

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 15, 2009

Snowy Plover Nesting Season Ends Today *Access Restrictions at Area Beaches Lifted*

Coos Bay, ORE. – The nesting season for the western snowy plover ends today and access restrictions put into place last spring will be lifted, granting visitors access to the dry sand portions of area beaches.

Dry and closures will be lifted for habitat sites at Sutton Beach, Siltcoos Estuary, Oregon Dunes Day Use, Tahkenitch Estuary, Tenmile Estuary (northern Coos County), the North Spit of Coos Bay, Bandon Beach State Natural Area, and New River area beaches. The access restrictions affected 18 miles of beach in Oregon.

Even though the official nesting season is over, biologists caution plovers are still active and ask people to pay attention when they are on the beach. “There are still several plovers out and about on the beaches, raising their family. The weather has been warm lately, and the plovers may have nested later this year because of summer’s later arrival,” said Kerrie Palermo, Wildlife Biologist with the Bureau of Land Management.

Population numbers for this summer are still being tabulated, and the results of this year’s nesting season will be available later this fall.

Additional information on plover habitat and beach restrictions can be obtained from the Forest Service, 541-902-8526, or the BLM, 541-756-0100.

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