Establishment of Interim Final Supplementary Rules Within the South Spit Cooperative Management Area, Managed by the Arcata Field Office, California

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Establishment of Interim Final Supplementary Rules with request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Arcata Field Office, California, is issuing interim final supplementary rules for the South Spit Cooperative Management Area (CMA) and requesting public comment. The rules will be effective upon publication and remain in effect until the publication of final supplementary rules. The BLM has determined these interim final supplementary rules are necessary to enhance the safety of visitors, protect natural resources, and protect public health.

These rules do not propose or implement any land use limitations or restrictions other than those included within the BLM's decision records for the South Spit CMA Management Plan and associated environmental assessments, or allowed under existing law or regulation.

DATES: The interim final supplementary rules are effective May 29,
2009. We invite comments until July 28, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Submit all comments concerning the interim final supplementary rules to the Bureau of Land Management, Arcata Field Office, 1695 Heindon Road, Arcata, CA 95521; or you may access the Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Wick, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, Arcata Field Office, 1695 Heindon Road, Arcata, CA 95521, 707-825-2321. e-mail: rwick@ca.blm.gov.

The text below is excerpted from the subsection titled: Supplementary Rules for the South Spit Cooperative Management Area

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hunting season (October-January). When not being directly used for loading and unloading, vehicles must be moved from the access corridors and parked at pulloffs along South Jetty Road. These access corridors are closed to vehicles the remainder of the year.

f. Portions of the waveslope within marked temporary plover protection areas may be closed to all vehicles if it is determined that plovers will be impacted by this use. These areas will be marked with signing visible from the waveslope indicating that they are closed to vehicles.

g. One or more of the vehicle access corridors running west from the South Jetty Road to the beach may be temporarily closed if the adjoining beach is occupied by plovers.

4. Dogs must be leashed on the west side of South Jetty Road March 1-September 15, and must be under the owner's control at all times.

5. Public use within the Habitat Restoration Area is not allowed March 1-September 15. For temporary plover protection areas, public use is not allowed as long as the protection area and associated signing remains in place.

6. Use of kites, model airplanes, and campfires are not allowed within 300 feet of temporary or permanent plover protection areas.

7. Lands west of South Jetty Road are open to equestrian use; all other lands are closed to such use.

8. Firewood cutting or collecting is allowed by permit only September 16-February 28 (February 29 in a leap year). Casual, personal use of a reasonable amount of wood as described in 43 CFR 8365.1-5 (b)5 is allowed year-round. A reasonable amount of wood material would be the amount of wood that could fit into a personal backpack or that could be carried by hand in a five-gallon bucket or similar container.