CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

North Central Coast District Office 45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000 San Francisco, California 94105-2219 (415) 904-5260 or (415) 904-5200 FAX (415) 904-5400



Th24

NORTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

For the February Meeting of the California Coastal Commission

MEMORANDUM Date: February 11, 2014

TO: Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: Dan Carl, North Central Coast District Deputy Director

SUBJECT: Deputy Director's Report

Following is a listing for the waivers, emergency permits, immaterial amendments and extensions issued by the North Central Coast District Office for the February 2014 Coastal Commission hearing. Copies of the applicable items are attached for your review. Each item includes a listing of the applicants involved, a description of the proposed development, and a project location.

Pursuant to the Commission's direction and adopted procedures, appropriate notice materials were sent to all applicants for posting at the project site. Additionally, these items have been posted at the District office and are available for public review and comment.

This report may also contain additional correspondence and/or any additional staff memorandum concerning the items to be heard on today's agenda for the North Central Coast District.

DETAIL OF ATTACHED MATERIALS

REPORT OF DE MINIMIS WAIVERS

The Executive Director has determined that the following developments do not require a coastal development permit pursuant to Section 30624.7 of the California Coastal Act of 1976.

Applicant	Project Description	Project Location
2-13-0508-W Attn: Tony & Caroline Grant	Construction of a 2,800-square-foot single-family residence, an attached 2-car garage, and related site improvements (including a trash enclosure, decks, hot tub, boat dock (in the manmade Seadrift Lagoon) bocce court, septic system, propane tank, paths, and a decomposed granite driveway	177 Dipsea Road in the Seadrift area of Stinson Beach in Marin County

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

NORTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICES 45 FREMONT STREET, SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105 (415) 904-5260 PHONE (415) 904-5400 FAX WEB: WWW.COASTAL.CA.GOV



NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT WAIVER

Date:

January 30, 2014

To:

All Interested Parties

From:

Nancy Cave, North Central Coast District Manager

Ethan Lavine, Coastal Planner — FL

Subject:

Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver 2-13-0508-W

Applicants: Tony and Caroline Grant

Proposed Development

Construction of a 2,800-square-foot single-family residence, an attached 2-car garage, and related site improvements (including a trash enclosure, decks, hot tub, boat dock (in the manmade Seadrift Lagoon), bocce court, septic system, propane tank, paths, and a decomposed granite driveway) at 177 Dipsea Road in the Seadrift area of Stinson Beach in Marin County.

Executive Director's Waiver Determination

Pursuant to Title 14, Section 13238 of the California Code of Regulations, and based on project plans and information submitted by the applicants regarding the proposed development, the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission hereby waives the requirement for a CDP for the following reasons:

As proposed, the project will not have any significant adverse impacts on coastal resources, including public views, water quality and marine resources. The project is located along the interior portion of Seadrift fronting the man-made Seadrift Lagoon that is ringed by Seadrift residences, and its siting, design, scale and scope is similar and consistent with that of surrounding development. The project represents infill residential development in an area and of a type for which the Commission has historically waived permit requirements, and it can be found consistent with both the Coastal Act and the Marin County LCP.

Coastal Commission Review Procedure

This waiver is not valid until the waiver has been reported to the Coastal Commission. This waiver is proposed to be reported to the Commission on February 13, 2014, in Pismo Beach. If four or more Commissioners object to this waiver at that time, then the application shall be processed as a regular CDP application.

If you have any questions about the proposal or wish to register an objection, please contact Ethan Lavine in the North Central Coast District office.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

NORTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE 45 FREMONT ST, SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219 VOICE (415) 904-5260 FAX (415) 904-5400 TDD (415) 597-5885



Memorandum

February 11, 2014

To: Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: Dan Carl, North Central Coast District Deputy Director

North Central Coast District

Re: Additional Information for Commission Meeting

Wednesday, February 13, 2014

Agenda Item	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>
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Th 26a

From:

Rexing, Stephanie@Coastal

Sent:

Friday, January 03, 2014 9:31 AM

To:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Subject:

FW: Pacifica State Beach at Linda Mar

Attachments:

Linda Mar beach symbolic fence.pdf

~Stephanie

From: stan zeavin [mailto:margstan@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Monday, August 19, 2013 5:23 PM

To: Rexing, Stephanie@Coastal **Cc:** Symonds; Cordova Dan

Subject: Pacifica State Beach at Linda Mar

Hi Stephanie,

Today, California State Audubon approved our local Sequoia Audubon request for funding for a symbolic fence during the winter months when our threatened and sadly declining Snowy plover population is in residence. The search for a grant was initiated by Pacifica Shorebird Alliance last January when Pacifica's city council voted to add symbolic fencing to their recommendations for plover protection after more than two years urging by USFWS and PRBO, Pacifica's Environmental Family and Pacifica's Open Space Committee.

The grant also includes funding for equipment to be used during field trips to the beach and signs to be made by local school children about the local beach wildlife as well as brochures we are designing to be handed out to interested visitors.

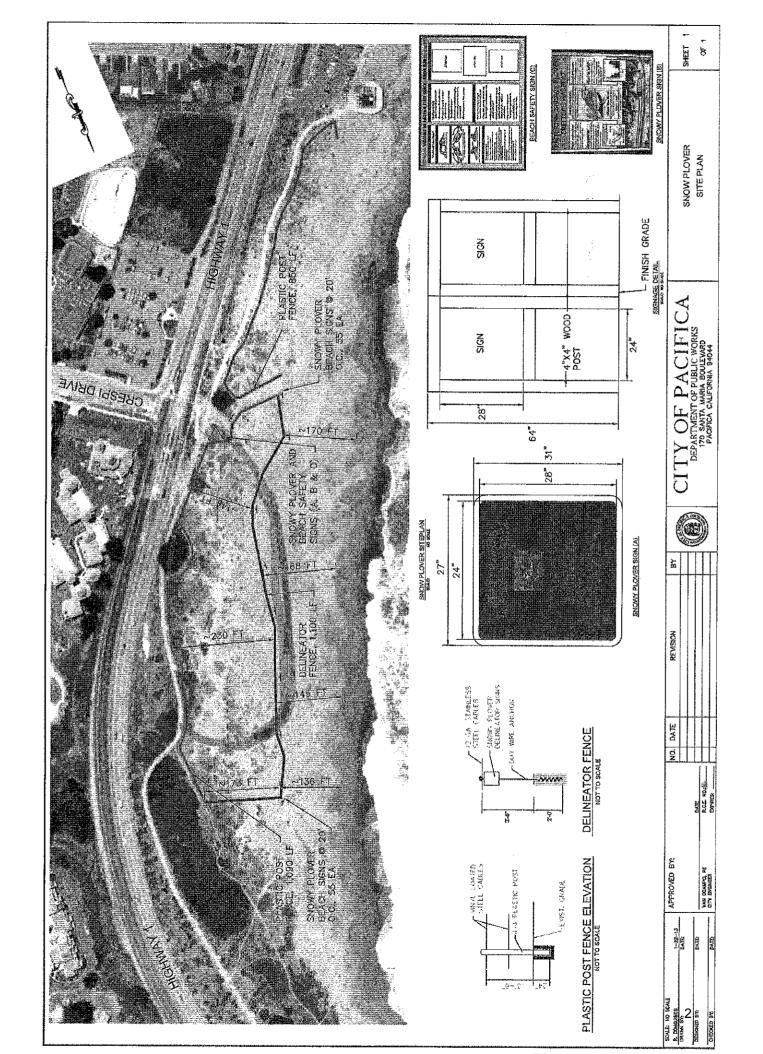
You can see from the attached map where we hope to place the temporary fencing to give the plovers a very small sanctuary free from continual disturbance. The pink and green lines on the map are what the city originally proposed. We have suggested the city not cut off and redirect the locally popular Crespi path. The blue line is approximately fifty feet west of the dunes where we need the symbolic fencing. This placement would give the birds a bit of flat sand, their preferred habitat.

