

Point Reyes National Seashore  
Tomales Point Area Plan  
Pre-NEPA Civic Engagement Correspondence  
June 2023

**Correspondence ID:1**

Correspondence: I believe we should prohibit more farming in that area

**Correspondence ID:2**

Correspondence: There are so many reasons why the Point Reyes National Seashore NPS has mishandled the Tule elk issue and this park that I don't know where to begin. But I'll try.

I appalled that you are planning to go ahead with allowing the ranchers to expand their operations and to kill Tule elk in the once pristine Point Reyes National Seashore. This is such a bad idea for so many reasons.

In recent years, we have had some of the worst wildfires in California's history. After a dry winter this year, we are in for yet more wildfires this summer, and I truly dread it. Scientists the world over have confirmed that animal agriculture is the leading cause of climate change. At Point Reyes National Seashore, the difference between the cattle grazing lands and the lands where the Tule elk and other wildlife live cannot be more striking. By mid-summer will will easily see that the scorched and barren lands where the cattle graze will be another wildfire in the making. Yet the lands where the Tule elk and other wildlife live are far healthier, in spite of the lack of water that has caused the deaths of far too many Tule elk.

In 1962, each ranching family was paid \$57 million (the equivalent of \$340 million today) and given very generous benefits such as not having to pay property taxes, paying very low rent for their homes in the park, and having our Federal tax dollars pay for the maintenance of these ranches. These ranching families now own other ranches outside the park. This is a disgraceful waste of our tax dollars. These ranchers were supposed to have left in the 1980s, yet they remain. You know this; it is on public record; yet you side with the ranchers. The original agreement, which the ranching families signed, clearly stated that they were to leave in 25 years so that the park could fulfill its purpose: to be 100 percent dedicated to wildlife.

Did you know that only 4 percent of animals on this planet are wildlife and that the remaining 96 percent are either humans or farmed animals? We MUST do what we can to preserve wildlife habitats, as Point Reyes National Seashore was intended to be. Animals in the wild are vital for the health of our delicate ecosystems. When wildlife goes, we will go, too. We do not have time to waste. It will be so easy to restore these lands, too. A few years ago, Pacheco State Park removed its cattle and within a year the land's health was restored, all thanks to the work of the wildlife living in that park. Human intervention was not done nor was it necessary.

Dairy is a dying industry. It survives only because it is propped up by OUR Federal tax dollars. We don't need this industry because there are so many delicious non-dairy alternatives. Miyoko Schinner, founder of Miyoko's Creamery in Petaluma, has been working with ranchers to help them convert their industries to sustainable businesses that do not harm the planet. Her employees are far better paid than

the average Point Reyes ranch hand (who gets only about \$13 an hour), get a 401(k) plan, get reimbursed for education, have full health care coverage, and are even fed meals on the company premises. Her company is growing, too. And all without getting government subsidies like the failing ranches get.

Furthermore, the park generates far more revenue from tourism than it does from the ranches. Isn't that a much better solution to the employment crisis that we are undergoing now? Common sense will promote better employment opportunities and tourism, not ranching. Surely you must care about the economic health of Marin county?

Last summer, whenever I'd visit Point Reyes, I would be struck by the numerous signs begging people to conserve water. How ironic, given that each cow in Point Reyes consumes a full 35 gallons of water every day. Tule elk drink far less water and unlike cows, do not cause the erosion problems that plague the cattle grazing lands of Point Reyes, nor do they cause the algae problems from fecal runoff into the ocean.

Tear down that fence and start doing your job: protecting the environment and wildlife, not placating the whims of millionaire welfare ranchers who live off our taxes and should have left years ago.

### **Correspondence ID:3**

Correspondence: Regarding the long going and painful Elk issue, why not just pan out and look at what the problem is.

You have ranchers that want the land for for-profit purposes. The NPS is essentially subsidizing this via their Elk management plan.

The purpose of the NPS is the preservation and protection of animals under their purview.

I don't know how anyone employed at Pt Reyes can put an NPS badge on before they go work.

What, they've sworn to protect the profits of local ranchers?

Sworn to torture animals by building a fence to keep them from water?

It is these barbaric methods that sooner or later will cause problems.

Envision a scenario where non-barbaric citizens enter the park with the intention of intervening on the torture put forth by park personnel on the Elk, by bringing water. Now entertain the potential of park personnel attempting to physically stop a humane individual from stopping their barbarism. That's when the human individuals would have to effectively defend themselves.

With Press there it would be a PR nightmare for the PS and respective employees.

How far will the NPS go in killing Elk for the purposes of catering to for profit enterprises?

It appears we may find out shortly.

In closing, I feel the 'people' employed at Pt Reyes and the people that they report to, where the Elk are concerned, are barbaric at best, and hence must be dealt with and communicated to in the same manner.

### **Correspondence ID:4**

Correspondence: Take down the fence. Let the elk roam free. Sunset the ranching and let the visitors roam free too. This is OUR public land.

### **Correspondence ID:5**

Correspondence: I fully support the protection of tule elk and restoration of Point Reyes National Seashore!!!

Had the NPS listened, the agency could have invested its limited resources in removing the elk fence. Instead, it' you now need to conduct yet another planning process. Capitalism at the expense of wild creatures is very upsetting to me. I believe it is the duty of the parks department to protect these innocent wild creatures!

**Correspondence ID:6**

Correspondence: I would like to see a Tule elk one day.. . .

I DON'T AT ALL, IN ANY WAY SUPPORT the profits of the "hunting, beef and farming interests" that seek to profit off this National Park that belongs to ALL US citizens.

Yes, I understand that some farms are run by small families - but I believe it would be better for all of us if we ended their leases and made them compete on a level playing field like other producers. There are many other options for farmers and for consumers. I DO NOT SUPPORT THIS PUBLIC GIFT of private lands to a few people making a profit off of them!!!!!! If the NPS needs the small sum it gets from these leases - PLEASE let the public or conservation groups buy the leases - we certainly would!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thank you for allowing public input.

**Correspondence ID:7**

Correspondence: Though I live in RI now, I lived for 30 years and still return to the Bay Area. I was just at North Beach in the seashore last Sunday.

It is a disgrace to put the wants of the farming/ranching community before the entire public that enjoys the National Seashore at Pt. Reyes.

A DISGRACE. Whoever made this decision over the voice of the people in the area should be ashamed and perhaps removed from a position of decision making.

Why wouldn't the proposal to sunset farming and ranching be accepted? What is going on here? Who paid who?

It certainly has the appearance of impropriety.

Please reconsider. Treat the farmers and ranchers well. Give them reasonable time and accommodation, Then return the National Seashore to the plants and animals that naturally inhabit it. Return it to the public, whose land it is.

Yours,  
Linda Goldman

**Correspondence ID:8**

Correspondence: There is no excuse for decimating the Tule Elk population at Point Reyes in favor of commercial ranching. It is my understanding that the original agreements when Pt Reyes was made a National Seashore phased out commercial ranching and compensated the ranchers whose land was incorporated into the park. We love to visit Pt Reyes and would like to see it remain a public resource

where nature and native flora/fauna, including the Tule Elk, can be enjoyed. The elk are an important part of the ecosystem and the heritage of the park, more so than the ranchers will ever be.

**Correspondence ID:9**

Correspondence: Please save the magnificent and endangered tule elk! Take down the fence and set them free in the park, as was intended. It is THEIR park, our park, not the cows and ranchers. The herd has already been cut in half due to the fencing. How can you even think about "culling" instead of rebuilding the herd. Such a tragedy has taken place under NPS watch. Seems like money from ranching has gotten NPS to ignore its duty to protect wildlife. Instead corruption has allowed the cows to destroy wildlife, native plants, water quality, along with limiting park access and enjoyment by the public.

**Correspondence ID:10**

Correspondence: Ah, yes. When a governmental agency such as the NPS faces public condemnation for its absolutely appallingly evil behavior, the obvious solution for them is to delay through research and planning.

You know what is just and what is evil. Ecocide is evil. Stop the evil behavior. Free the Elk and get rid of the cattle.

Kendrick Miller

**Correspondence ID:11**

Correspondence: We do not need more studies. What we need is removal of the fence that prevents elk from roaming freely on this land, and removal of all cattle operations, which are destroying the land. Nothing short of that will suffice. The ranchers were paid for their land long ago, they need to leave now!

**Correspondence ID:12**

Correspondence: As a stakeholder, I strongly urge you to determine the plans provided by the NPS in accordance with the conditions set by the California Coastal Commission (CCC) on April 22, 2021, insufficient and revoke the CCC's permission to conditionally allow the NPS' plan to keep a large portion of Point Reyes National Seashore in private ranching hands, as the NPS has not satisfactorily met these conditions. I was shocked to see that the NPS is pushing forward with an inhumane, ecologically unsound, and wildly unpopular amendment decision to extend ranch operating agreements at Point Reyes National Seashore. Allowing ranchers and dairies to raise livestock is slowly eliminating the protected and endangered tule elk in the national park by fencing them out of much of their natural grazing land, which is unthinkable cruel, particularly considering the current drought conditions.

It's vital for the health of the environment that ranching activities at Point Reyes be ended. Livestock ranching and farming operations not only consume immense amounts of water (1,799 gallons of water are required to produce a pound of cow flesh, and it takes 4.5 gallons to produce a gallon of cow's milk) but also emit massive amounts of toxic runoff, which contaminates the water supply with manure, antibiotics, and hormones. They're also responsible for overgrazing, loss of topsoil and erosion, and soil compaction. In addition, by some estimates, animal agriculture is responsible for more greenhouse-gas emissions than the entire transportation sector. These activities are so damaging that the sensitive and unique ecosystem at Point Reyes stands to be utterly destroyed.

