
NORTH SAND MANAGEMENT AREA ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Cooperative Least Tern and Piping Plover Threatened and Endangered Species Management Plan at the LPPD Headworks Sand Management Zone

1) Improve nesting habitat (AHZ): Within the Loup Public Power District Headworks Sand Management Zone, Preferred Rocks of Genoa shall create an area that is conducive to nesting of piping plovers and least terns (AHZ). This may include the following actions:

- Clearing areas within the adaptive habitat zone of vegetation
- Creating watering hole(s) for potential foraging
- Limit or eliminate vehicle traffic in the designated areas.

2) Monitor tern and plover nesting: Monitoring tern and plover nesting in the sand management zone and determining the effects of the above measures are crucial to the success of the Plan and its ability to promote least tern and piping plover conservation. Therefore, twice-weekly field visits by a biologist will be made during the nesting season (April 1 to August 31 **or as bird activity dictates**) to document nesting, nest fate and nest productivity. These visits will be coordinated with both LPPD and Preferred Rocks of Genoa. On the designated meeting day LPPD, Preferred Rocks of Genoa, and the Biologist will discuss:

- Locations of nests/colonies
- Upcoming activities on the sand pile
- Possible changes/improvements to the AMP.(requires authorization from all parties involved in the MOU)

3) Discourage nesting in active areas of the SMZ: Preferred Rocks of Genoa will attempt to discourage nesting in areas that may be impacted by its sand management activities during the nesting season. Possible ways to deter the birds from these areas may include:

- Allowing vegetation and promoting the growth of vegetation in certain areas
- Windrowing the pile in areas that will be impacted by sand management activities during the nesting season.
- Keeping activity high in the sand management zone

4) Protection of nests and colonies outside the AHZ: In the case of a nest which is outside of the AHZ which may be impacted by the Preferred Rocks of Genoa operations, Preferred Rocks of Genoa will ensure the nest is appropriately marked and berm/silt fence the area to protect it from the operations. If the nest could be impacted by LPPD dredge discharge, LPPD will implement the same nest protection procedures (berming, redirecting flow, etc) used in previous years.