Since at State beaches symbolic fencing is erected and removed routinely all up and down the coast, we are wondering if we can go ahead and install it here while we wait for the city to apply for its permit for the permanent fencing and signage. Is this a possibility since our plovers are currently being assaulted by everything from off-leash dogs to dribbling soccer squads?

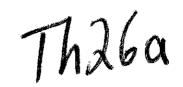
Have you heard anything from the city yet? Our hope is that the Coastal Commission can approve the city's permit application expeditiously so we can install some protection before the Snowy plovers have given up on our beach. Our Audubon and Shorebird Alliance volunteers and a local scout troop are ready to act.

Thanks for your dedication to protecting the coast. We look forward to helping. Please let us know what we can do.

Margaret Goodale Pacifica Shorebird Alliance Education Coordinator



Margaret Goodale 1135 Palou Drive Pacifica CR 94044 650-355-9654



8 January 2014

California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000 San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Application 2-13-1020, concerning Pacifica State Beach

Dear Commission Chair Kinsey, Commissioners and staff,

I urge the California Coastal Commission to immediately approve Pacifica's application #2-13-1020 for protection of the Western Snowy Plover on Pacifica State Beach. This beach is identified as CA48 in the USFWS Recovery Plan but has had no protection for the plovers for many years. About 10 years ago the city provided and volunteers erected signs alerting the public to the presence of the plovers, but these signs were soon vandalized and were never replaced.

Volunteers with Sequoia Audubon and the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance continued to monitor the remaining wintering plover population, which, without any protection, has declined steeply over this same time period. See the attached graph.

A discussion of the rationale for placement of the permanent and symbolic fencing shown on the city's site plan is also attached, as are photos of symbolic fencing and Pacifica State Beach at high and low tides.

Because California Audubon has granted funding to the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance through the local Sequoia Audubon to pay for symbolic fencing similar to what is used at Half Moon Bay State Beach and at Coal Oil Point in Santa Barbara, we hope for CCC approval as soon as possible before plovers are forced to abandon CA48. Despite its small size, our population can still contribute to the recovery of this threatened species if we can limit disturbance and keep the birds healthy.

Thank you for your dedication to protecting beaches for all Californians.

Margaret Goodale Education Chair, Pacifica Shorebird Alliance

Cc:
LTinfow@ci.pacifica.ca.us
desouzam@ci.pacifica.ca.us
perezm@ci.pacifica.ca.us
dan cordova@fws.gov
kate_symonds@fws.gov

Rationale for symbolic fencing placement

The map included in the CCC application contains several compromises.

After rejecting the idea of any symbolic fencing for many years, for the past year Pacifica city staff has worked with local volunteers to modify the USFWS initial recommendation of a 30 meter buffer for placing the symbolic fencing.

City staff originally ran parallel permanent fences from the bike path at the Crespi Drive – Highway 1 intersection southwest through the dunes and out onto the beach. While this placement was favored by USFWS as year-round protection for the dunes, it cut off and redirected the public entry most often used by local walkers and surfers. The area proposed for permanent fencing eliminated public access across a shallow shale bed that was never used by the plovers. Sadly, redirecting the most popular beach entrance at Crespi would have almost certainly resulted in a destructive response from local citizens who oppose any restrictions on the beach. Maintaining permanent fence in that location would be impossible.

As originally designed, the permanent fence would have connected to symbolic fencing running only immediately along the western base of the dunes.

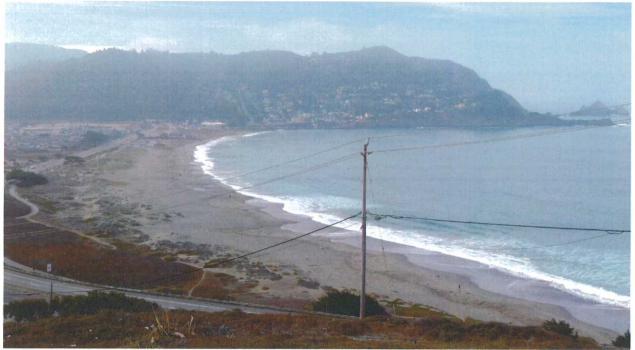
PSA suggested the city limit the permanent fence to the western edge of the bike path. We proposed that the symbolic fencing be installed seasonally and extend from the permanent fence along the existing social trail through and around the dunes and then out onto the beach for fifty feet beyond the dune toe. The fifty feet of flat beach allows the wintering plovers a small, protected area of their preferred resting/roosting habitat where people would not walk and disturb them. This is the section of the beach where monitors over the past three years have most frequently observed the plovers.

The northern end of the symbolic fencing runs east to the permanent fence 600 feet north of Crespi and avoids the winter creek and an area used by teenagers for drinking and drugs. The dunes are very steep, convoluted and narrow at this spot, and the plovers do not use them.

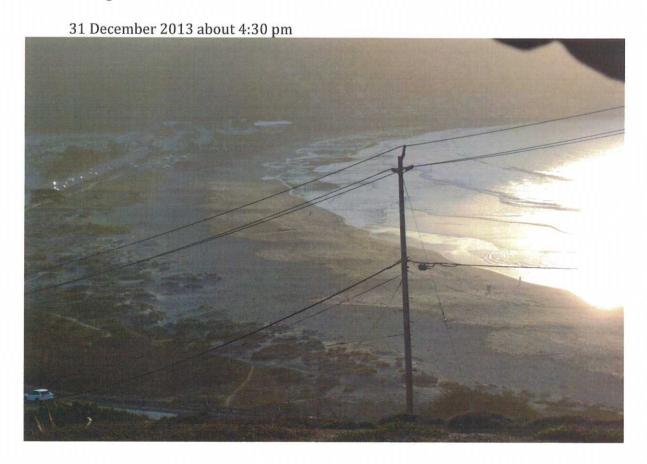
The city map included with the application reflects our suggestions but does not adequately provide for the important fifty-foot distance beyond the dunes at the northern end of the symbolic fence.

Additionally, PSA believes that small, friendly signs designed by local school children and installed and removed with the symbolic fencing will be the most effective for educating the public and protecting the plovers. California Audubon has provided funding for materials for student-made signs both to decorate the permanent fence and to inform visitors about the purpose of the temporary fencing. The Audubon grant will also pay for an informational brochure.

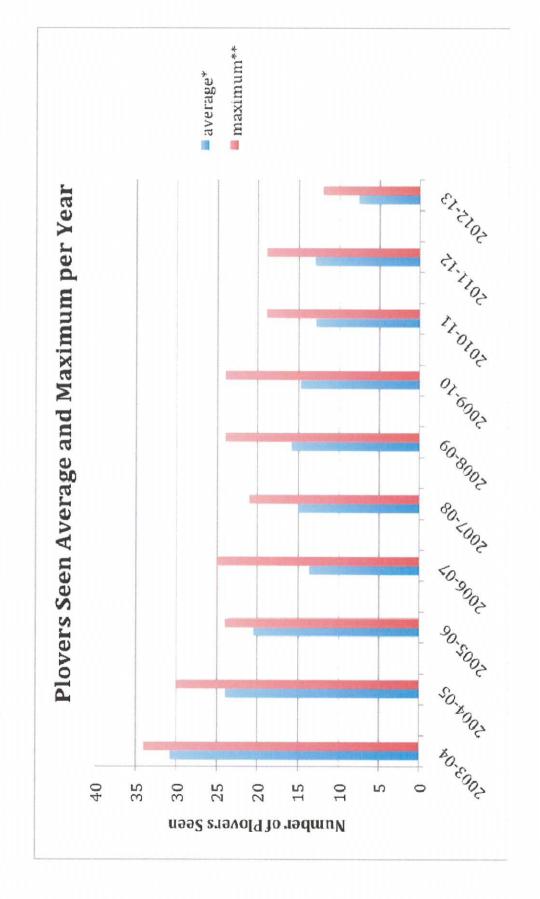
Pacifica State Beach from Roberts Road 31 December 2013



7.1 high tide 31 December 2013 about 9:00 AM



Snowy Plover Wintering Population Pacifica State Beach 2003-2004 through 2012-2013



Pacifica State Beach proposed symbolic fence

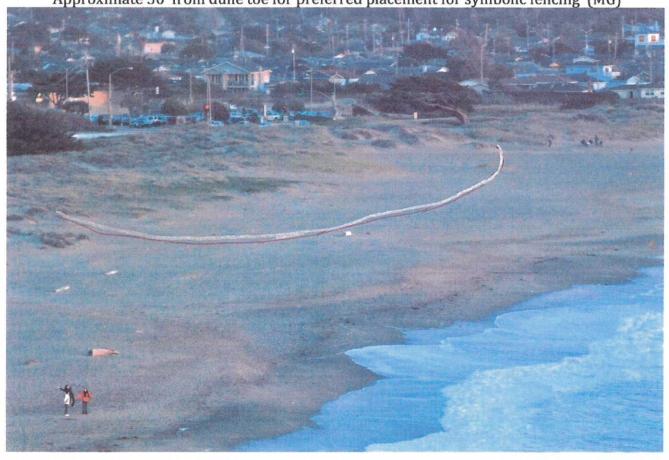




Coal Oil Point, Santa Barbara, January 2012

Pacifica State Beach wrack line from 6.5 high tide November 2013

Approximate 50' from dune toe for preferred placement for symbolic fencing (MG)



photos M Goodale

Plover history/action summary

Oct 28, 08

Paul Keel (CDPR) requested that Pacifica "change all beach signs which mention dogs so that they clearly show that dogs are prohibited on all sand areas of Pacifica State Beach"

Jan 09

Open Space Committee (OSC) voted 9-0 to ban dogs from Linda Mar Beach as recommended by Planning and Conservation League, the California affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation (7 July 08) • The National Wildlife Federation (7 July 08), and the Loma Prieta Chapter of the Sierra Club, which "supports the position of the Sequoia Audubon Society with respect to the necessity of protecting Western Snowy Plovers" (31 July 08)

Feb, 2009

City Manager wrote State Parks saying dogs are allowed on leash at Pacifica State Beach and will continue to be since beach is under Pacific "control".

2009, July 6

Paul Keel, Sector Superintendent II Santa Cruz District, CDPR: encouraged Pacifica to follow CCR 4312 which excludes "dogs from all sand areas in State Park units where Snowy Plovers are found", but recognized "that the Operating Agreement gives maintenance and control of Pacifica State Beach to the City." (In response to city manager exposition on Pacifica control of beach)

2009, Dec 4

Point Reyes Bird Observatory comprehensive list of management actions... to protect Snowy Plovers addressed to Open Space Committee (OSC) including:

Install and maintain symbolic fencing (cable through eyes in metal posts) on the upper beach parallel to the water line in the vicinity of the primary roosting area, between the Crespi Drive path and the dry creek bed near the north end of the beach, to provide an area of minimal disturbance for the roosting flock.

Restrict dogs from the beach. This recommendation is in compliance with State Park policy and Section 4312 of the California Code of Regulations, which prohibits dogs on state beaches in California.

2010

City of Pacifica Parks Beaches Recreation/OSC subcommittee recommendations for Pacifica State Beach reported there was no consensus on restricting dogs. PBR report to council includes:

Two main view points:

- Restricting dogs from the north end of the beach (north of Crespi)
- Allow dogs (always leashed per current law) on all areas of the beach, except for fenced off snowy plover areas (or near plover areas).

Install and maintain symbolic fencing (cable through eyes in metal posts) on the upper beach parallel to the water line in the vicinity of the primary roosting area, between the Crespi Drive path and the dry creek bed near the north end of the beach, to provide an area of minimal disturbance for the roosting flock.

Details on the fencing need to be worked out – how it is moved and specific location. The location of the fence running North-South on beach was not agreed upon.

