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From: [Derb Carter](#)
To: [Mike Murray@nps.gov](mailto:Mike_Murray@nps.gov); 'Taylor, Lora (USANCE)'
Cc: ['GOLDER, Walker'](#); [JRylander](#); [MADDOCK, Sidney](#); [Chris Canfield](#); [Destry Jarvis](#); [Julie Youngman](#); [Geoff Gisler](#)
Subject: disturbance of birds at the Point
Date: 01/27/2009 10:24 AM

I spent most of Sunday (January 25) at Cape Point with some friends observing gulls (and a harbor seal). There were very few vehicles on the beach. We did not observe anyone fishing. In the early afternoon a dark green pickup with various pro-ORV, anti-plover stickers entered the Point area from the north. The truck had a single male driver and a large brown dog loose in the bed of the truck. The truck twice very slowly drove the entire perimeter of the closure with the dog barking and flushing the gulls within the closure. We did not observe the truck to enter the closure at any time, although at no time was the truck more than 10 feet from the rope. After slowly driving the entire perimeter of the closure twice, the truck exited the Point area and we did not see it for the remainder of the day. We could see no other purpose in this behavior other than to harass and disturb the birds within the closure. I bring this to your attention for two reasons. First, to alert you to what appears to be intentional harrassment of wildlife on the Seashore. Second, this type of behavior must be considered in evaluating the adequacy of prenesting closures, passthroughs and buffers to prevent disturbance of birds.

Derb Carter
SELC