Date: