

We know that Oregon's 362 miles of shoreline and beaches are a magnet for happy dogs and their people. Dogs are welcome at (almost) all times and places on Oregon's beaches. But please keep in mind that all dogs, even well-behaved ones, can be a threat to birds and wildlife. Some beaches are part of protected nesting grounds of the western snowy plover. During its spring and summer nesting season (March 15-Sept. 15), certain recreation activities may be restricted or prohibited.

The Bird

The western snowy plover is a tiny shorebird that lives and breeds along some west coast beaches from Washington to southern California. It is a threatened species under the federal government's Endangered Species Act (ESA). Plovers nest in dry open sand, in tiny, shallow scrapes that are very well camouflaged. Not only are nests easy to miss (or step on), but the bird will abandon its eggs if repeatedly disturbed by activities it considers a threat—activities we may see as harmless, like walking a dog, throwing a ball and flying a kite.

For more info, go to bit.ly/wsplover



The Law

Oregon State Parks is legally responsible for managing recreation on Oregon's ocean shore. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) oversees the ESA and thus the status of the western snowy plover.

What is a management area?

Management areas are stretches of beach that are either known to be occupied by breeding plovers, or places where their presence is significant and the habitat attractive. Not all management areas have recreation restrictions.

What does this mean for beachgoers?

It means that visitors need to watch for special signs or fences during nesting season and follow the rules. Generally, where plovers are nesting, dogs, vehicles, bicycles, camping and fires are prohibited. Pedestrians and equestrians need to stay on wet sand. Potential nesting areas may call for dogs to be leashed and driving to be curtailed.

Beach Behavior We Love

- Walk around birds instead of through their flocks.
- Leash your dogs before they chase birds.
- Respect restricted areas set aside for endangered or nesting species.
- Stay away from birds and marine mammals that look sick or unable to get away from humans.
- Always clean up after your dog.
- Always keep your dog on a leash or under voice control.



Watch for restrictions during nesting season March 15- Sept. 15

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer St. NE, Suite C
Salem OR 97301



All information or fees subject to change without notice. This brochure is available in alternative formats upon request. Call 1-800-551-6949. Oregon Relay for the hearing impaired: dial 711.



Western Snowy Plover North Coast Beaches

Places to Play with your Dog





Western Snowy Plover Management Areas

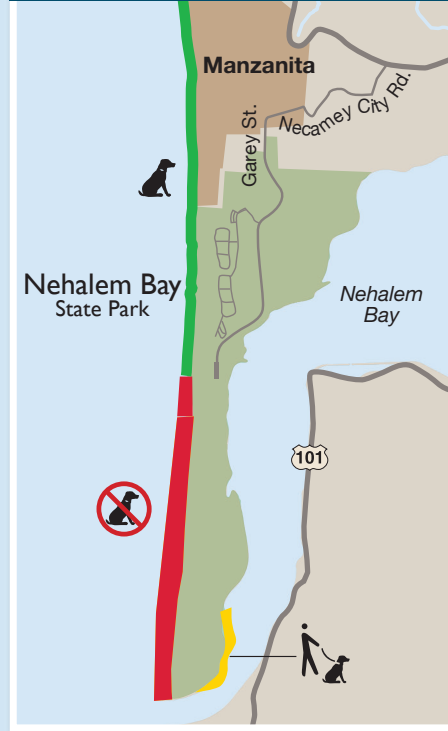
Watch for Seasonal Restrictions

During nesting season, March 15 - Sept. 15

1. Clatsop Spit



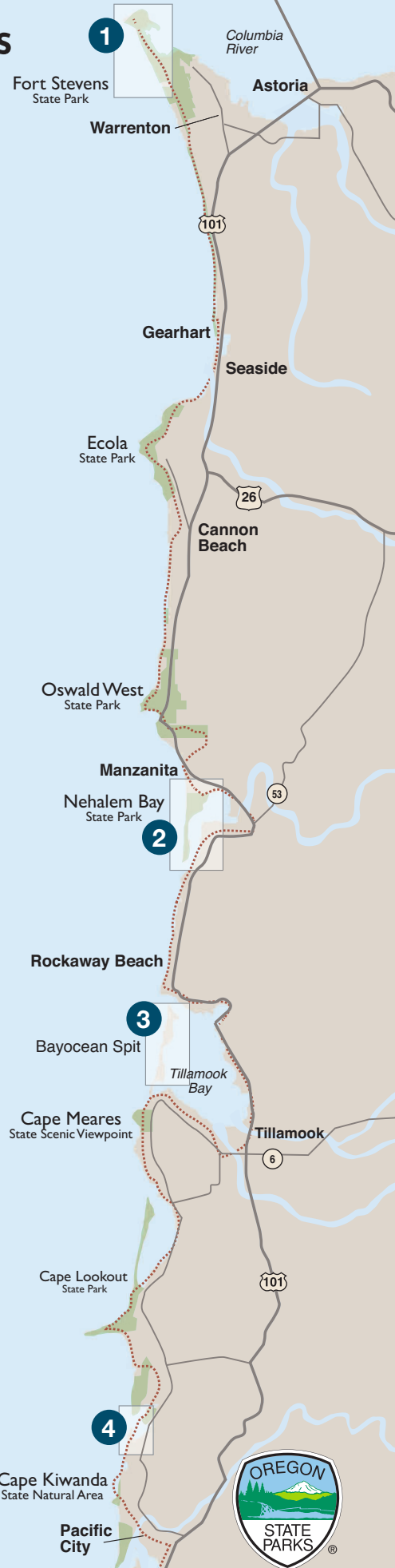
2. Nehalem Spit



3. Bayocean Spit



4. South Sandlake



Oregon State Parks – leashes required

Oregon Coast Trail
 Road

NOTE: Restricted areas not to scale. Some restrictions may be lifted early; watch for signs.

Plover management area (March 15 - Sept. 15)



Leashes required



Leash optional, with voice control



No dogs, kites, bikes, vehicles, camping or fires. Pedestrians, equestrians: stay on wet sand.