**Correspondence ID:13**

Correspondence: Right on. Good job with the plans to come up with a management plan and kudos for including the indigenous people in the process (I recently read that somewhere).

I have long thought that if we moved out the ranches (like they were supposed to 20 years ago) and charged the public a parking fee to enter, we could revitalize the wild lands and put in more hiking trails and make this park actually look like and function like a national park.

THANK YOU!!!

#### **Correspondence ID:14**

Correspondence: At Point Reyes Nat. Seashore (PRNS) in general and in the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve in particular, the National Park Service is unfortunately doing the bidding of private livestock businesses rather carrying out the long established mission of the National Park Service which is to preserve and protect the park's natural resources, which include the rare mammal species called Tule Elk. These native California elk are found only in one United States national park and that is Pt. Reyes Nat. Seashore.

Private livestock landowners were bought out by the National Park Service over fifty years ago from the PRNS area, and yet the Park Service has gifted these few businesses the on-going chance to live and graze their livestock inside a national park, taking precious forage away from the native tule elk - and in violation of numerous federal laws.

Any future management changes in PRNS must include:

1. Removal of the elk fence that traps the tule elk inside the relatively small area of PRNS known as Tomales Point.
2. Phase out Livestock Leases throughout PRNS, so no private livestock will remain inside PRNS within five years.
3. Ban any culling, hunting, fencing or other actions that are aimed at reducing the number of tule elk within PRNS.
4. Allow only natural predators to do any "management" of tule elk numbers inside PRNS.
5. Make sure tule elk and other wildlife are able to freely roam throughout PRNS and migrate to and from the Golden Gate Nat. Recreation Area.

#### **Correspondence ID:15**

Correspondence: please let the tule elk live and be free.

"The die-off of tule elk was a needless tragedy and was difficult to witness as the Park Service delayed helping these captive wildlife," said Laura Cunningham, California Director at Western Watersheds Project. "The Park Service needs to take down the fence and let the elk roam free."

"The National Park Service has prioritized the needs of commercial ranches over the health of wildlife at Point Reyes National Seashore for far too long," said Chance Cutrano, Director of Programs with Resource Renewal Institute. "The public has overwhelmingly supported the protection of tule elk and restoration of Point Reyes National Seashore. Had the NPS listened, the agency could have invested its limited resources in removing the elk fence. Instead, it's conducting yet another planning process."

#### **Correspondence ID:16**

Correspondence: I am a resident of Marin County and a frequent visitor to Pt. Reyes National Park. I am deeply distressed at the policy that allows dairy cows to graze in a national park. They have destroyed the landscape and habitat for native animals, turning almost half of the park into a biological desert.

Tule elk are native to the park and as close to extinction as they are, should be protected, not sacrificed to the commercial dairy interests.

Extending lease of dairies is a betrayal of the public interests in the park. At a minimum, the fence should be taken down and water supplied on a regular basis to the elk, thousands of which roamed throughout Marin as documented by early Spanish observers.

There needs to be an end to dairies in what is a park for people, not commercial interests. Restoration of the lands which have been ruined by cattle should be a priority.

**Correspondence ID:17**

Correspondence: I encourage the Park Service to end all ranching at Point Reyes National Seashore and restore the Park to a natural reserve for respectful recreation and wildlife, including the Tule Elk. There are plenty of other places in Marin County to ranch, but there is only one National Seashore. Do not renew any ranching leases. Remove the fence preventing Tule Elk from reaching water and other parts of their habitat. Restore the park to its natural habitat as much as possible. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:18**

Correspondence: I'm writing to urge that the elk Reserve's fence be taken down, which would allow the elk to roam.

If that conflicts with the neighboring Kehoe Dairy, the dairy should move to mainland Marin.

Millions of people visit PRNS to see the natural beauty and the wildlife, not the cows.

The only way to protect and preserve the Tule elk is to tear down that fence!

The Reserve's ponds were maybe sucked dry by Kehoe Dairy's wells.

Half the Reserve's elk died, while the other two herds were ok.

Free the elk from their deadly jail, and re-wild PRNS!

**Correspondence ID:19**

Correspondence: Please, please take down the fences and get rid of the livestock. The elk are natural to the area, dairy cows are not.

**Correspondence ID:20**

Correspondence: Please, please take down the fences and get rid of the livestock. The elk are natural to the area, dairy cows are not.

**Correspondence ID:21**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence! The management of these precious wild animals is disgraceful! The recent deaths of the tule elk were completely avoidable.

**Correspondence ID:22**

Correspondence: Tragic that these beautiful animals that were such a draw to visitors (myself included) are being relegated to the scrap heap for cattle grazing! Posterity will not look fondly upon such a foolish decision. Cattle destroy their grazing area and have no value for those visitors hoping to see those lovely Tule Elk. What of the water shed there?

I recently read about the death of some of the Elk due to the ill conceived fence line. Foolishness. Please get your priorities straight and plan for their well being and get the farm animals out of the wild and take down those mean spirited fences!

**Correspondence ID:23**

Correspondence: I have traveled around Northern California for years trying to decide where to make my permanent home. I concluded that cows have the most land of anyone in this state.

I was thrilled to go to the Tule Elk Reserve, and then take my adult children there as well. We all were enthralled and excited to witness and be with these amazing creatures. They were curious about us, not afraid, we all kept our distance but could see well their magnificence.

We also saw a beautiful coyote, which I'm guessing, helps to keep the population down as I am sure there are more.

It is appalling and unconscionable to me that with all the land around the National Park used by ranchers, that the national park would allow more ranching instead of "preserving" the ONLY place that Tule elk live. A perfect definition of profit over Nature.

Perhaps whoever allowed this decision and contract to be made, needs to step down, and allow the people who truly care about wildlife and Nature to take over the running of the park.

Were the Indigenous peoples of the area consulted? Is the National Park System still working from the twentieth century? How much do the ranchers pay to have their cows in the park? I know that usually they don't pay much.

I don't go to the park to see cows, I can see them all too often on every acre outside of the park!

Take the fence down. Preserve the Tule Elk. Preserve Nature.

**Correspondence ID:24**

Correspondence: 1. Please remove the elk fence. If a fence is needed at all, it should be on the boundaries of the park.

2. It will also be necessary to remove the interior cattle fences. These impede movement of deer, elk, and other animals within the park. For example, an adult elk could leap over a cattle fence, but an elk calf may be caught in the fence.

**Correspondence ID:25**

Correspondence: Please manage the Point Reyes National Seashore for the benefit of native species including the tule elk and focus your management on the restoration of Point Reyes National Seashore.

We ask that you remove all cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore and also remove the elk fence.

Is cattle grazing harming the water quality in the Point Reyes National Seashore?

Would water quality in the Point Reyes National Seashore improve if cattle are removed from the Point Reyes National Seashore?

How does cattle grazing in the Point Reyes National Seashore affect climate change?

Does cattle grazing harm native species in the Point Reyes National Seashore?

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans not just the people who own the cattle who graze the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our concerns.

**Correspondence ID:26**

Correspondence: Commercial enterprise, especially when negativity impacting the free and flourishing condition for wildlife, in a national park is a disgrace. There is no historical or cultural justification for prioritizing commercial enterprise over the wildlife and native habitat that sustains it. This ridiculous charade of selling this concept that these ranches can coexist with wildlife and habitat is deeply insulting to the public. Especially when the wildlife are restrained behind a fence to prevent them from competing with cattle for forage. We are not buying now or ever. Let the elk roam free. Take down the insanely cruel fence immediately.

**Correspondence ID:27**

Correspondence: Commercial enterprise, especially when negativity impacting the free and flourishing condition for wildlife in a National Park is a disgrace. There is no historical or cultural justification for prioritizing commercial enterprise over the wildlife and native habitat that sustains it.

Let the elk roam free. Take down the insanely cruel fence immediately.

I cannot in good conscience continue to support PSNRA until the Elk are protected and allowed to flourish.

They are a precious natural resource.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:28**

Correspondence: The Tule elk are majestic creatures that belong in an open space, free to roam. If you have to limit their numbers for their own good, employ birth control methods. I do not visit the park because I cannot enjoy them knowing that they are dying of thirst and starvation.

I do not support expanding ranching activities, either. Cattle pollute the land and the water. This is a park, not a business enterprise!

**Correspondence ID:29**

Correspondence: Save Tule Elk and give them rights to have water and food. Stop live stock ranching in Point Reyes NOW!!

**Correspondence ID:30**

Correspondence: The ranches were supposed to leave in the 1980's after being bought out.

The ranches are poisoning the park with the thousands of cows and cattle.

The idea of killing elk and allowing all the other plants and wildlife to be injured and killed to benefit the ranchers is an obscene tragedy.

**Correspondence ID:31**

Correspondence: Cows and their waste and methane are degrading a beautiful place that belongs to the public. Please do not allow private, polluting industries to operate in Point Reyes National Seashore.

Listen to the public, not private interests. Thank you.



**Correspondence ID:32**

Correspondence: A wilderness area is a place where nature manages. Can you let nature manage the Tule Elk? The drought will naturally cull the herd.

