



# United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

IN REPLY REFER TO:

## Determination of Temporary Dog 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 Dog Closure Location:**

The beach area marked by fencing ¼ mile south of North Beach parking lot and ¼ mile north of South Beach parking lot.

#### **2. Duration of Temporary Beach Closure:**

The beach area will be closed to all dogs from Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> through Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. The beach area will be closed to dogs for each day in its entirety.

#### **3. Who is affected by the Temporary Beach Closure?**

All visitor dog use in the above listed beach area 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:**

Point Reyes Beach is an important nesting site for the western snowy plover, a federally listed species. Dogs, both leashed and unleashed, can cause significant disturbance on nesting snowy plovers. Biologists found one nest in the listed beach area, in addition to other signs of nesting activity. Disturbance by park visitors and dogs 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.

Craig Kenkel /s/\*

**Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore**

**Date:** May 9, 2024

\* The signed Determination of Temporary Closure is on file at park headquarters.