

# Why do Plovers need protection?

## **They lay their eggs on the sand.**

We need to fence the areas where they nest so we don't accidentally crush their eggs.

## **They are part of a healthy beach ecosystem.**

They eat those pesky sand fleas and fly larvae.

A diverse community of native plants and animals keeps our beaches clean and safe.

Thriving sensitive species indicate a healthy coastline!

## **Being a plover is tough!**

Surviving beach life is tough, from human development to natural predators and climate change risks.

The more we minimize risks to plovers, the better they can cope with more natural threats in their environment.

## **It's the law!**

The Endangered Species Act requires us to mitigate harm to species listed as threatened or endangered.

# How can I help?



## Respect their space.

Enjoy birds from 50 yards away.

Don't chase birds--they need to save their energy!

If birds seem agitated you are too close for their comfort.



## Keep them safe.

Keep dogs on leash and away from fenced areas.

Keep cats safely indoors.

Remove waste to keep predators away.



# How do beach-nesting birds survive?



## **Camouflage.**

Incubating adults, eggs, and chicks blend in with the sand, pebbles, shells, and seaweed



## **Evasive behaviors.**

Parents pretend to be injured to lure potential predators away from eggs and chicks.

Parents are good at sneaking off the nest, so as not to reveal its location.



## **Co-parenting.**

Both male and female take turns incubating/shading eggs and feeding chicks.









