**Houston Audubon | Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary**

**Phone Script**

*This is a script the community can use when calling their local elected officials about the negative impacts of the Sanderling housing development on the Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary.*

* Hello, My name is [Name], and I’m calling today on behalf of Houston Audubon to share my concerns about a housing development, the Sanderling, near the Bolivar Flats Shorebird Sanctuary in Port Bolivar.
* The Sanderling plans include impacts to 52-acres of land including wetlands near the sanctuary, which is a globally important bird area and is critical habitat for the federally-protected Black Rail, Piping Plover, Red Knot, and many other species.
* This housing development will:
  + Alter the natural hydrological cycles of the area
  + Contaminate the water with harmful chemicals and stormwater runoff
  + Harm wildlife with increased development, artificial lighting, traffic and noise
  + Deter birds from wintering, migrating, and breeding
* I encourage [Commissioner Name] to learn more about the harmful impacts coastal developments can have on birds and other wildlife. I also would like to request a more thorough review of coastal development applications in the future.
* You can visit [houstonaudubon.org/sanctuaries/bolivar-flats](http://houstonaudubon.org/sanctuaries/bolivar-flats) to learn more about this campaign and the action being taken to educate the community about the sanctuary and the threatening impacts of this housing development.
* Thank you for your time and consideration.