

Good conservation practices for the **Kentish Plover** on the Canary Island coastline



The **Kentish plover** (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) is a widely distributed shorebird that has been particularly hard hit by recent swingeing changes to the coastline.

In the Canary Islands in particular its range has shrunk by about 42% in the last decade, **disappearing as a breeder in Tenerife and tottering on the verge of extinction in Gran Canaria**. Some, however, are still hanging on in Fuerteventura and Lobos, as well as Lanzarote and La Graciosa.

Threats



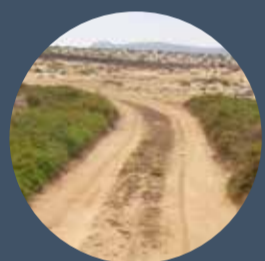
Habitat degradation, destruction or fragmentation.



Certain sporting activities (kitesurfing, quadbikes, motocross, cross-country running, etc).



Illicit camping.



People and vehicles straying off the tracks and trampling nests.



Invasive species and uncontrolled pets disturbing or preying on the birds, their chicks and eggs (unleashed dogs, feral cats and rats).



Mechanical beach cleaning, removing all the organic material deposited by the tide.



Public use of beaches during the breeding season.

How you can help out

1

When cleaning the beach take away only solid urban waste without removing tidal deposits of seaweed.



4

Avoid disturbance to birds that are feeding or resting.



2

Keep off the dune systems.



5

Keep to marked paths.



3

Obey signs and instructions; stay out of restricted areas.



6

Keep dogs on a leash and under control at all times.



7

Report any nests or chicks that are in danger by calling 112 or 062 (SEPRONA).

