



Shorebirds and seabirds have declined 70% in the last 40 years due to:

Habitat
Loss

Human/dog
Disturbance

Climate
Change

Regulations may differ depending on the time of year because shorebirds use the beach for both nesting and migration



March-August
Shorebirds nest directly on the beach above the hightide line and below the grass

September - February
Migratory and wintering shorebirds arrive on the beach to feed and rest at water's edge

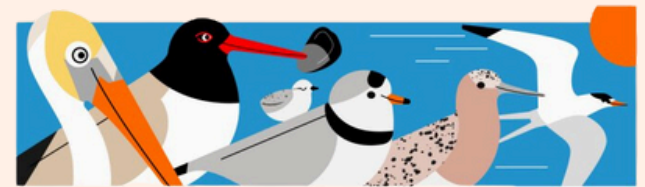
For a full list of South Carolina beach pet regulations visit:

sc.audubon.org/conservation/comprehensive-guide-south-carolina-beaches-dog-owners



Thank you for sharing the shore!

The simple action of leashing your dog can save the life of a threatened shorebird.



Share the Shore 

BE A WILDLIFE FRIENDLY PET OWNER



 Audubon | SOUTH CAROLINA

sc.audubon.org/conservation/coasts

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- ◆ Follow all posted pet rules
Pet restrictions differ from beach to beach. Some beaches dogs are not allowed. Some they are allowed if on leash.
- ◆ Keep out of closed areas
- ◆ Walk around flocks of birds
- ◆ Pick up and dispose of pet waste
Spread the word about being a wildlife friendly dog owner on the beach



Karen Parker

HOW DOGS IMPACT SHOREBIRDS:

Shorebirds and seabirds view dogs as predators. As friendly as your pup may be, the mere sight of your four-legged friend can cause birds to flee their nests, putting eggs and hatchlings at risk of perishing from heat or predation within minutes. A dog's natural instinct to hunt and chase often directly results in the fatality of shorebirds.



Wilson's Plover courtesy of Florida's Forgotten Coast

Dogs also increase bird fatalities during spring and fall migration. Because birds view humans and dogs as predators, they waste precious energy flying to escape when you approach, which means they spend less time eating and resting up for their multi-thousand-mile migration.



Red Knots by Walker Golder

photo by Lindsay Addison



Other reasons to leash your pet on the beach

- ◆ Protection from coyotes and other dogs
- ◆ Protection for other beach goers, especially small children
- ◆ Protection from emergency beach vehicles