November 8, 2010

Council voted 5-0 to modify staff recommendations to include looking into symbolic fencing as was urged by the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance (PSA). Staff recommendations were rewritten to include:

10 Place educational and regulatory signs, with penalties for violations listed, on the west side of the dunes to designate the sensitive placer area. Establish a symbolic fence line on the west side of the dunes.

April 25, 2011

Staff came back recommending no symbolic fence. Council agreed with staff, but, at the urging of PSA, requests staff consult with USFWS.

September 2011 -

USFWS Assistant Field Supervisor Eric Tattersall recommends including symbolic fence as the first consideration. He said 'the term "snowy plover area" generally refers to the location which is proposed to be delineated by symbolic fencing to exclude human activity and provide a disturbance free zone for roosting plovers. It is our understanding that this snowy plover area would only be delineated during the times of year when roosting plovers are present ... The Service recommends symbolic fencing be placed along the beach parallel to the shore no less than 30 meters to the west of the roost location ... (and) installed at the north and south ends of this fence line and extend east to the vegetated areas of the upper beach. The symbolic fencing should ensure a minimum 30-meter buffer between beach goers and roosting plovers.'

Several email communications and questions from city staff about 30 meter buffer

Oct 24, 2011

Dan Cordova, FWS biologist, proposed

'A compromise may be to split the available beach ... (near) the plover roost in half and align the symbolic fence (parallel to the water line) at that distance. This would allow the plovers some protection from disturbance and allow beach users passage without being concentrated in the water or plover feeding zone. The symbolic fence could extend 100 meters north of the plover roost. A short section of fencing could then extend in an easterly direction from the north end of this section in order to route southbound beach users to the west of the protected area.;

City staff questioned the compromise and map provided by FWS.

Cordova immediately clarified: 'A compromise between no symbolic fence and symbolic fencing at the waters edge. Or maybe a compromise between full protection for the plovers and full access by beach-goers.'

'If there is enough beach west of the roosting plovers, the question mark I drew would = 30 meters. If there is not 30 meters available to the west of the plover roost, then the question mark would – half (or some other fraction) of the available beach to the waterline. The trick would be to maximize (get as close to 30 meters as possible) the buffer for the plovers and still allow beach-goers a north-south travel route without putting them in the surf or concentrating them in the plover feeding zone.'

Jan11, 2012

City staff does not acknowledge the suggested compromise and writes to FWS "the City feels this (30 meter buffer) may be too restrictive and unattainable on a highly used, recreational beach of this size."

Jun 5, 2012

Revised city staff recommendations to Cordova include "SYMBOLIC BOUNDARY" but no fence.

- 10. Place educational and regulatory signs, with penalties for violations listed, on the west side of the dunes to designate the sensitive plover area to form a symbolic boundary and demark the snowy plover area (up to 10 signs, 75ft apart).
- 15. Monitoring Review (proposed every 6 months for first two years) effectiveness of recommendations. Track beach violations, collect feedback from volunteers (docents) and staff to determine how regulations are working, and include input from local group(s) and state agencies.

City staff states:

- Installing symbolic fencing with a minimum of a 30-meter buffer will shorten the
 available beach for the public and likely result in a concentration of people/foot
 traffic in the areas used by the plovers for foraging. Shortening the available beach
 for the public also creates a safety concern, especially during high tides. If the City
 were to install symbolic fencing north to south parallel to the beach on the west
 side of the dunes, a buffer of less distance would need to be considered.
- The City would like to point to Ocean Beach and Crissy Field as examples in terms of fencing. There is no symbolic fencing at these facilities which are managed by a Federal agency, the GGNRA. The USFW recommendation for City of Pacifica to have symbolic fencing seems inconsistent with current practices at these locations. The City's recommendation of a symbolic boundary (signs placed on the beach to demark the plover roosting area) along with the fencing on the bicycle path, provides more protection for the plovers than the existing conditions at Ocean Beach (as well as the existing conditions at Pacifica State Beach).

Oct. 29.2012

PSA receives letter from City Clerk refusing copies of records of CCC communications. We may view at her convenience but not those where "the public interest in withholding those records clearly outweigh the public interest in disclosure."

Nov 15, 2012

CCC approves beach parking fees to enable Pacifica to hire two "rangers" for Pacifica State Beach in addition to the existing current "ranger" and adds condition 3.

Condition 3. Dune Protection. Pacifica State Beach rangers shall monitor the multi-use coastal trail area adjacent to Pacifica State Beach (east of the sandy beach) and shall take action to help prevent dune/plover habitat impacts, including to direct users to developed trails and away from informal trails through the dunes (including through public outreach, enforcement of dog-leash laws and regulations, trash clean-up, exclosures/symbolic fencing, educational signage, etc.).

Ian. 2013

Council votes to "Confirm the rules/recommendations submitted to the USFW on May 31, 2012 for the Western Snowy Plover Protection Plan at Pacifica State Beach with the addition of symbolic fencing as recommended by the USFW and direct staff to move forward with funding research and implementation."

Th26a

From:

Mary Keitelman < mkeitelman@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, January 09, 2014 7:29 PM

To:

Rexing, Stephanie@Coastal; Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Cc:

dan_cordova@fws.gov; kate_symonds@fws.gov

Subject:

CCC Application 2-13-1-20 - w Snowy Ployers - Pacifica State Beach -

Attachments:

cccSnowyPlovers20140109.doc

January 9, 2013

Via email

to: Stephanie.Rexing@coastal.ca.gov; Ethan.Lavine@coastal.ca.gov

cc: dan cordova@fws.gov; kate symonds@fws.gov

Stephanie Rexing, Ethan Lavine California Coastal Commission

Re: Application # 2-13-1020 – Pacifica State Beach fencing and signage from City of Pacifica for protection of the western Snowy Plovers

Dear Coastal Commission Staffperson Rexing and Planner Lavine:

Please approve Application 2-13-1020, addressing the following 3 points:

- 1. A minimum of 50 feet of flat beach west of the dune toe is needed to be within the area protected by symbolic fencing for the Snowy Ployers.
- 2. Symbolic fencing on the beach should be the same as that set up in Half Moon Bay, Santa Barbara, etc. standard issue. It is not clear that this is the case from the drawings submitted by the City of Pacifica.
- 3. Signs and poles must have wires at the top/ so they are not perchable by predatory birds, likely seagulls, corvids, and raptors. In particular, the snowy plover pole must have anti perching devices on it or the Snowy Plover pole will simply serve as a hunting perch for predatory corvids and their allies.

