



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 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 ¼ mile north of North Beach parking lot and approximately 1.5 miles south of Abbotts Lagoon.

2. Duration of Temporary Beach Closure:

The beach area will be closed from Friday, April 20th through Monday, September 3rd. 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:

Point Reyes Beach North is an important nesting site for the western snowy plover, a federally listed species. Winter storms have narrowed stretches of this beach in areas where plovers are nesting. Stretches are so narrow that it is unsafe for visitors to walk at high tide without directly disturbing snowy plover nests on the upper beach. Biologists have found 3

known nests in the area and they expect to find several more soon. Disturbance by park visitors 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: April 20, 2023

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