**Correspondence ID:33**

Correspondence: Dear CA Coastal Commission,

Thank you so much for taking public comment on the importance of water quality monitoring at the Point Reyes National Seashore. I'm writing to list reasons why you must hold NPS accountable for their negligence in water quality (WQ) testing for the last 20 years and rescind your approval of support. Point Reyes Seashore Superintendent Craig Kenkel stated that NPS cannot provide a water quality testing plan to the CA Coastal the Commission on matters that are now the subject of federal court litigation," (see news article citation below for quoted statements)

I applaud the coastal commissioners who expressed frustration at the request, especially given that the promise of the WQ reports secured the commission's endorsement. I agree with Commissioner Caryl Hart who noted that the "idea of an unlimited period of delay, is just not acceptable." It is not acceptable to the millions of people who use the park annually, that NPS has neglected their WQ responsibility for the past 20 years. Their last serious WQ testing was 2013, which found some of the highest levels of E.Coli in CA, yet they did nothing to address the pollution. In deference to a few dozen ranchers whose practices completely destroy the coastal prairies (that the park was created to preserve) NPS ignores the toxic water situation that is a chronic hazard to park users. They are well aware that the last time they tested in 2013 - that the implications of the agricultural pollution would force closures of the ranches. Instead of upholding their responsibility to the park and the public, NPS has avoided this issue for almost 20 years because of the damning evidence of WQ testing in ranch areas.

Additionally I agree with Commissioner Hart that, "It seems like it should have been crystal clear to the National Park Service that something of such high visibility and importance to the commission needs a report." Sadly all that is "crystal clear" to NPS from the last 3 park superintendents is a cozy relationship to protect ranchers at the expense of public safety and native elk, dying as they are fenced in for cows in a park! I also agree with Commissioner Sara Aminzadeh, who states that "the commission risks its integrity and credibility with the public if it does not enforce its own requirements." The NPS and superintendents of Point Reyes have long ago sold their integrity to ranchers - and this must stop to protect the WQ of our national park and all of the animals, like elephant seals breeding along sections of stream run-off contaminated with agricultural toxins. PLEASE DO "draw a hard line because otherwise, we'll just continue to see delays." Delays and excuses are all that the park has ever offered - simply to protect ranchers in the park. Last week the NPS released a statement that they need THREE YEARS to draft a WQ plan!!! This is outrageous, as they put all of their efforts and time into protecting ranchers. In light of the documented irresponsibility and unwillingness of Point Reyes National Park superintendents prioritize WQ testing to protect wildlife and park users, I urge you to rescind your approval of support. As Commissioner Roberto Uranga states, "The National Park Service has to be responsible for what they haven't done. They had a year and that's inexcusable." Due to the lack of effort by the NPS for the last 20+ years to protect our WQ at Point Reyes I additionally urge you to deny their request for a "three year plan" and rescind your approval and demand that NPS do WQ testing as a practice at least 4 times annually. That is the least that public and wildlife deserve from a national park. In its own words the NPS prioritizes "longer leases to provide greater financial security and allow ranchers to make investments to reduce water quality issues."

Please read the history of neglect by the NPS to enforce their own lease and excuse illegal activities on ranchers that chronically pollute our waterways. Recently 6 septic tanks on A and J ranch have failed -

most likely due to the negligence of ranchers to “maintain the buildings in leased areas.” As a resident of Inverness in Point Reyes, I have to pay \$500 every few years to pump out my septic tank to preserve the creek along my road. SIX septic tanks have failed and spewed human waste into our Point Reyes ecosystem. As Superintendent Kenkel states “we need to give ranchers a chance to make water quality improvements” is pure fiction. Then in the Fall of 2021, one rancher plowed riparian habitat to allow his cows access to streambeds that are toxic to our waterways. Other ranchers have massive dumps on leased lands and NPS does nothing to the ranchers who egregiously break their lease terms. There is far too much that NPS hasn't done and we accept no more pro-rancher excuses. We do NOT prioritize the “financial security” of a few private businessmen in a public park that was created to serve millions of people and preserve wildlife and seashore habitat.

In his letter to the CCC, Kenkel said several changes were made to the plan from its original 2019 version which “will increase the certainty of water quality protections and reduce environmental impacts from dairy operations and forage production.” So show us the PLAN - let's not obfuscate for another 3 years doing nothing but support ranchers interests in a public park. “Some of these changes will require ranchers to make upgrades to their facilities as part of their lease agreements that will work to reduce water quality impacts.” Are these the same ranchers who allow SIX septic systems to fail because they refuse to pay the fees for maintaining those systems? Again - pure fiction from the NPS, or more honestly, more lies about WQ intentions to preserve rancher interests in the present. Instead of WQ priorities NPS focuses on allowing ranchers to “diversify” and bring in more domestic animals and row crops. Two major problems with this “plan.” First, the expansion of domestic animals raised for slaughter adjacent to wildlife areas is the SOURCE of CORONAVIRUS mutations worldwide! I would hope that we have learned something in the last 2 year of worldwide science catastrophe and not add to the problem. Secondly, Point Reyes has historic drought problems and watering for crops is simply unsustainable. What I find most offensive about this “plan” is that NPS cannot make the time to devise a WQ plan as promised by April 2022 - they ask for 3 more years of dishonest delay. PLEASE - just say no to more of this obfuscation from the main responsibility of NPS - the PROTECTION of our WATERWAYS and demand that NPS stop focusing on the “economic” well -being of a handful of private businessmen over the water rights of millions of park goers and the wildlife that live in the park.

Please rescind your support for this chronic public negligence and put a stop to the privatization priorities of our park and waterways. In closing I also request that Commissioner Rice recuse herself from this April vote. Her position as Marin County Supervisor that promotes and supports ranching as a priority in Marin County is in direct conflict with her ability to objectively rule on the NPS lack of WQ testing due to the chronic support of a few dozen ranchers who are Ms. Rice's constituents. Commission members are required by the Coastal Act to approach each matter with an open mind and to review the facts, apply the Coastal Act and reach an objective decision. As a member of the Marin County Board of Supervisors, MS. Rice cannot be objective while supporting (and relying on the votes of) a rancher constituency. I have attended Marin Supervisor meetings and listened to her statements of avid support for ranchers. I believe she has failed to comply with the ex parte communication provision of the Coastal Act.

Sincerely- Margo Wixsom

<https://www.marinij.com/2022/03/18/state-might-revoke-point-reyes-ranching-plan-approval/>

#### **Correspondence ID:34**

Correspondence: I, and many like-minded citizens overwhelmingly support the protection of tule elk and restoration of Point Reyes National Seashore. Rather than conducting yet another planning process, the NPS should listen to the public outcry and invest its limited resources in removing the inhumane and cruel elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:35**

Correspondence: The privileging of private ranching concerns over the welfare of rare native tule elk on national park land is unpardonable!

**Correspondence ID:36**

Correspondence: I realize that the grazing income that funds important park projects would be reduced if the tule elk range is expanded. Your other reasonable option is to cull the herd to the carrying capacity of their present range. Starving them is an indirect means to cull this herd, but starving them is inhumane. I recommend that you not utilize an inhumane method to cull this herd just to boost the park grazing lease income these unappropriated (and so unrestricted) grazing leases.

NPS policy prohibits the granting of grazing leases under these circumstances.

The omission in discussing the present uses from the grazing leases invalidates the NEPA process because this is an undisclosed alternative of significance.

The omission in discussing the internal NPS policy discussions regarding the potential for significant public concern from the direct herd culling also invalidates the NEPA process. These discussions would certainly be discovered to be significant and undisclosed NPS concerns in any judicial process.

**Correspondence ID:37**

Correspondence: To NPS, it mystifies me why you are having another planning process and comment period when the writing is on the wall.

certainly you must see that the majority of people whose comments about the GMP you ignored last time, have only become more certain and crystallized. we want the fence taken down, we want the elk to be free to seek water and food and we want the private businesses out of our national park so the land can be restored to its original splendor of coastal prairie.

the NPS has done a poor job of stewarding this magical place, as have the ranch/dairy people who have been privileged to live there. the land is polluted, the water is polluted, the air is polluted and you saying you will mitigate these abominations has yet to be seen.

close down the businesses, remove all fences and let nature and people who care take over. the time for this is long overdue.

very sincerely,  
lonna richmond

**Correspondence ID:38**

Correspondence: Please prioritize elk and de-prioritize dairy farming. The farms' financial and food-production contribution to California and the greater public is nearly nil, yet the operations are ugly and they harm wildlife --- unless you count "habitat for brown-headed cowbirds" as a good thing.

Put another way, manage for wildlife, not nostalgia. It is not as if the dairy farms have much claim to the land, not in the context of the much longer-term period of Native American occupation. They are just a brief remnant of a period of colonial expansion.

Plant restoration and selective controlled burning would be part of this too.

Thank you.

### **Correspondence ID:39**

Correspondence: Dear Decision Makers for Point Reyes National Seashore, and specifically the Tomales Point Area

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on this very unique and beautiful area. I hope you will:

1. Protect the elk population and expand their range
2. Protect biological and archeological resources unique to Tomales Point peninsula
3. Provide more education to the public

### **THE ELK**

We love hiking there and delight in seeing the bull elk with their harems, and the amazing spectacle in the fall rut. However, it saddens us to see young male elk standing at fences looking across to grazing areas and water tanks for cattle.

As a national park area, shouldn't wildlife be allowed to roam more freely as the herd increases? Naturalists and professional preserve managers are aghast at the filthy ranches that preclude more natural areas being available for wildlife.

### **PROTECTION OF NATURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

Tomales Point is more than an Elk Preserve however. Significant biological and archeological resources are there, and they should receive more protection from the off trail visitor. The landscape abounds in unique plants, insects, birds and small mammals, to mention a few.

### **EDUCATION**

A natural history center should be built in the nearby Ranch area, at the trailhead for Tomales Point Trail, educating the public about the amazing history of the Coastal Miwok as fully demonstrated in the archeological record. The "Coastal Miwok Wall" and other stone structures should be researched further and more fully protected from vandalism or desecration. What do the markings on the stones mean? Why is the placement important in astronomy? Why is astronomy an important part of the Miwok world view? All would be important education for the visitor, and unique to this specific area in the park.

