

Sharing the Beach with SNOWY PLOVERS

Tips for Beach Drivers

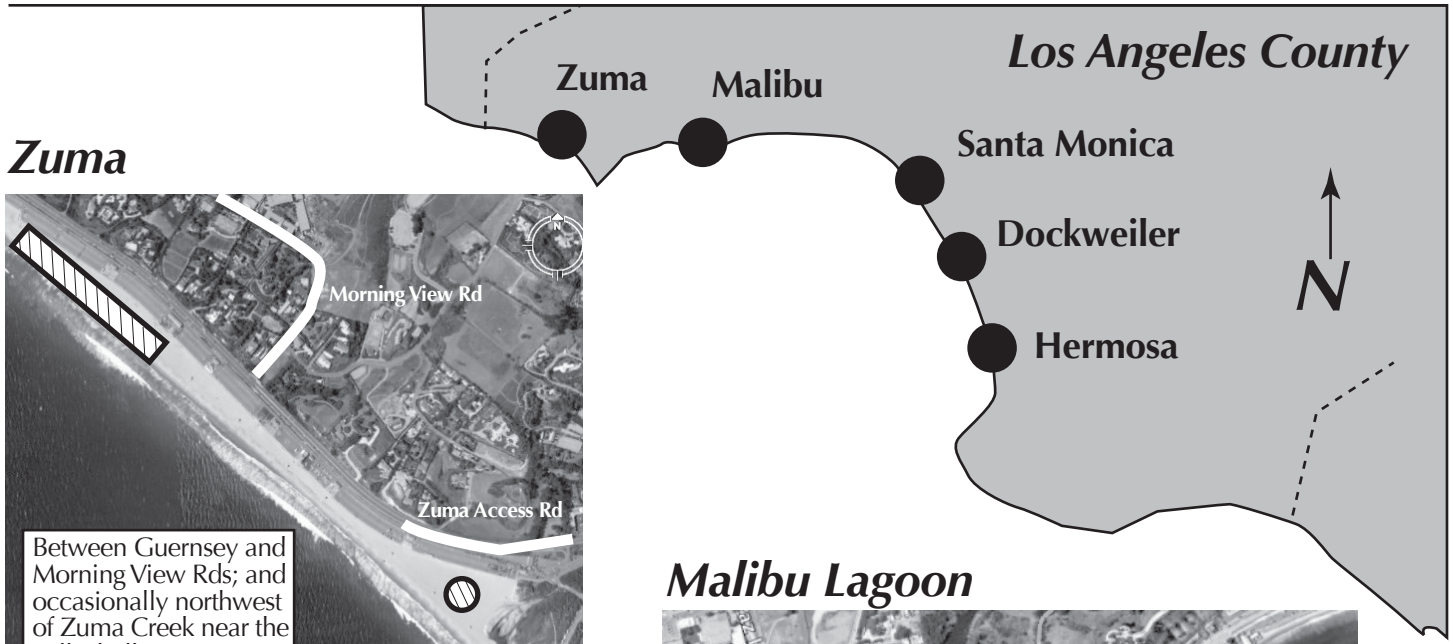
Western Snowy Plovers are a Federally Threatened species of shorebird that live on Los Angeles County Beaches almost year-round. They are most abundant in the fall and winter months, and there are several roosting areas where they are most likely to be found (*see maps on reverse side*). The 2016 USFWS letter to beach managers in Los Angeles County recommends that (1) Special Protection Zones be established on roost beaches (within 500ft of central roost locations); and (2) that vehicles should avoid operating within Special Protection Zones, with the exception of activities such as essential patrols, trash pick-up and other activities agreed to by wildlife agencies as being essential.

