

CHAPTER 1

AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING THAT ALL DOGS ENTERING THE RECLAMATION AREA OF THE LAS GALLINAS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT BE LEASHED

ARTICLE I. FINDINGS.

Section 101. The Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District (“District”) is the owner of certain property commonly referred to as the “Reclamation Area” (Assessor's Parcel Nos. 155-010-65, 155-010-66 and 155-010-67), which said area is open to the public for approved recreational uses, including, but not limited to, hiking and bird watching.

Section 102. The Reclamation Area has become inhabited by wildlife and contains ponds and marshes utilized by a wide variety of birds for wintering, nesting and feeding.

Section 103. [Excluded].

Section 104. Complaints have been lodged with the District concerning owners who have allowed their dogs to leave the roads and trails, disturbing the bird population, trampling nests and chasing wildlife within the area, a fact which has been corroborated by District staff. Additionally, when such behavior has been brought to the attention of the owners of such dogs by members of the public utilizing the Reclamation Area in the approved manner, some of such owners become hostile and, in some cases, threatening to those members of the public.

Section 105. In view of complaints lodged with this District and to protect the hikers, wildlife, birds and members of the public utilizing the Reclamation Area of the District, it is the intent of this Board to require that all dogs entering such area be kept under the restraint and control of their owners.

ARTICLE II. RESTRAINT OF DOGS. From and after the effective date of this Ordinance, the owner, harborer or keeper of each and every dog entering the Reclamation Area of the District shall keep such dog under physical restraint by means of a leash not to exceed eight (8) feet in length and shall not permit or allow such dog to leave the roads or trails within said area.

ARTICLE III. PENALTY FOR VIOLATION. Section 6523 of the Health and Safety Code of the State of California provides that the violation of a regulation or ordinance of the District is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed 30 days, or by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both.