PRNS has a responsibility to educate the public, just as other parks highlight significant history within their parks.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment. I hope this has been helpful. We love PRNS and hope to see it receive more staff and resources. The current administration is doing a great job overall, but certainly the park can be improved.

Sincerely,  
Anne Linn  
Arroyo Hondo Preserve

**Correspondence ID:40**

Correspondence: I applaud the NPS for re-evaluating the decision to cull and enclose the elk at Point Reyes. I am very much in favor of taking down the fence asap, making sure the elk have water, and NOT culling unless there's a population problem in the future. I very much prefer Plan F over Plan B for the General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore. Given the founding goals and principles of the park, I simply can't understand why there is any question that the ranch and dairy operations be completely removed from this unique national park. The few commercial ranchers at Point Reyes were never promised unending occupation. On the contrary, they were to be phased out. It should be the aim of the NPS to return this sacred land to its natural state as fast as possible.

**Correspondence ID:41**

Correspondence: Please support Alternative F in the General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore. This is public land. The ranchers' leases should have expired years ago. The ranchers' actions have directly led to the deaths of hundreds of elk. The NPS should always be on the side of resource protection. This land must be protected.  
Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:42**

Correspondence: Let the elk roam free.  
There have been many studies, do we need another one? Maybe so, given what will be worse and worse drought conditions.

When PRNP was established, the ranchers (and oyster farming) leases were to be for a certain length of time, not in perpetuity. Why do you keep extending those leases again and again? We all know how cattle destroy the soils and grasses unless they are systematically moved from area to area--which the ranches don't do, at least as far as I can tell by driving by the same fields of cattle over and over and over again

Eliminate the ranches, let the elk roam free. They will beautifully maintain themselves and the landscape since it's in their survival instincts.

And until basic wildness can return to Pt Reyes, please provide water for the elk!!! Do not let them die due to dehydration.  
Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:43**

Correspondence: You must end the practice of culling the Tule Elk at Point Reyes by fencing them in and withholding water. This is a cruel and inhumane practice. If the Elk must be culled, a more humane and efficient means would be to issue a limited number of hunting permits for a limited time period. This could also be a potential new source of revenue for the park.

**Correspondence ID:44**

Correspondence: The Park Service MUST reverse decades of mismanagement in Point Reyes. When the first National Park was founded it was done so to protect and preserve public lands for the benefit and

enjoyment of the people. While Pt Reyes is not a National Park, it ought to be beholden to that same philosophy.

Later is the document that set the stage for the creation of National Parks, and yes, sea shores, President Grant stated “wanton destruction of the fish and game found within said park, and against their capture or destruction for the purposes of merchandise or profit.” You have chosen to ignore this founding idea by destroying wildlife for the profit of a select few. This is anathema to the very idea of public lands. What is the point of this seashore if not to protect its natural denizens? Why continue to be a National Sea Shore if you are so eager to become another stretch of barren pasture.

The United States of America will survive with a few fewer cows, but the wanton destruction of native wildlife cannot be undone. Please stay true to your founding as a National Seashore and prioritize the unique resources you have in this land set aside for the American people.

**Correspondence ID:45**

Correspondence: I am a long time resident of the area, since 1976 and have seen many changes in our area, including the closure of pierce point ranch and establishment of the tule elk herd.

There have been management problems over the years and these problems have been the parks responsibility to solve.

Considering overgrazing, lack of water and resources that the ever larger herd now requires it makes total sense for the park to step in and manage the herd by culling, birth control, removal or whatever means necessary to maintain a healthy number. No one wants or should see the elk dying of hunger and dehydration, that's not management.

It makes no sense to let the elk roam the park, that just creates more problems for the ranchers and that is undermining them, not supportive of them in the parks role as landowners.

I support the elk being culled, by rangers, native peoples, hunters. And I support the elk meat being donated, or sold.

Thank you

Laura Arndt

**Correspondence ID:46**

Correspondence: Tear down that wall, fence in this case!

Throw out the ranches and their water contaminating and methane producing cows. They have overstayed, illegally, according to official documents and have no right to still be in the park. Enforce the law.

Shooting elk to satisfy ranchers is evil. Bring in some wolves to let nature take its course.

Do not allow Marin to be known nationwide as an elk slaughtering community that condones and encourages illegal ranches producing methane and filthy water. The park belongs to the people who are restricted from much of it for ranchers' profit.

**Correspondence ID:47**

Correspondence: How we treat animals that now depend on us for their safety, health and independent dignity defines us. How the NPS has treated the tule elk herd at Pt. Reyes is inhumane, reflecting the very, very worst of bureaucratic self-justification.

The NPS caused the elk herd to be caged in a relatively small area with no water. When they died in large numbers and the public was outraged--and baffled--the NPS had a chance to rectify their decisions. They did not do that. Instead, each human being on that decision-making board sat by and watched more elk die needlessly--because the NPS refused to provide water within the enclosure. I have shared this information with untold numbers of people, and everyone asks the question I cannot answer and the NPS has refused to answer: Why such cruelty?

Pt. Reyes was intended to be a national park that preserves the extraordinary beauty and abundant wildlife of the area. The ranches were intended from the start to be phased out. Who is buying off votes within the NPS that you have now extended those leases, plus added new sources of commercial income for those ranchers.

Who are you responsible to? The people, or profits for a few?

--Take down the elk fence.

--Do NOT kill any more elk. There is PLENTY of range land for them.

--Either remove the elk to an area outside Pt. Reyes that can support them, or plan for water sources for them. The cattle are drinking PLENTY.

--Revise the new plan and expressly limit the term for the ranches to a final ten years.

You are a human being. What you do stays in the world. When you lie in your bed at night, know that you have been the very best human being you could be that day. And tomorrow.

Thank you.  
Meredith Hall

**Correspondence ID:48**

Correspondence: The tule elk are not the problem. Allowing private dairy companies to use the National Seashore for private profit is the problem. The methane, solid and liquid waste and degradation of the water and land at Point Reyes from the cows are the problem. Remove the cows and watch the elk problem go away. Please get rid of the cows. Killing the elk is not a humane or logical way to "manage" a problem that is not a problem.

**Correspondence ID:49**

Correspondence: I do not believe private dairy companies should use the National Seashore for private profit. The methane, solid and liquid waste and degradation of the water and land at Point Reyes from the cows create a problem, not the tule elk. If there were no cows there would be no problem. Please get rid of the cows and allow the Elk to live. Killing the elk is inhumane or does not make any sense. They are not the problem.

**Correspondence ID:50**

Correspondence: I think it's time to remove the 3-mile, 8-foot-tall fence to allow the elk to roam into the rest of the park where more resources would be available.

Thank you.

Heidi Hammon-Turano

**Correspondence ID:51**

Correspondence: I have been specifically going to point raise for over 30 years to visit the tule elk they are beautiful and add a dimension of wildlife to our beautiful point Reyes that isn't like anywhere else in the world. This is a tourist attraction bringing much-needed revenue to the area businesses, and I think both the ranchers and the elk can coexist peacefully

Please save our elk!

**Correspondence ID:52**

Correspondence: The elk and other wildlife define Pt Reyes. The cows and ranchers are interlopers on this wild, scenic land. The needs of the elk must be provided for. There is no shortage of cattle, and the dairy industry is declining anyway as people come to understand the adverse environmental impacts of dairy and other farm animals on our tiny remaining patches of wild lands as well as on the climate.

The Tule elk belong on the land, and should be managed the way nature intended. Give them free and adequate access to food and water, and let them roam. Their natural predators should control the numbers of elk, as well as will natural variations in climate that determine food and water levels. Remove the cattle and other farmed animals from Pt Reyes. All of these farm animals are critically degrading the land. Then the elk will thrive, be controlled as nature determined, and human visitors to Pt Reyes can have an amazing experience in nature

**Correspondence ID:53**

Correspondence: The tule elk are not the problem. Allowing private dairy companies to use the National Seashore for private profit is the problem. The methane, solid and liquid waste and degradation of the water and land at Point Reyes from the cows are the problem. Remove the cows and watch the elk problem go away. Please get rid of the cows. Killing the elk is not a humane or logical way to “manage” a problem that is not a problem.

**Correspondence ID:54**

Correspondence: Re; Tomales Point Area Plan  
To whom it may concern;

Please eliminate the fencing which no longer serves any appropriate purpose and is responsible for hundreds of avoidable deaths of Tule elk.

The drought has changed this landscape, and we, if we are wise, need to change as well. Thank you for your willingness to re-evaluate what is no longer working, and prioritize the obligation of our parks to ensure living species viable habitat.

Thank you,

Carol Denney,

**Correspondence ID:55**

Correspondence: The elk should not be fenced in on a PUBLIC LAND where cattle roam free. It is against the NPS mission and directly leads to more greenhouse emissions as well as hurting native biodiversity. Ranching on publicly designated protected land is unethical and against what is right for all living organisms!



**Correspondence ID:56**

Correspondence: The dairy farmers are causing the problems; please remove the cows. It is inhumane how the elk are being treated. Removing the dairy operations will solve all the problems without harming innocent elk. Please do not kill the elk.

**Correspondence ID:57**

Correspondence: Hello- It is devastating to see our native Elk species dealing with these circumstances. Thinning the herd very well could be the only way to maintain a healthy herd all the while smaller till better reason season's present itself. I hope someone is discussing that opening up this thinning conversation to hunters so families can provide healthy meat for their tables and the park can generate tax revenue to fund additional projects to maintain the area and herd. I think a bow only season and limited (lottery system) could generate thousands of dollars.

Thank you for your efforts and considering my thoughts!

**Correspondence ID:58**

Correspondence: It is time to let the Tule Elk roam free on the all of the designated lands they were originally deemed, not the fenced-off, portioned-off, area they were forced into, by you, in order to ready yourselves for future "profitable" agricultural business opportunities that have absolutely nothing to do with making the land accessible and enjoyable to the general public.