For situations where vehicles will be moving through Special Protection Zones, the following guidelines will help reduce the chance of disturbing or striking a Snowy Plover:

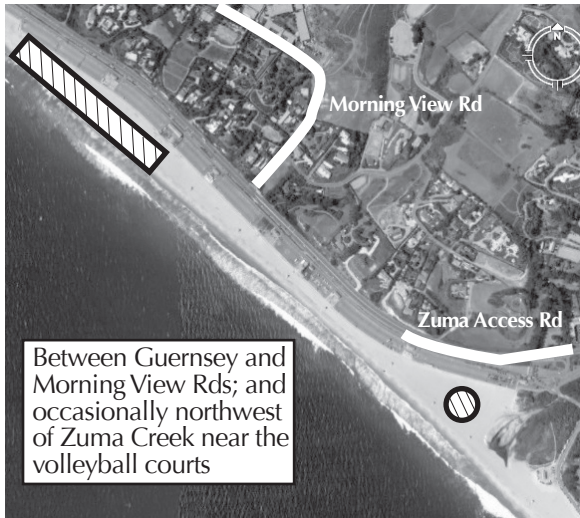
- Maintain a speed of no more than 10 mph. Plovers are sometimes slow to move, and lower speeds reduce the risk of a strike.
- Minimize vehicle use at night or in low-light conditions near known plover roosts.
- When driving in the tracks of other vehicles, watch for plovers. These birds often roost within tire tracks and foot prints.
- If possible, avoid driving near the wrackline because this is where plovers tend to spend much of their time.
- If Snowy Plovers are encountered, the driver should back up at least 50 feet and/or alter their route to avoid flushing plovers.



Snowy Plover Roosting Areas

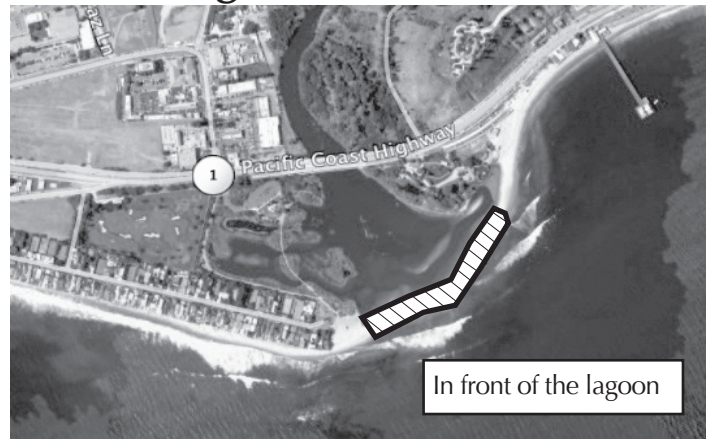


Zuma



Between Guernsey and Morning View Rds; and occasionally northwest of Zuma Creek near the volleyball courts

Malibu Lagoon



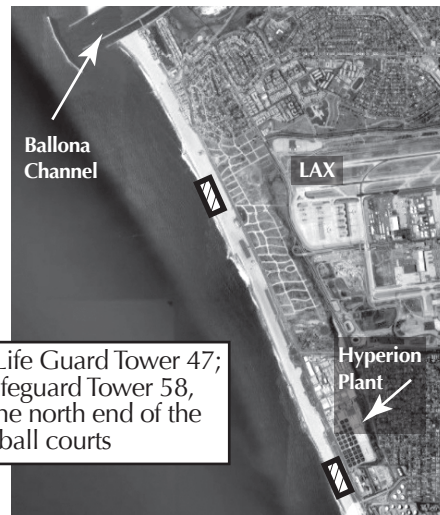
In front of the lagoon

Santa Monica



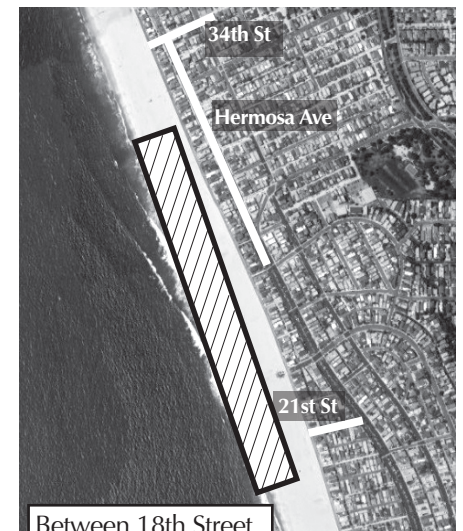
A drift fence enclosure is frequently up in this area.

Dockweiler



Near Life Guard Tower 47; and Lifeguard Tower 58, near the north end of the volleyball courts

Hermosa



Between 18th Street and 34th Street, often widely dispersed