

## Why take the Dog Rangers pledge?

All dogs are seen as predators to shorebirds and seabirds, no matter the size or age of the dog.

Unleashed dogs frighten shorebirds and seabirds. This leads to nest abandonment and interruptions to eating and resting. Disturbances cause loss of precious energy when the birds use distraction displays to protect nests and chicks from unleashed dogs, people, and anyone who approaches too closely.

These birds have no other home. From nesting to feeding, shorebirds and seabirds are specially evolved to live in beach habitats.



Photo by Alecia Smith

### Dogs, take the Dog Rangers pledge!

1. I will never chase birds or wildlife
2. I will wear my leash at the beach to help birds feel safe
3. I will give birds about 100 feet of space to relax and refuel
4. I won't climb the dunes or walk through established nesting areas

## Who We Are

**Ventura Audubon Society (VAS)** is one of 450 chapters of the National Audubon Society. Our chapter works in Ventura County to protect wild birds and their habitat, educate the public and share the joy of birding.

**The Shorebird Recovery Program** protects endangered/threatened WSP and CLT by conducting nest monitoring, habitat protection and public outreach.

### Want to make a difference?

Visit our website or scan the QR code below to join, donate, volunteer or just learn more about our chapter and its programs.

### Contact Us

Email: [volunteer@venturaaudubon.org](mailto:volunteer@venturaaudubon.org)

Web: [venturaaudubon.org](http://venturaaudubon.org)

Scan QR code below:



P.O. Box 24198 Ventura, California 93002



# DOG RANGERS

Everything dogs need to know about helping birds.





Western Snowy Plover chick inside a tire track. Photo by Alecia Smith

### Western Snowy Plover (WSP)

**Range:** WSP are found all along the Pacific coast from Washington all the way down to Baja California, Mexico.

**Status:** Federally threatened and CA state designated "species of special concern".

**Breeding season:** Starts on March 15th and ends September 15th.

**Nests:** WSP decorate a shallow scrape in the sand with shells and rocks. They lay between 1 and 3 eggs.

**Hatching and fledging:** It takes the eggs around 26-32 days to hatch, then 28-32 days until the chicks fly.

**Male and Female roles:** Both the male and female incubate their eggs. Once the eggs hatch the male protects and watches over the chicks while the female finds another mate and makes a new nest.

## Dog visiting hours at Hollywood Beach!



Dogs are welcome on leash at Hollywood Beach after 5 PM and before 9 AM.

You may visit one of the many other Ventura County beaches that welcome dogs between 9 AM – 5 PM. This ensures nesting and migrating birds at Hollywood Beach will have enough time to rest up before your next visit.

### The good news is there are many other beaches nearby that welcome dogs!

Scan this QR code for a brochure that has a list of beaches and parks where dogs are allowed.



### Help birds avoid predators!

Leaving trash attracts predators. Encourage your human to pick up all doggy bags before leaving the beach. You can even ask them to pick up a few extra pieces of trash that others have left behind!

### Obey Beach Signs

Read and obey signs posted around the beach and on the fences. Signs are placed to guide dogs and humans away from sensitive areas.



### California Least Tern (CLT)

**Range:** CLT are found on the Pacific coast from San Francisco, CA to Baja California, Mexico.

**Breeding season:** Begins late April early May and ends in September.

**Status:** State and federally endangered.

**Breeding season:** Begins in April and ends in September.

**Nests:** CLT generally do not decorate their sand scrape nests and lay 1-2 eggs.

**Hatching and fledging:** It takes the eggs around 20-25 days to hatch, then 19-20 days until the chicks learn to fly (or fledge).

**Male and Female roles:** The male offers fish to the female to mate. If this offer is accepted, they are a pair. Both male and female incubate the nest. The CLT pairs are monogamous and stay with their chicks for up to three months.

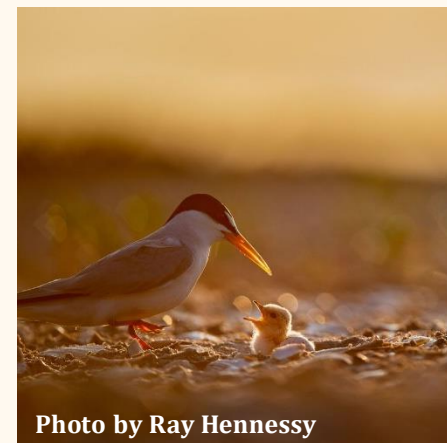


Photo by Ray Hennessy