The proposed option of shooting these innocent Tule Elk is insensate at best, and abjectly unethical, at its heart. This horrific "option" has never been utilized in the history of this designated elk area, and to do so now would only be because you are trying to ready their designated lands for your financial agricultural profits. Once again, this has nothing to do with making this area accessible and enjoyable to the public.

It is time to give back the Tule Elk all of their originally designated land, and if you do so, they may stand a chance of survival.

Furthermore, in order to prevent their current and ongoing suffering and dying off from drought, (due to anthropogenically caused global warming) you can set up water troughs and salt licks, the way you did in the drought of 2013-2014. That is the very least you can do in order to be an organization that is not destined to go down in history as dastardly, cruel, and insensate profiteers.

The very best option to ensuring a healthy environment for these Tule Elk, (if that is indeed your objective) bring back the natural predators that once majestically roamed these beautiful Marin Headlands. If you do so, we together, can begin to heal our battered and ailing ecosystem, and work together towards a sustainable planet, and future.

Most Sincerely,

Megan A Robbins

**Correspondence ID:59**

Correspondence: Part of the solution to protection and management of the the Tule Elk Herd in the park must include removing the fence for the one herd. Any new problems this may bring can be dealt with

as they may occur. If the herd population increases in the future I understand and do not oppose limited harvesting by park staff. The fence should be removed ASAP.

**Correspondence ID:60**

Correspondence: I am in favor of removing the fencing in Tomales Bay in PRNS but I am NOT in favor of culling the Elk.

I believe we should not be culling native wildlife. In addition I am against farmers and ranchers raising livestock such as cows and sheep on public lands, particularly lands where the native wildlife are struggling.

Please do the right thing for wildlife. Each animal is a sentient being who deserves their life!

**Correspondence ID:61**

Correspondence: Please open the fence and let the Tomales Point Elk roam throughout the park. Over half of the herd has died due to lack of water and forage. Opening the fence makes the most sense. Why is the first thought to kill...we already killed most of the wolves, lets not keep making the same mistakes by disruptive policy's that throw mother nature out of balance. It just seems like we always take the easy way out without looking at the long term consequences of our actions. We also shouldn't make cattle ranchers our priority. Doing what's right isn't always the easiest thing, but it's the best thing to do.

Thank you,  
Pat

**Correspondence ID:62**

Correspondence: Dear PRNS Staff,

It is discouraging to see over the last 2 decades how much focus and resources NPS gives to a few dozen private ranchers, while neglecting to fulfill the mission of the park - to preserve the national seashore, coastal prairies, water quality, and wildlife in the park. More focus and resources are on pampering and preserving the privileges of a few private businessmen. Little is done to preserve and enfranchise Native American "historical sites" like Felix Point while ranchers are allowed to bulldoze, overgraze, create massive dumps, now leaking sewage tanks at L and B ranches because ranchers refuse to keep the terms of their leases. They refuse to maintain buildings as stated in the terms of their leases while threatening workers not to report rats, mold, broken flooring and sewage systems. Every building on the ranchers needs to be inspected annually and any rancher violating terms by dumping, bulldozing, refusing to maintain sewage systems needs to be terminated from their lease and asked to leave the park. The BEST thing NpS can do to manage the elk is to take down fences, allow free ranging, and to decrease the pollution and contamination from cows in a national park. Johnes disease, invasive weeds from cow feed constantly pollute our national park. NPS obfuscates their responsibility by saying you are "improving" water quality and ranch management when in fact NPS needs to enforce the lease terms and legal water standards. "Improving" is an enabling excuse to allow ranchers to destroy the ecosystem of a national park. My request is that you watch this 15 minute NPS video about how a park superintendent had the courage to follow the science and end the agricultural destruction of national park ecosystems. THIS is how the elk need to be managed - following the science that documents the destruction of the coastal prairies and waterways in PRNS. Remove ranches and start upholding the mission of the park by preserving the environment and wildlife conditions. There are millions of acres of ranchlands in CA. We have a wonderful "historic ranch" at Pierce Point. Focus on a Native History center for the real "historic" that needs preservation. Focus on what elk need for water and food sources and

end ranching and remove elk fences. I am aware that without natural predators tule elk populations will increase. Let's first restore their natural coastal prairies and in contaminated waterways in PRNS, then if culling is needed - that is a reasonable option - but not until the elk populations are made a priority over cows - which are not endangered and invasive to the park landscape. Ranchers were paid fairly for those lands. It's time for them to go and for the original mission of the park to become a priority - PRESERVE the coastal seashore and wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:63**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

I forgot to provide this link in my comment today. I ask Superintendent Kenkel to please watch this 15 minute NPS video about how antelope management plan was designed using water quality and science as the foundation. This Superintendent had the courage to focus on the mission of the national reserve in prioritizing wildlife over cows. We need to do the same at Point Reyes. The elk management plan needs to include removal of elk fences, restoration of the coastal prairie and conservation of water quality that does not include cow manure and human sewage from unmaintained ranches like A and L which where ranchers have refused to abide by lease terms to maintain all buildings.

THIS is what the PRNS elk plan needs to look like: <https://youtu.be/sjdBJ9JfspM>

Thank you for focusing on the mission of the park that has been ignored for 50 years: preservation of the coastal seashore environment and wildlife.

Sincerely

Margo Wixsom

**Correspondence ID:64**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

I forgot to provide this link in my comment today. I ask Superintendent Kenkel to please watch this 15 minute NPS video about how antelope management plan was designed using water quality and science as the foundation. This Superintendent had the courage to focus on the mission of the national reserve in prioritizing wildlife over cows. We need to do the same at Point Reyes. The elk management plan needs to include removal of elk fences, restoration of the coastal prairie and conservation of water quality that does not include cow manure and human sewage from unmaintained ranches like A and L which where ranchers have refused to abide by lease terms to maintain all buildings.

THIS is what the PRNS elk plan needs to look like: <https://youtu.be/sjdBJ9JfspM>

Thank you for focusing on the mission of the park that has been ignored for 50 years: preservation of the coastal seashore environment and wildlife.

Sincerely

Margo Wixsom

**Correspondence ID:65**

Correspondence: Tear Down that Fence!

Let the Elk Roam Free!

**Correspondence ID:66**

Correspondence: Wildlife is and should be the priority for Point Reyes National Seashore . Remove the fence that contains the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd. Give the Tule Elk water in drought years. Provide

appropriate forage for the Tule Elk. Reduce or eliminate ranches if necessary to provide for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Point Reyes National Seashore should be a model for protecting, enhancing, restoring wildlife. Instead it is a model of how to protect ranchers at the expense of the wildlife and the natural ecosystem.

**Correspondence ID:67**

Correspondence: Please remove this fencing and protect the elk. This is their home first. They have the right to live there.

**Correspondence ID:68**

Correspondence: Please set up a wildlife corridor for the elk. Allow them to have more food and freedom.

**Correspondence ID:69**

Correspondence: The Te ELK BELONG ON THE POINT & ALL RELATIVE LANDS! NO CATTLE!  
NO CATTLE!! NO COWS ON MY PUBLIC LANDS! MY TAXES PAY FOR THE UPKEEP OF PUBLIC LANDS, AND I  
SAY S T O P DESTROYING THE OCEAN, STREAMS AND LANDS WITH CATTLE DUNG!!!

**Correspondence ID:70**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk herd in the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

This elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:71**

Correspondence: I support removing the Tomales Point Elk fence for all the reasons that have been put forth by others more informed and involved in the health of the Tule Elk herd than I am.

**Correspondence ID:72**

Correspondence: The National Park Service (NPS) is initiating a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:73**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great concern for the elk that I write this letter to allow the elk to reside on federal land and promote their migratory patterns in search of food and water as necessary. Wild animals should never be constrained behind fences unless they will be provided the necessary care to survive. It doesn't seem like this is the case and fencing them in is contributing to their demise. If the fence is causing them to die because they cannot find necessary food and water, it is cruel and inhumane. I am in support of promoting what is best for the survival and well-being of the elk herd. Please remove the fence to enhance this creature's survival.

Thank you,  
Collin

**Correspondence ID:74**

Correspondence: Safe migration corridors must and should be provided for all migratory animals. Deer crossings should have traffic lights or slow down signs. Migratory animals have been traveling the same corridors through millenia. They were here first

**Correspondence ID:75**

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**Correspondence ID:77**

Correspondence: Hello,

I advocate for all of God's creatures AND the places they call home. So many times we hear from fish and wildlife personnel about how foolish human interaction with wildlife can cause severe consequences for the animals involved. Animals have lost their lives following ignorant human interaction. I have already called concerning the situation in California regarding the Tule Elk. I have also read the horror stories of hikers whom were upset constantly seeing dead elk on their trail hikes. These deaths were because of ignorant and foolish decisions made by humans to limit the animals range by putting up fencing. Why??? Then as animal advocates like me became enraged because those same ignorant decision making humans involved with the project refused to allow water troughs to be set up so the elk could drink during the drought. Since that time, those same ignorant humans have set up water troughs that have helped. Are they monitored to insure they are filled with water at all times??? There has to be a better way! Tear down the ignorant non-necessary fencing and work toward a more equitable and sustainable solution that meets the animals needs and not the needs of ignorant selfish humans and ranchers. Don't allow the white man to destroy the animal lands as the white man did to

the native Americans. We all should be better than this. Some have suggested a corridor where the animals could cross over into lands that provide the resources they need. Get it done.

I care a lot more about the welfare and continued existence of the animals than I do about the ignorant selfish humans who think they know everything but instead are the true definition of foolishness and ignorance.

