

# REDWOOD REGION AUDUBON SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1054, EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95502



March 18, 2010

Lieutenant Steve Knight  
Humboldt County Sheriff's Office  
826 Fourth Street  
Eureka CA 95501

Dear Lt Knight:

On behalf of Redwood Region Audubon Society, the local chapter of National Audubon Society with over 700 members, I am writing in favor of continuing the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Grant to support law enforcement on the beaches of Humboldt County.

Of particular interest to us is the Western Snowy Plover that nest on Clam Beach and the South Spit. Having a law enforcement presence to enforce rules regarding vehicles and unleashed dogs – as well as camping, dumping, and fires on the beach – is essential to the well-being of these threatened birds.

Public safety is another extremely important issue. Many individuals who were put at risk by reckless drivers relayed this information to the Humboldt Country Board of Supervisors during its consideration of a new management plan for Clam and Moonstone Beaches.

In response, in July 2006, the Humboldt Country Board of Supervisors voted to ban driving on Clam Beach between March 1 and September 30, except for certain groups obtaining permits. However, nearly 4 years have passed, and no permit system has been put into place, no cardlock or other type of controlled entry system has been installed, and no implementing changes have been made to County ordinances and posted as new signage. This makes continued patrol by the Sheriff's Office critical to protect people and natural resources.

Continuation of a beach and dunes deputy funded by the OHV grant is extremely important for Humboldt County beaches. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Leskiw".

Sue Leskiw  
5440 Cummings Rd  
Eureka CA 95503