A Pacifica resident since approximately 1980, I was surprised to learn we have western Snowy Plovers on Pacifica State Beach, and that they have been breeding here as late as the early 1970s. This particular beach is preferred by Snowy Plovers because of no cliffs, and the ability of a roosting plover to see beyond the wrack line to the ocean. Pacifica State Beach is identified as one to be protected by the federal western Snowy Plover Recovery Plan: http://www.westernsnowyplover.org/recovery plan.html

Over the last 4 decades, increasingly more people use the beach, and they are crowding out western Snowy Plovers, which still overwinter on Pacifica State Beach. People are unknowingly destroying the viability of the beach as habitat for western Snowy Plovers — which have used this beach for millennia. And, people will do the right thing if they are aware of what to do: signs, fencing, rangers will all help the public understand how to use Pacifica State Beach in a way that will share the beach with wildlife.

I am proud to take visitors to Pacifica State Beach, and show them our endangered western Snowy Plovers – and the rich habitat they call home. These amazing 2 ounces or less tiny birds are of interest to visitors and locals alike, as part of the vital diversity of life still apparent on Pacifica's beaches.

It is with this in mind that I ask you to consider my support of the City of Pacifica's application to the Coastal Commission, with the exceptions I listed above.

Thank you for your consideration of this vital issue.

Please contact me at any time for more information.

Sincerely,

Mary Keitelman Pacifica, CA mkeitelman@hotmail.com

RECEIVED

January 13, 2014

JAN 2 1 2014

California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000 San Francisco, CA 94105-2219 CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

Th26a

Re: Application 2-13-1020, Pacifica State Beach

Dear Commission Chair Kinsey and members of the Commission:

Please support the pending application by the City of Pacifica for the placement of overdue signage and removable "symbolic fencing" at our state beach here in Pacifica.

For some years and hundreds of hours there have been discussions, hearings, votes, and good intentions to protect the Western snowy plovers which use the beach here to rest and feed. The birds can hardly do either when they are flushed from hiding in hollows in the sand by walkers or dogs.

Despite all the efforts, so far nothing has changed for the beleaguered birds.

Signage and moveable "symbolic fence" (resembles a rope on stakes) are essential elements to help people better share the beach with threatened shorebirds. The area to be seasonally fenced is a very small part of the entire beach.

The signs will help visitors know what's to do/see at the beach, as well as the regs, such as the prohibitions on beach fires, smoking and use of glass.

Dog use of the Southern California beaches is better managed. It remains "anything goes" here in Pacifica. A stranger walking his dogs, evidently angered that I was looking for plovers, spat in my face. We need the beach to be safe, patrolled with good signage, and a "symbolic fence (which Audubon California would largely fund).

Please approve these measures which are the product of so much deliberation. Signature on file

William Collins

531 Johnson Ave Pacifica CA 94044 **Victor Carmichael**

Th26a

5005 Palmetto Ave., Pacifica, CA 94044 (650) 991 7349

01/19/14

Application number 2-13-1020 Commission Chair Kinsey, Commissioners and Staff, California Coastal Commission, 45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000, San Francisco CA 94105-2219 RECEIVED

JAN 2 2 2014

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

I understand the California Coastal Commission will soon be considering the approval of a minor structural alteration to Pacifica State Beach. A low impact "symbolic fence" is being proposed to protect the threatened Western Snowy Plover that roosts there part of the year. I want to offer my unqualified support for this proposal.

It has taken literally decades to get proper attention focused on this issue and to prod the City of Pacifica into supporting meaningful and effective protection of the Snowy Plover. Resistance from some quarters to the concept of symbolic fencing seems to stem from a mistaken belief that it will have a deleterious and obstructive effect on the beach. As both a user of the beach as a surfer and as a former participant in surveys of the numbers of birds there, I can say that this simply not the case. Such a fence as proposed will have absolutely no measurable effect on usage of the beach to the *primary users*: surfers, dog walkers, joggers and fisherman. On most days beaches in Northern California are overcast and/or foggy and even during the summer cold and windy. Only a smattering of people are out there and their activity is primarily along the actual ocean edge, or in it (surfers.) Only on those relatively rare (at least before the Drought) high usage sunny days (usually in the early fall) are there crowds besieging this beach. This fencing can steer them away from inadvertently trampling the sensitive snowy plover habitat. The snowy plovers are difficult to see even when one is looking for them. Such a fence will simply discourage activity in the cordoned-off area - which is located in the *less used* northern portion of the beach. For instance on most days the most desirable waves for surfing are on the southern end of the beach.

I hope the Coastal Commission will see fit to approve this very reasonable approach to protecting this threatened species.

Sincerely.
Signature on file
Victor Carmichael

Th26a

From: Sent: Dyer Crouch <dyercrouch@yahoo.com> Wednesday, January 22, 2014 12:30 PM

To:

Rexing, Stephanie@Coastal; Lavine, Ethan@Coastal dan_cordova@fws.gov; kate symonds@fws.gov

Cc: Subject:

Application # 2-13-1020 - Pacifica State Beach fencing and signage from City of Pacifica

for protection of the western Snowy Plover

To: California Coastal Commission: <u>Stephanie.Rexing@coastal.ca.gov</u>; <u>Ethan.Lavine@coastal.ca.gov</u>

Re: Application # 2-13-1020 – Pacifica State Beach fencing and signage from City of Pacifica for protection of

the western Snowy Plovers

Cc: dan cordova@fws.gov; kate symonds@fws.gov

Date: January 9th, 2014

Dear Coastal Commission Staffperson Rexing and Planner Lavine:

Please approve Application 2-13-1020, addressing the following 3 points:

- 1. A minimum of 50 feet of flat beach west of the dune toe is needed to be within the area protected by symbolic fencing for the Snowy Plovers
- 2. Symbolic fencing on the beach should be the same as that set up in Half Moon Bay, Santa Barbara, etc. standard issue. It is not clear that this is the case from the drawings submitted by the City of Pacifica
- 3. Signs and poles must have wires at the top/ so they are not perchable by predatory birds, likely seagulls, corvids, and raptors. In particular, the snowy plover pole must have anti perching devices on it or the Snowy Plover pole will simply serve as a hunting perch for predatory corvids and their allies.

It has taken years efforts from various individuals and *multiple organizations* to get the city of Pacifica to agree to any measures at all. This is the first real step the city would be taking towards protections for this animal and it's habitat, and I petition you to allow this to proceed.

"Take" and destruction of habitat has been documented and continued for years as various groups and offices have tried to negotiate with the city of Pacifica to agree to, and or implement any protection measures at all. Something needs to be done or these birds will be gone from this habitat which has been under constant pressure.