Thank you for the opportunity. It is time we made a positive stand for each and every one of God's created creatures---both great and small. Be a true hero and save these elk now!

**Correspondence ID:78**

Correspondence: Our morale fiber can be gauged by our treatment of animals and the world around us. We have learned so much over the past century about the intelligence of those that share this planet with us and the importance of protecting the environment that we all need to survive. It is time for our society to course correct based on the knowledge we have now and stop living in the past. Our planet and those around us depend on it.

Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:79**

Correspondence: Remove the fencing give them open range to the best of your ability

**Correspondence ID:80**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd and the soundest approach for a healthier ecosystem of the entire area.

**Correspondence ID:81**

Correspondence: I am deeply disturbed by the NPS's treatment of the Tule Elk, a native species that has been mistreated in order for dairy industries to flourish -- in a national seashore no less!!

It is imperative that the NPS immediately remove fences in the Tomales Point area so that these native elk can access grazing lands and water.

I understand that many have perished from starvation and lack of access to water while held captive within a fenced area of the Point Reyes National Seashore. Not only is this cruel, but it goes against the mission of the NPS to protect habitat and preserve native species.

**Correspondence ID:82**

Correspondence: Tomales Point Area Plan - Civic Engagement Comment Period

Regarding management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. As you know, these elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Do the right thing. Please honor the WildCare plan.

**Correspondence ID:83**

Correspondence: I am sending my comments to urge The National Park Service (NPS) to initiate an updated public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

Specifically, the plan would update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. Right now, the elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

I wish to speak up for this herd of Tule Elk, which faces significant challenges due to drought! Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020)!!!

REMOVING THE FENCES, and making sure that there is a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, IS THE MOST HUMANE OPTION FOR THE HERD.

Please update the management guidance of the peninsula to SAVE the TULE ELK from being denied food and water! Please remove the fences and allow the elk to live!!

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:84**

Correspondence: The tule elk are not the problem. Allowing private dairy companies to use the National Seashore for private profit is the problem. Please get rid of the cows, remove the fence, and set up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed. It is the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Gina

**Correspondence ID:85**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

**Correspondence ID:86**

Correspondence: To Whom It Concerns:

Please remove the cattle from public land at Point Reyes. This land belongs to the public, not to private land owners.

Otherwise, remove the fence, and set up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, as the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:87**

Correspondence: In regards to the 1998 Tule Elk Management/Tomales Point Area Plan re-evaluation: I support the removal the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed. This is the most humane option for the herd.

I'm aware and so are thousands of other members of the public, that this elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought and confinement (almost as in a zoo). Poor quality forage, and the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

The fence must be removed. Point Reyes National Seashore is a park hosting thousands of local AND International visitors each year. Keeping the fence (and the cattle ranches for that matter) is contrary to the mandate of the NPS and is a threat to the fragile wildlife living there. The damage to the land, water, and wildlife is evident in scientific data, as the water-quality and herd data collected and presented to the NPS has shown. The fence and the cows must go. The iconic and unique Tule elk population can be managed without them.

Sincerely,  
L. Stanziano

**Correspondence ID:88**

Correspondence: It is absolutely unbelievable to me that the National Park Service, as caretakers of the this endangered Elk cohort, are allowing the Elk essentially to starve to death while, at the same time, renting out to a commercial enterprise adjacent PUBLIC land the Elk would and do need for their survival.

How is it possible that the National Park Service can allow this to happen?

How can our children see this happening? Who among us would believe this choice the Park System has made is an equitable choice? Certainly not me. How can you spin black into white? THE PARK SYSTEM'S JOB is to keep our indigenous animals safe and create conditions under which they can sustain themselves.

Whatever group within the National Park Service made the decision to rent out Public Lands adjacent to and needed by these ELK to a private enterprise that grows cattle to be slaughtered needs to be removed from the National Park Service, permanently.

PLEASE DO YOUR JOB.

Please get rid of the cattle NOW and focus on creating a success story for these ELK.



Find a private sector sponsor for the Elk to partner with. Work with the groups who now oppose you so adamantly that these Elk have become a national cause, to create a media and social media presence, like brief stories of each individual Elk with their photos, in a manner to personalize this group, and tell the story of their SUCCESS, which will then also be the National Park Services' success. And most importantly, MAKE SURE THESE ELK HAVE WHAT THEY NEED TO SURVIVE AND THRIVE.

**Correspondence ID:89**

Correspondence: The Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020). These elk are confined to the Point held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle. Removing the fence and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed is the most humane option for the herd. The cattle ranchers need to learn to share their property and surrounding grazing ranges with the wildlife inhabitants, and the wildlife need protection from ranchers who adamantly refuse to do so by illegally and arbitrarily hunting and murdering wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:90**

Correspondence: I am a resident of West Marin. I live here because of the natural beauty, hiking trails and abundance of wildlife.

I remember the first time I saw the Tomales Point elk herd- I marveled that these large elegant creatures were living so close to a cosmopolitan area. They are a delight and wonder to visitors and residents alike.

Fencing in the elk to keep them from foraging in a natural way in order to serve agricultural commercial interests is to me a barbaric practice. And of course we have seen what depriving elk of water sources has done. Only after there was a grassroots uprising about the water, did the Park finally take notice of the dying elk and bring in a water supply. These animals suffered.

Culling by shooting, as they did with the white deer, is also a primitive solution. There are methods of birth control that can be administered so the the elk population is controlled. Yes, it's more complicated than hunting and killing, and more costly probably, but we owe it to these marvelous creatures ,that we chose to introduce to this area and have thrived, to use the humane method.

Please respect these animals and find solutions that do not involve treating these animals like dispensable commodities.

Ellen Shehadeh

PLEASE WITHHOLD MY PRIVATE INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC VIEW!

**Correspondence ID:91**

Correspondence: The National Park Service (NPS) is initiating a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:92**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:93**

Correspondence: I believe the wild animals should have complete run on the area. The fence needs to be removed immediately. These wonderful animals were there first, and they should have first choice of all the land, water, etc. Putting a fence in was just plain wrong and the sooner it is removed the better for the animals, the ecology, and everything else.

These animals should be protected from mankind and allowed to live a life free from being kept behind a fence where they are unable to get the food and water they need. The needs of these animals should be first in your mind and actions. It was not fair to put a fence between them and what they need. REMOVE THE FENCE NOW AND PROTECT THESE ANIMALS. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:94**

Correspondence: It seems to me removing the fence would help. Also there is need for a wildlife corridor to allow the Elk to leave the peninsula searching for food and water as needed would allow them freedom. I feel this is the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:95**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kendall and NPS,

I appreciate the opportunity to write to you during the public comment period in the planning process designed to replace the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan for Tomales Point. In your March 31st letter (L7617), you stated that the issues you will be addressing will include "removal of the tule elk fence." I wholeheartedly agree that the removal of the tule elk fence is needed. This fence was built by humans in order to contain wild animals, and it's time for this old idea to be replaced with much better thinking. This herd is captive and not able to survive with what is available inside this fenced in perimeter. The challenges that this herd has faced, and continues to face, are extremely distressing and disturbing, and have been documented for years. Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

I'm hopeful that addressing the current issues for these elk now will bring about lasting and positive change for this herd without delay. When I look at these beautiful elk, I am filled with a sense of respect and awe. Change is needed for these animals now. A change that reflects our best thinking and discernment in 2022.

Thank you for caring and concern,  
Carolyn Balfe

P.S. I respectfully request that you withhold my personally identifiable information from public review.

**Correspondence ID:96**

Correspondence: PLEASE ALLOW ELK A CORRIDOR TO SEEK OUT FOOD AND WATER...DONT WILLFULLY STARVE AND MURDER THEM

**Correspondence ID:97**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:98**

Correspondence: Re: The Tomales Point Area Plan

Please create a wildlife corridor and remove fencing wherever possible to allow the tule elk to access water and grazing and thereby avoid inhumane suffering and dying.

**Correspondence ID:99**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:100**

Correspondence: Get rid of the cows!!! They are bad for global warming, artery health and ecology. I might could justify restricting wildlife for crops but the cows HAVE to go. Not a history we should preserve. There are better alternatives and we have found many of our American traditional choices are only good for some. Public lands should be used for the good of the majority of the public. Ranching only benefits the few while harming our future.

**Correspondence ID:101**

Correspondence: Death by starvation and lack of water, so cattle can eat and drink?? Youch, what a nightmare for these wild creatures, when the issue is so easily solved. We humans MUST stop making everything we've mishandled so complicated.

At the least, these elk need a wildlife corridor to escape the elk prison made by humans, at the best, make the rancher (s) use his or their own land for their voracious creatures of European descent.

Thank you, Lenore

**Correspondence ID:102**

Correspondence: Please follow the wise recommendations of WildCare for these elk. They should never have been fenced off of public land in the first place.

**Correspondence ID:103**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence and set up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed. This is the most humane option for the herd.

Wild animals need to roam to survive!

**Correspondence ID:104**

Correspondence: Good afternoon,  
Writing to show my support for removing the fences currently holding tule elks from reaching better grazing and drinking grounds. Elk and cattle can live together to both enjoy the resources of this area without affecting the cattle business.

**Correspondence ID:105**

Correspondence: RANCHERS' LIVESTOCK CAUSE MORE DAMAGE TO PUBLIC LANDS THAN NATIVE ANIMALS WHO HAD EVOLVED IN THAT ENVIRONMENT OVER CENTURIES.

NPS NEEDS TO BAN LIVESTOCK GRAZING ON ALL TAXPAYER PUBLIC LANDS PERMANENTLY. RANCHERS CAN BUY THEIR OWN PROPERTIES TO DEGRADE WITH THEIR OWN LIVESTOCK.

