



Diversity Flocks to the Wrack

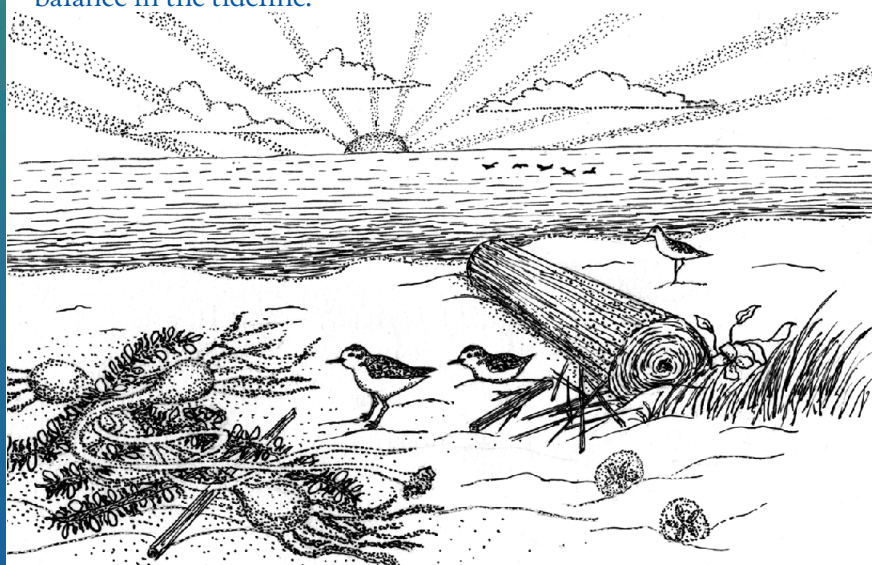
Research has found that piles of beach wrack support much higher densities of life than barren sandy beach habitat. Dead remains of animals, often present in the wrack, also provide food for migratory birds, gulls, ravens, raccoons, coyotes, and foxes.

Driftwood Serves Its Purpose

Driftwood also plays an important role along beaches and in bays and lagoons. Birds like cormorants and herons rest on driftwood between foraging sessions. Fish like Pacific herring attach their eggs to floating driftwood. In San Francisco Bay, rafts of driftwood can provide protective cover for young fish, such as chinook salmon. On sandy beaches, driftwood in the dunes offers shelter for pioneering plants to take root and survive, and for birds seeking protection from the wind.

Nature in Balance

Though it may seem unsightly and smelly to us, many creatures rely on these natural beach deposits. Consequently, we leave beach wrack and driftwood in place and do not upset nature's balance in the tideline.



Please do not collect driftwood, shells, or seaweed from our Park and Sanctuary beaches. Removal of any natural resources is prohibited and negatively affects the life dependent upon them.

For More Information Contact:

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