These measures are but a fraction of what has been recommended by various offices, but are as much as could be hoped for. If these measures are approved and implemented, they will be an enormous first steps towards <u>any</u> protections this bird has in this recognized habitat.

As a member of the Pedro Point Surf Club, who's members I have heard the most outspoken resistance on fencing, I did a presentation at a regular club meeting. It turned out that all members present including all the board members heartily supported not only protections for the Western Snowy Plover and it's habitat, but the fencing as described in the application, and above. It turned out that disgruntlement for the fence was based on misunderstandings of where the fence would be, and what it was for.

Many surfers mistakenly believe that this fence is to "close off" the Northern part of the beach from any public access, including the water, and I continue to address this with the surfing community and as a result of this have had had a surprising amount of encouragement and greatful support from those who have had misconceptions cleared up.

A great deal of the current habitat problems arise from the fact that the Northern part of this beach where the habitat and roosting area is located, is not very "patrol" assessable. This results in nearly zero ranger, or police presence which in turn has resulted in this area of the beach being a favorite beach area for dog owners to allow their dogs to play (illegally) unleased on the beach to avoid citations. When volunteers or other dog owners (such as myself I have 3) try to educate other owners not to allow their dogs to chase the birds, or to give them space, the response is frequently "why aren't there signs or fences?", "where are the birds?", "getting chased does not hurt them, they fly away", etc...

They are right, there should be signs and fences. If we had them, they would support outreach, help educate the public and most importantly help protect this animal in this recognized and threatened habitat.

Please approve this application.

Thank you very much –

Dyer Crouch, Pacifica Resident

Th26a

From:

Susan Cossins <suecossins@earthlink.net>

Sent:

Thursday, January 23, 2014 11:01 AM

To:

Rexing, Stephanie@Coastal; Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Subject:

Snowy Plover Protections at Pacifica State Beach

California Coastal Commission

Attention: Stephanie Rexing, Ethan Lavine

Re: Application 2-13-1020, Pacifica Coastal Development Application Waiver

Submission

Dear Chairman Kinsey, Commissioners and staff,

As a member of Sequoia Audubon Society I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve the City of Pacifica permit application 2-13-1020. SAS has worked closely with the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance for several years to encourage the city of Pacifica to initiate protection for the USFWS listed Western Snowy Plovers which continue to winter at Pacifica State Beach. The application is for temporary winter symbolic fencing and will provide a small area free from disturbance on the flat beach. A permanent fence along the bike path will help protect the dunes and signage will help educate visitors about beach wildlife.

Last fall California Audubon granted funds to Sequoia Audubon to implement the symbolic fencing included in the application immediately once the Commission has given permission. The educational component of our grant has already involved about 120 school children who received classroom slideshows and visited Pacifica State Beach with Audubon volunteers. At least 50 more kids will visit the beach this spring, and, we hope, see the few remaining plovers.

In addition to the plovers, the seasonal symbolic fencing will protect wintering and migrating shorebirds such as Whimbrels and Sanderlings that are regular visitors. Roosting birds will be able to rest undisturbed near the foredunes while surfers and other human visitors can easily access the beach at the Crespi/Highway One intersection as well as from the two beach parking lots west of Highway One.

Sincerely,

Bob and Sue Cossins 459 Marin Drive Burlingame, CA 94010

From:

ron maykel <themaykelfamily@sbcglobal.net>

Sent:

Sunday, January 26, 2014 6:22 PM

To:

Rexing, Stephanie@Coastal

Cc:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Subject:

Fw: Linda Mar Beach Plover Protection App. 2-13-1020.

---- Forwarded Message -----

From: ron maykel <themaykelfamily@sbcglobal.net>

To: "StephanieRexing@coastal.ca.gov" < StephanieRexing@coastal.ca.gov >

Cc: "Ethan.Levine@coastal.ca.gov" < Ethan.Levine@coastal.ca.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 6:33 PM

Subject: Linda Mar Beach Plover Protection App. 2-13-1020.

To: California Coastal Commission.

Please approve Application #. 2-13-1020 for Linda Mar Beach, Pacifica, Ca.

Adequate protection for the imperiled Western Snowy Plover and their habitat on Linda Mar Beach is long overdue.

Periodic monitoring done by concerned residents indicate lower numbers of the wintering plovers. A sense of urgency with the approval process, for all the right reasons, would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks

Ron Maykel 896 Rockaway Beach Ave Pacifica, Ca 94044 Th 26a

JAN 27 2014

CALIFORNIA

CUNSTAL COMMISSION



Woodside, CA 94062 P.O. Box 620292

January 24, 2014

Ethan Lavine California Coastal Commission

Re: Application 2-13-1020, Pacifica Coastal Development Application Waiver Submission

Dear Mr. Lavine.

The Sequoia Audubon Society of San Mateo County urges the California Coastal Commission to approve the City of Pacifica permit application 2-13-1020. SAS has worked closely with the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance for several years to encourage the city of Pacifica to initiate protection for the USFWS listed Western Snowy Plovers which continue to winter at Pacifica State Beach. The application is for temporary winter symbolic fencing and will provide a small area free from disturbance on the flat beach. A permanent fence along the bike path will help protect the dunes and signage will help educate visitors about beach wildlife.

Last fall California Audubon granted funds to Sequoia Audubon to implement the symbolic fencing included in the application immediately once the Commission has given permission. The educational component of our grant has already involved about 120 school children who received classroom slideshows and visited Pacifica State Beach with Audubon volunteers. At least 50 more kids will visit the beach this spring, and, we hope, see the few remaining plovers.

In addition to the plovers, the seasonal symbolic fencing will protect wintering and migrating shorebirds such as Whimbrels and Sanderlings that are regular visitors. Roosting birds will be able to rest undisturbed near the foredunes while surfers and other human visitors can easily access the beach at the Crespi/Highway One intersection as well as from the two beach parking lots west of Highway One.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Sue Cossins Administrative Assistant for the Sequoia Audubon Society Board of Directors SAS-sue@earthlink.net

1626a

From:

Hal Bohner < hbohner@earthlink.net>

Sent:

Saturday, February 01, 2014 10:43 AM

To:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Cc:

Rexing, Stephanie@Coastal

Subject:

Application No. 2-13-1020 (City of Pacifica Habitat Protection Plan)

Re: Application No. 2-13-1020 (City of Pacifica Habitat Protection Plan) - Application of City of Pacifica to install signage and fencing at Pacifica State Beach as part of protection plan for western snowy plovers at intersection of Hwy 1 and Crespi Dr., Pacifica, San Mateo County

Hello, Mr. Lavine,

I am a resident of Pacifica and frequently use Pacifica State Beach where this project would take place. The application will be considered by the Coastal Commission as item 26. a. at its meeting February 13, 2014. I respectfully urge the Commission to approve the application.