LET THE ELK ROAM FREELY TO ALLOW NATIVE PLANTS TO REBOUND AND WOLVES TO BECOME THEIR NATURAL PREDATORS OF THE SICK OR WEAK TO SAVE THE BEST GENES FOR THE HERD.

**Correspondence ID:106**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:107**

Correspondence: I am requesting that you take the future of the Tule Elk herd into serious consideration and remove the fencing and allow a wildlife corridor to be created. This is an important issue that will prevent the death of over 100 elk per year. These are innocent wildlife. Their future matters.

**Correspondence ID:108**

Correspondence: I truly cannot fathom why the National Park System is in the business of protecting non-native cattle at the expense and death of the native Tule Elk. I really don't. I have attended every meeting over the years and sat there listening to absolute lies. I was there the evening you had 12 armed park rangers attend to keep us in line. I love the original concept of the NPS, but I am horrified and bewildered by many of your recent decisions. Why are you doing this? Why?

Sharon Salisbury

**Correspondence ID:109**

Correspondence: Please help the Tule Elk thrive in Tomales Point

**Correspondence ID:110**

Correspondence: Remove the fence, and set up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed. It's the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:111**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:112**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:113**

Correspondence: Remove the fence!

I can't believe the people who are employed to protect our wildlife are actually harming and destroying it. Why? Could it be that money and greed is at the root of this - led by a handful of people vs the thousands of Bay Area residents who DO NOT want the fence?

**Correspondence ID:114**

Correspondence: Please remove this fencing. The elk deserve to be able to roam free! It's the cattle that should be fenced in OR removed entirely! The elk were here first!

**Correspondence ID:115**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:116**

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**Correspondence ID:118**

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**Correspondence ID:119**

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**Correspondence ID:120**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:121**

Correspondence: Please remove this fence so the elk can survive.

**Correspondence ID:122**

Correspondence: As a wildlife conservation activist, I've been saddened to receive frequent alerts of emergency conditions for the Tule Elk herd at Tomales Point. Death and debilitation have been chronic since 2018 due to drought, and the herd is confined to areas of insufficient water. They need to be able to roam in search of watering places to sustain them.

While their range is limited to allow the use of land for ranching, the present arrangement is incompatible with the herd's survival. Leasing the land should not take priority over wildlife wellbeing. It has been recommended that the fence be removed and a wildlife corridor be facilitated that will allow the herd to roam without disturbing any ranching activities. This is a win-win option. It follows the template used in other situations where ranching and wildlife conflict. Even when predators are involved, it's been seen that all parties can safely coexist. Please take this action, and allow the Tule Elk herd a corridor for roaming.

**Correspondence ID:123**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Time to put the welfare of these wild animals ahead of private domestic animals. After all, this is a National Park, a public land for the general public. The National Wildlife Service should protect these animals as part of their duty.

**Correspondence ID:124**

Correspondence: Currently, the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle

These fences are no longer necessary.

This elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020). These animals need to be protected from mass die-offs.

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:125**

Correspondence: These Tule Elk herd is confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

The Tule Elk herd needs a humane option for the months and years ahead. Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:126**

Correspondence: I strongly support WildCare in advocating for the elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020). This is not acceptable management of wildlife.

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd. Please prioritize the health and safety of this elk herd. The Park Service is not a servant of the Cattle Industry.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:127**

Correspondence: How about doing something right for the animals?

**Correspondence ID:128**

Correspondence: The most humane method for the Tule Elk herd is removing the fence and set up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water. This is the most humane option for the Tule Elk herd.

**Correspondence ID:129**

Correspondence: Please remove this egregious, damaging fence now!

**Correspondence ID:130**

Correspondence: The herd of elk in the Point Reyes area are severely stressed by current environmental conditions and the fact that they are captive within a restricted area. The best plan for the elk is to remove fencing and setting up a wildlife corridor so the they can seek alternate water and food sources when necessary. Please take these humane steps to protect the Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:131**

Correspondence: In relation to the endemic Tule Elk I implore PRNS to prioritize the elk and other wild over the private ranches leasing in the park. It is time to encourage the lease holders to retire their leases and allow that land to be restored and opened up to the public and wildlife. The drought has shown there is not enough water to adequately sustain the dairies without huge costs. Part of that cost is the wear and tear of trucks on the seashore's roadways. The ranchers do not pay for these repairs, us taxpayers do. And as a taxpayer, I would like that \$ go to restoring coastal plains for the elk. I also am encouraging the wildlife fence come down to free the trapped elk at Pierce Point , so they can find good foliage to eat and more water to drink.

I love the seashore and want to explore more of it, but I am restricted by ranch fencing and bio security needs of the dairies. Start retiring the leases!

Also the Indigenous artifacts in the national seashore need to be more protected and displayed.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:132**

Correspondence: Please do not interfere with the lives of these elks. Why does everything in this country come down to some human making money?

Seems like greed takes over everything and everyone..

**Correspondence ID:133**

Correspondence: Between 2019-2020 many elk died in the Tomales Point of Point Reyes and in part because of drought and of the inability to access good grazing land and water supply due to fencing set up decades ago. It has shown to be a disaster for the elk.

Please consider removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:134**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore was once a success story for the reintroduction of native Tule elk and restoring ecosystem processes. Tule elk grazed the Point Reyes peninsula for about 10,000 years until they were eliminated by hunters and ranchers in the late 1800s. Tule elk returned to Point Reyes in 1978 when the Park Service reintroduced elk to Tomales Point. This was one of the largest tule elk herds in California, with a stable population of more than 500 elk fenced in on the remote point. In 1998 the Park Service moved elk to the Limantour wilderness area of Point Reyes to establish a free-roaming herd. The Limantour herd has now grown to 120 elk, and a herd of 92 elk has established itself near Drakes Beach. The park's stated management goal is to allow the free-roaming herds to expand to 250-350 elk.

But ranchers who enjoy heavily subsidized cattle grazing and dairy leases on these public lands have been lobbying the Park Service to remove or fence out the free-ranging Tule elk from ranching and dairy areas, and shamefully, the Park Service has complied, resulting in cruel and unnecessary death for the Tule elk.

Tule elk are an ecologically critical part of the landscape of Point Reyes, while cattle-grazing permits in the national park are a privilege for a few livestock owners. Ranch leaseholders shouldn't be able to dictate Park Service policy that hurts or kills park wildlife. The Park Service is required to manage Point Reyes National Seashore without impairing its natural values and for the maximum protection, restoration and preservation of the local natural environment. TTHAT MEANS PROTECTING AND SAVING THE TULE ELK AND NOT HELPING TO DESTROY THEM.

Therefore, the Park Service should remember its core business and mission and get back to what it is supposed to do. Drought, poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:135**

Correspondence: This concept of fencing off the elk from the ranching areas never made sense to me. Please stop this badly made decision back so long ago. Let the elk range free so they can forage and find food and water, as they have for a very long time. Neither ranchers or those elk are originally occupants of that land as far as I know, and they can't possibly be that much competition to the ranchers feed for their cattle. So, let's just stop torturing these animals (the elk) and take down those fences! Along with the ranching, the elk are a gift on the Pt Reyes Peninsula that we all enjoy.

**Correspondence ID:136**



Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:137**

Correspondence: The National Park Service (NPS) is initiating a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore. Please consider changing the way these elk are managed, as described by WildCare below.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd. Thank you for your consideration of this option.

**Correspondence ID:138**

Correspondence: There are millions of cows on this planet ...ONLY ONE TULE ELK HERD! Try compassion instead of greed!!!!

**Correspondence ID:139**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence and protect the well-being of the Elk!

**Correspondence ID:140**

Correspondence: Please allow the elk to travel freely to forage as we are losing many to starvation by impeding their migration.

**Correspondence ID:141**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service Staff,

I have lived in Marin for over 50 years. One of the highlights of living here is Pt. Reyes, Tule Elk included.

I wish to point out that the Tule Elk are not the problem. The private dairy industry is the problem. Pollution and degradation of the land continues and is an ongoing problem. The methane from cows is a big problem. These problems need to be addressed with a substantial plan which includes ongoing oversight and regulation on the part of the National Park Service.

Thank you for hearing my concern.

Sincerely,

Ann Lawrence

**Correspondence ID:142**

Correspondence: Please removing the fence, and set up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd. Please implement these important changes

**Correspondence ID:143**

Correspondence: PLEASE SAVE THE TULE ELK!!! Removing the fence and providing the herd with additional foraging is crucial to providing the elk herd with the food and water they need to survive! Those of us who live in Marin County and have for many years have delighted in the Tule Elk. Don't prioritize ranchers over wildlife!!

**Correspondence ID:144**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:145**

Correspondence: How shameful it is to destroy wildlife in a National park because of cattle farming. Please reconsider this horrific plan to kill Tule Elk to honor dairy farming land leases that expired decades ago. Shame on you.

Suzanne Kunstman

**Correspondence ID:146**

Correspondence: How shameful it is to destroy wildlife in a National park because of cattle farming. Please reconsider this horrific plan to kill Tule Elk to honor dairy farming land leases that expired decades ago. Shame on you.

Suzanne Kunstman

**Correspondence ID:147**

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**Correspondence ID:152**

Correspondence: POINT REYES, Calif.-- The National Park Service (NPS) announced that it has initiated a new planning process to address "complex wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) in Northern California. The planning area includes the 2,900-acre Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve where rare native tule elk, once thought to be extinct, were reintroduced in 1978. Point Reyes is the only national park where tule elk exist.

The NPS confines the Seashore's largest elk herd to Phillip Burton Wilderness Area, at the northern end of the park, where a 8-foot fence prevents the elk from foraging elsewhere in the national seashore. Tomales Point has few fresh water sources, which have gone dry in recent droughts.

