



## Help Protect Homer's Sandhill Cranes

**Loose dogs** in the Homer area are a serious threat to Sandhill Cranes, especially nesting cranes and colts. Loose dogs and cranes do not mix.

Dogs that chase cranes can:

- Kill adults and colts
- Raise stress and prevent adult pairs from mating
- Cause cranes to be injured
- Chase cranes away from their nesting areas causing them to abandon their territory
- Attract other predators to their nesting area due to commotion of being harassed
- Steal and destroy the eggs.

Additionally, dogs can be injured by cranes. Cranes have long, sharp beaks which they use to defend themselves and their young. Keep your dogs under control to avoid such injuries.

### **What you can do if you find dogs chasing cranes?**

*If the dog owner is with the pet, kindly ask the dog owner to put their dog on a leash to avoid causing injury or death to the cranes. If the dog owner is not with the pet, but you know the dog owner, call them or leave them a note asking them to keep their dog under control to avoid affecting wildlife and to prevent injury to their dog as well.*

*If the dog owner does not comply then your next steps involve law enforcement, and which law enforcement agency should be contacted depends on where the incident is occurring.*

#### ***Within Homer City Limits***

Contact Homer Animal Control at 907-235-3141 or the Homer Police Department at 235-3151.

#### ***Outside Homer City Limits***

Contact the Alaska State Wildlife Troopers at 907-235-3009

**For more information on our Sandhill Cranes visit Kachemak Crane Watch at [www.cranewatch.org](http://www.cranewatch.org) or call 907-235-6262.**