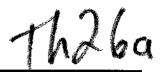
Many Pacifica residents and others have worked long and hard to persuade the Pacifica City Council to support and approve this project, and the City Council has done so. Your staff report provides an excellent analysis of the application and the reasons for approval.

Please include this email with the information you provide to the Commission members for their consideration of the application.

Thanks for recommending approval of the application.

Sincerely,

Hal Bohner



From:

Ann Edminster <ann@annedminster.com>

Sent:

Saturday, February 01, 2014 11:15 AM

To:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Subject:

Fwd: FW: Application No. 2-13-1020 (City of Pacifica Habitat Protection Plan)

Re: Application No. 2-13-1020 (City of Pacifica Habitat Protection Plan) - Application of City of Pacifica to install signage and fencing at Pacifica State Beach as part of protection plan for western snowy ployers at intersection of Hwy 1 and Crespi Dr., Pacifica, San Mateo County

Dear Mr. Lavine,

I live in Pacifica and frequently visit Pacifica State Beach, the site of the above-mentioned proposed project. The application will be considered by the Coastal Commission on February 13, 2014 (item 26a).

I urge the Commission to approve the application.

Many Pacificans and others have worked long and hard to persuade the Pacifica City Council to support and approve this project, and the City Council has done so. Your staff report provides an excellent analysis of the application and the reasons for approval.

Please include this email with the information you provide to the Commission members for their consideration of the application.

Many thanks for recommending approval of this application.

Sincerely,

Ann Edminster

Chair, Net Zero North American Leadership Summit, October 8-10, Irvine, CA

650-355-9150

author of Energy Free: Homes for a Small Planet

From:

cfarina@alumni.stanford.edu on behalf of Carole Farina <cfarina@stanfordalumni.org>

Th26a

Sent:

Sunday, February 02, 2014 2:23 PM

To:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal; Rexing, Stephanie@Coastal

Subject:

Temporary symbolic fencing permit

California Coastal Commission Attention: Stephanie Rexing, Ethan Lavine

Re: Application 2-13-1020, Pacifica Coastal Development Application Waiver Submission

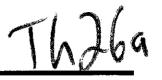
Dear Chairman Kinsey, Commissioners and staff,

As a member of the Sequoia Audubon Society I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve the City of Pacifica permit application 2-13-1020. SAS has worked closely with the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance for several years to encourage the city of Pacifica to initiate protection for the USFWS listed Western Snowy Plovers which continue to winter at Pacifica State Beach. The application is for temporary winter symbolic fencing and will provide a small area free from disturbance on the flat beach. A permanent fence along the bike path will help protect the dunes and signage will help educate visitors about beach wildlife.

Last fall California Audubon granted funds to Sequoia Audubon to implement the symbolic fencing included in the application immediately once the Commission has given permission. The educational component of our grant has already involved about 120 school children who received classroom slideshows and visited Pacifica State Beach with Audubon volunteers. At least 50 more kids will visit the beach this spring, and, we hope, see the few remaining plovers.

In addition to the plovers, the seasonal symbolic fencing will protect wintering and migrating shorebirds such as Whimbrels and Sanderlings that are regular visitors. Roosting birds will be able to rest undisturbed near the foredunes while surfers and other human visitors can easily access the beach at the Crespi/Highway One intersection as well as from the two beach parking lots west of Highway One.

Sincerely, Carole Farina Redwood City, CA



From:

dhrwc5514-gov@yahoo.com

Sent:

Sunday, February 02, 2014 10:05 AM

To:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Subject:

Protective Fencing for Nesting Western Snowy Plovers

Dear Mr. Lavine,

I have learned that approval is being sought from the California Coastal Commission for a permit to allow protective fencing to be installed at the Western Snowy Plover nesting sites at Pacific State Beach (Linda Mar Beach) in San Mateo County. The resources to install these fences are already available and protect this threatened species. Protection in this way should not unduly inconvenience other users of the beach. This type of protection has been used very successfully at other California beaches in past years and should perform similarly at Pacific State Beach.

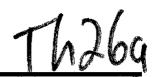
I respectfully request that the Commission approve this permit for the reasons given above.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Regards,

Davis Hershey 51 Hillview Avenue

Redwood City, CA 94062-2117



From:

AudreyRWC@aol.com

Sent:

Monday, February 03, 2014 12:52 PM

To:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Subject:

Application 2-13-1020, Pacifica Coastal Development Application Waiver Submission

Re: Application 2-13-1020, Pacifica Coastal Development Application Waiver Submission

Dear Mr Lavine,

As a member of the Sequoia Audubon Society I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve the City of Pacifica permit application 2-13-1020. SAS has worked closely with the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance for several years to encourage the city of Pacifica to initiate protection for the USFWS listed Western Snowy Plovers which continue to winter at Pacifica State Beach. The application is for temporary winter symbolic fencing and will provide a small area free from disturbance on the flat beach. A permanent fence along the bike path will help protect the dunes and signage will help educate visitors about beach wildlife.

Last fall California Audubon granted funds to Sequoia Audubon to implement the symbolic fencing included in the application immediately once the Commission has given permission. The educational component of our grant has already involved about 120 school children who received classroom slideshows and visited Pacifica State Beach with Audubon volunteers. At least 50 more kids will visit the beach this spring, and, we hope, see the few remaining plovers.

In addition to the plovers, the seasonal symbolic fencing will protect wintering and migrating shorebirds such as Whimbrels and Sanderlings that are regular visitors. Roosting birds will be able to rest undisturbed near the foredunes while surfers and other human visitors can easily access the beach at the Crespi/Highway One intersection as well as from the two beach parking lots west of Highway One.

Sincerely,

Audrey E. Hargis

Member

Sequoia Audubon Society.

Th 26a

From:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Sent:

Wednesday, February 05, 2014 12:52 PM

To:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Subject:

RE: Snowy Plovers

From: Sherry Kritzer [mailto:sekritzer@att.net]
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2013 1:05 PM

To: lenstonepacifica@gmail.com; sdigre3@gmail.com; kervinpacifica@gmail.com; ilikemike2012@yahoo.com

Cc: dancordova@FWS.gov; Keel, Paul@Parks; Carl, Dan@Coastal; lstenzel@prbo.org

Subject: Snowy Plovers

Dear Pacifica City Council,

As a supporter of wildlife and conservation, I urge the City of Pacifica to honor the Endangered Species Act and the International Migratory Bird Treaty, and immediately proceed to establish meaningful protections for the Snowy Plover at Pacifica State Beach.

