

## Heritage Ranking Form - State Rank

**Scientific Name:** Charadrius nivosus nivosus  
**Common Name:** Western Snowy Plover  
**Classification:** Vertebrate Animal

**Heritage Rank:** S2

Comments: Significant threats, low population numbers. Remaining individuals dependent on management of habitat, predation and recreation. In portions of the range without intensive management, populations are declining.

**Range Extent:** D = 1,000-5,000 sq km (~400-2,000 sq mi)

Comments: Less than 2,000 sq km.

**Population Size:** C = 250 - 1,000 individuals

Comments: Approximately 300 adults in OR

**Number of Occurrences:** B = 6 - 20

Comments: 10 sites, though as the population grows, some of these could be considered one large site.

**Area of Occupancy:** D = 6-25 4-km<sup>2</sup> grid cells

Comments: Occurs at traditional nesting beaches on Oregon coast between Florence and New River. Occasionally birds will pioneer new sites, but so far these have not been reliably occupied.

**Good Viability:** B = Very few (1-3) occurrences with excellent or good viability or ecological integrity

Comments: 3 sites with good viability. All sites dependent on intense management.

**Environmental Sensitivity:** Not Evaluated

Comments: None

**Short Term Trends:** I = Increase of >25%

Comments: with intensive management

**Long Term Trends:** DE = Decline of 30 - 70%

Comments: None

**Threat Impact:** B = High

Comments: Threatened by habitat loss, invasive species (European Beachgrass), predation (corvids), and human disturbance.

**Intrinsic Vulnerability:** Not Evaluated

Comments: None

Rank Notes: None

References: Lauten, D.J., K.A. Castelein, J.D. Farrar, A.A. Kotaich, and E.P. Gaines. 2012. The Distribution and Reproductive Success of the Western Snowy Plover Along the Oregon Coast – 2012. Unpublished report for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife – Nongame Program, Portland, the Coos Bay District Bureau of Land Management, Coos Bay, and the Dunes Recreational Area, Reedsport. | D. B. Marshall, M. G. Hunter, and A. L. Contreras (editors), Birds of Oregon: A General Reference. Oregon State University Press, Corvallis. | Lauten, D. J., K. A. Castelein, D. J. Farrar, A. A. Kotaich, and E. P. Gaines. 2015. The Distribution and Reproductive Success of the Western Snowy Plover along the Oregon Coast - 2015, INR Report, Portland, Oregon, Oregon Biodiversity Information Center, Institute for Natural Resources, pp. 60, 12/2015. | Gaines, E. P. pers. comm. |

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