The fact that Pacifica's wintering population of Snowy Plovers has declined by more than 60% over the past nine years is of concern. By refusing to act on recommendations from PRBO in 2009 and from USFWS in 2011 to delineate any safe area for roosting plovers by installing symbolic fencing, the City has allowed local threats to the survival of this species to continue daily.

Placing temporary, moveable fending west of the dunes is potentially the single most effective measure to reduce illegal harassment of the Snowy Plovers. I urge you to act to protect this bird species.

Thank you.

Sherry Kritzer PO Box 930 Moss Beach, CA 94038

Th26a

From:

Terry <tap767@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, February 07, 2014 8:24 AM

To:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Subject:

Application 2-13-1020, Pacifica Coastal Development Application Waiver Submission

California Coastal Commission

Attention: Stephanie Rexing, Ethan Lavine

Re: Application 2-13-1020, Pacifica Coastal Development Application Waiver Submission

Dear Chairman Kinsey, Commissioners and staff,

As a member of the Sequoia Audubon Society I urge the California Coastal Commission to approve the City of Pacifica permit application 2-13-1020. SAS has worked closely with the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance for several years to encourage the city of Pacifica to initiate protection for the USFWS listed Western Snowy Plovers which continue to winter at Pacifica State Beach. The application is for temporary winter symbolic fencing and will provide a small area free from disturbance on the flat beach. A permanent fence along the bike path will help protect the dunes and signage will help educate visitors about beach wildlife.

Last fall California Audubon granted funds to Sequoia Audubon to implement the symbolic fencing included in the application immediately once the Commission has given permission. The educational component of our grant has already involved about 120 school children who received classroom slideshows and visited Pacifica State Beach with Audubon volunteers. At least 50 more kids will visit the beach this spring, and, we hope, see the few remaining plovers.

In addition to the plovers, the seasonal symbolic fencing will protect wintering and migrating shorebirds such as Whimbrels and Sanderlings that are regular visitors. Roosting birds will be able to rest undisturbed near the foredunes while surfers and other human visitors can easily access the beach at the Crespi/Highway One intersection as well as from the two beach parking lots west of Highway One.

Sincerely,

Terry Piccolotti

Audubon CALIFORNIA

Th 26a

220 Montgomery Street, Suite 1000 San Francisco, California 94104 www.ca.audubon.org

February 7, 2014

California Coastal Commission 45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000 San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Application 2-13-1020, concerning Pacifica State Beach

Dear Commission Chair Kinsey, Commissioners and staff:

We are writing to urge the California Coastal Commission to approve the City of Pacifica permit application 2-13-1020. Sequoia Audubon Society, a volunteer chapter of the National Audubon Society located in San Mateo County, has worked closely with the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance for several years to encourage the City of Pacifica to initiate protection for the federally-threatened Western Snowy Plovers which continue to winter at Pacifica State Beach. The application is for temporary winter symbolic fencing and will provide a small area free from disturbance on the flat beach. A permanent fence along the bike path will help protect the dunes and signage will help educate visitors about beach wildlife.

In the fall of 2013, California Audubon granted funds to Sequoia Audubon to implement the symbolic fencing and signage included in the application immediately once the Commission has given permission. The educational component of the grant has already involved about 140 school children who receive classroom slideshows and visited Pacifica State Beach with Audubon volunteers. At least 50 more kids will visit the beach this spring, and, we hope, see the few remaining plovers.

Pacifica State Beach is identified as CA48 in the USFWS Recovery Plan for the Pacific Coast Population of the Western Snowy Plover. About 10 years ago the city provided and volunteers erected signs alerting the public to the presence of the plovers, but these signs were soon vandalized and were never replaced. Volunteers with Sequoia Audubon and the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance continue to monitor the remaining wintering plover population, which, without any protection, has declined steeply over this same time period: from approximately 35 birds in 2005 to 7 in the past winter. Despite its small size, this local population can still contribute to the recovery of this threatened species if we can limit disturbance and keep the birds healthy.

In addition to the plovers, the seasonal symbolic fencing will protect wintering and migrating shorebirds such as Whimbrels and Sanderlings that are regular visitors. Roosting birds will be able to rest undisturbed near the foredunes while surfers and other human visitors can easily access the beach at the Crespi/Highway One intersection as well as from the two beach parking lots west of Highway One.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Andrea Jones
Director of Coastal Programs
ajones@audubon.org
805-772-1995



Scenic Pacifica Incorporated Nov. 22, 1987

CITY OF PACIFICA

170 Santa Maria Avenue • Pacifica, California 94044-2506 www.cityofpacifica.org MAYOR Marv Ann Nihart

MAYOR PROTEM Karen Ervin

COUNCIL

Sue Digre Mike O'Neill Len Stone

RECEIVED

Th26a

FEB 07 2014

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

February 7, 2014

Subject: Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Application Number 2-13-1020 – Signage and Fencing Installation for Snowy Plovers at Pacifica State Beach

Dear Commissioners,

The above-referenced permit is on your meeting agenda for February 13, 2014 with a staff recommendation of "Approval with Conditions." The City of Pacifica has been working on establishing a protection program for the Western Snowy Plovers at Pacifica State Beach and the proposed project is part of that plan. We would like to express our support for the staff recommendation as well as our agreement with the special conditions as outlined in the report.

We also appreciate the cooperation and assistance provided by your staff members Ethan Lavine and Stephanie Rexing.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Michael J. Perez 🗸

Director of Parks, Beaches and Recreation

City of Pacifica

650-738-7381, perezm@ci.pacifica.ca.us

Th26a

From:

susanrow.pers@thisaddress.info

Sent:

Sunday, February 09, 2014 9:14 PM

To:

Lavine, Ethan@Coastal

Subject:

Support for Pacifica Permit Application 2-13-1020

February 10, 2014

To: Stephanie Rexing, Ethan Lavine, California Coastal Commission

From: Susan Rowinski, San Mateo CA

Re: Application 2-13-1020, Pacifica Coastal Development Application Waiver Submission

The purpose of my letter is to encourage the California Coastal Commission to approve the City of Pacifica permit application 2-13-1020.

The application is for temporary winter symbolic fencing and will provide a small area free from disturbance for the USFWS listed Western Snowy Plover. A permanent fence along the bike path will help protect the dunes and signage will help educate visitors and school children about the wintering Plovers at Pacifica SP.

It is my understanding Sequoia Audubon recently received funds from California Audubon for implement the symbolic fencing. The final step is for the Coastal Commission to approve the application. I encourage the Coastal Commission to approve the application.