The Tomales Point Tule Elk herd has been the subject of national controversy at Point Reyes National Seashore. In 2015, the NPS announced the population behind the elk fence declined from 540 to 286. In 2020, hikers photographed dead and emaciated elk behind the fence at Tomales Point and brought it to the attention of the NPS. Following an annual elk count, NPS announced the drought-induced death of 221 elk in the Tomales Point herd. Since then an additional 25% of the rapidly diminishing herd has died.

"The die-off of tule elk was a needless tragedy and was difficult to witness as the Park Service delayed helping these captive wildlife," said Laura Cunningham, California Director at Western Watersheds Project. "The Park Service needs to take down the fence and let the elk roam free."

In 2021, attorneys from the Animal Law Clinic at Harvard Law School sued the NPS over the elk die-off at Tomales Point. Conservationists petitioned the Park Service to remove the fence, as hundreds protested against leasing parkland to commercial beef and dairy operations in the Seashore. Public outcry eventually pushed the NPS to temporarily supply water to the elk.

Point Reyes National Seashore is one of a handful of national park units that permit livestock grazing. Ranchers complain that Tule elk compete for food and water with the more than 5,000 cattle that graze in the Seashore, cutting into profits. In their recent General Management Plan process, the NPS proposed to remove the elk fence and restore the Seashore to public use by sunseting ranching under Alternative F, which would have allowed all elk to roam free. Instead, the NPS approved an alternative that keeps elk trapped behind the fence, expands commercial agricultural activities, and extends ranch leases for up to 20 years.

"The National Park Service has prioritized the needs of commercial ranches over the health of wildlife at Point Reyes National Seashore for far too long, " said Chance Cutrano, Director of Programs with Resource Renewal Institute. "The public has overwhelmingly supported the protection of tule elk and restoration of Point Reyes National Seashore. Had the NPS listened, the agency could have invested its limited resources in removing the elk fence. Instead, it's conducting yet another planning process."

The NPS says a new plan will evaluate the potential removal of the elk fence, water availability, and culling of the elk to further reduce population.

**Correspondence ID:153**

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**Correspondence ID:157**

Correspondence: I am very concerned about the management plan for the Tule Elk herd at the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore. Confined as the herd is, they suffer from lack of water and forage resulting from the drought. In the 2019-2020 season over 150 elk died as a result of their confinement in inadequate habitat. This is inhumane. These animals need to leave the peninsula to find better food and water sources. We must either allow them to be free to do that or transfer them to a place where they have adequate habitat.

**Correspondence ID:158**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern

The public lands of the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore should be open for all OUR wildlife and not for ranchers that do not have enough land for their cattle. Please remove the fence, and set up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:159**

Correspondence: Please pass this. It makes it easier on the staff to make better decisions for OUR future!

**Correspondence ID:160**

Correspondence: Dear NPS officials:

I am outraged and appalled that you are engaging in endless “kick the can down the road” planning for this proposed Tomales Point Area Plan.

I and the over 90 percent of the public commenters during the previous Point Reyes National Seashore management planning process strongly supported greater environmental protections, removal of the harmful livestock grazing and other commercial agricultural operations, and protection for the tule elk herds. Consistent with what most commenters wanted and the NPS mandate to protect park and seashore resources, NPS should have adopted Alternative F. Had that occurred, this new Tomales Point planning process would have properly been unnecessary and moot.

Instead, NPS made incredibly harmful decisions in the recently approved new management plan. NPS completely abdicated and abrogated its solemn duty to follow the law, best science, and public interest. It is outrageous that ranchers who were fairly bought out long ago, and subsequently reneged on their commitment to leave, are still given priority NPS treatment. Apparently the blatant corruption that occurred during the Trump years continues under the Biden administration, at least when it comes to NPS and this “national” seashore.

If NPS was credible and honorable, then this Tomales Point planning process would be a no brainer. Of course, the fence should be removed; the tule elk allowed to roam the seashore freely; and adequate water supplies be provided to ensure their survival, especially during drought periods. These actions are all reasonable and necessary. Sadly, NPS may continue to defer to whatever the entitled seashore ranchers want done or not done.

I fully concur with and hereby incorporate by reference as part of my comments the excellent news release at the weblink and pasted below.

I hope that NPS officials will surprise me and many others by belatedly doing the right things. Thanks for your consideration.

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<https://mailchi.mp/rri.org/conservationists-demand-end-to-elk-confinement-under-tomales-point-area-plan?e=d43cc6e6d1>

Conservationists Demand End to Elk Confinement Under Tomales Point Area Plan  
For Immediate Release, March 31, 2022

Contact:



Laura Cunningham, Western Watersheds Project, (775) 513-1280,  
lcunningham@westernwatersheds.org

Chance Cutrano, Resource Renewal Institute, (312) 403-3702, ccutrano@rri.org

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The NPS says a new plan will evaluate the potential removal of the elk fence, water availability, and culling of the elk to further reduce population.

**Correspondence ID:161**

Correspondence: Stop TORTURING these rare elk. This is disgusting.

**Correspondence ID:162**

Correspondence: These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020). This is because of the cattle, and you know it.

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd because of the cattle. The best option is to remove the cattle, period. Do you work for ranchers only? Your treatment of wildlife, including wild horses, is appalling. All because of cattlemen.

**Correspondence ID:163**

Correspondence: I urge the NPS to adhere to the original intent of national parks to protect the wilderness, and by extensions the native biodiversity that comprises the wilderness those parks are charged with protecting. To do so, there are two actions I urge the NPS to undertake:

Given that the ranching operations are fouling and polluting the Point Reyes National Seashore and damaging its biodiversity, a national park, and have shown no signs of ceasing to do so, they should be given a timeline to either bring their operations to a reasonable standard of sustainable cleanliness, or to cease operations.

The Tule Elk should, in the meantime, be granted access to all forage land in PRNS, as part of the native biodiversity that comprises the wilderness those parks are charged with protecting.

**Correspondence ID:164**

Correspondence: Please!!!!!! Help these innocent beautiful creatures that had NO OTHER WAY but to be born the way they were born....meaning a Elk!! A animal!!! They need to be cared for so the money grabbing ranchers Don't hurt them or cause bad laws to happen!! THEY DESERVE FREEDOM and a protected natural land area to live on!! Please give them their land and water back and protect them from evil people!!! After all, man moved onto their area so man needs to respect the animals and figure out a way ALL parties can operate safely and happily!!! Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

**Correspondence ID:165**

Correspondence: The Tomales Point Area Plan for the Point Reyes National Seashore (PORE) presents a unique opportunity to create a visionary "master trail plan" for the development of a long-term, "inspirational" coordinated trail system within the planning area and PORE, linking the extensive southern trails with the currently isolated stretches of trails in the northern section of the planning area. Such a "master trail plan" will enhance connectivity which will improve visitor experiences in the planning area.

It is critical that the NPS embrace now a long-term visionary approach to trail planning as part of the Tomales Point Area Plan because it is unconnected with the remainder of PORE from a trail perspective. This process could and should enable the creation of an inspiring vision for a long-term network of a unified, well-considered trail network that would allow various organizations (hiker, biker, equestrian,

native Americans, birding, camping, etc.) to rally around and provide volunteer funds and labor to implement such a vision.

Today, PORE's trail creation and maintenance within the planning area (and more generally, throughout the Park) is marked by being chronically underfunded. There is no indication that this will improve in the foreseeable future. This chronic underfunding creates a strong reluctance on the part of NPS and PORE to create new trails because this would only add to the underfunded trail maintenance burden and expense. This also has required PORE to rely heavily on volunteers (individuals and organizations) to maintain existing trails and this too has been a struggle for the NPS.

This comment advocates for the creation of a 'master trail plan' as part of the planning process as more specifically described below. A plan can then allow for opportunistic implementation over the longer term (5-50 years) as needed resources become available. A plan does NOT necessitate immediate additional trails nor funds for their creation or maintenance and the underfunding of trail maintenance should not be a reason to avoid creating an inspirational trail vision at PORE for the future.

1. The Park should establish an "inspirational" trail plan to guide the planning and creation of enhanced trail connections. Similar efforts throughout the United States National Park system have shown how "inspirational" trails drive enhanced access, awareness, use, and importantly donations (in terms of both money and time). There are many examples (e.g., the Pacific Crest Trail, The John Muir Trail, the Long Trail, the Appalachian Trail, and many others as this approach is being used more and more due to its success). In each case, non-profit, citizen-led volunteer organizations focused on volunteerism for assisting the NPS with trail and interpretive site maintenance and funding have arisen and flourished, driving greater public awareness of the natural, historic and cultural points of interest.

a. More specifically, the Park should establish an "inspirational" vision for the PORE trail system that connects the northern section in the Tomales Point and southern sections of PORE to create a unified, long-distance trail system. Such an "inspirational" trail could have an inspiring name unique to PORE such as, as just one example, the Pacific Plate Trail (or "the PPT") and could have its terminal points at Tomales Point and Palomarin.

b. A north/south trail could be envisioned either as a single trail or, preferably, as a "loop" with a "low road" and a "high road" both of which primarily rely on existing trails inside and outside the planning area and - within the planning area - could use existing ranching roads and/or "social trails" (where appropriate) in the short term and be replaced with more well-considered trails in the longer-term.

i. The "low road" would link the southern trail systems via the Estero Trail, with the northern section of the Park. Specifically, the "low road" could provide better public access to:

1. the historic Life Boat Station cemetery (with new interpretive sites that could highlight the role of immigrants generally, or Scandinavian immigrants specifically, as well as public service and personal sacrifice of first responders); and
2. Abbot's Lagoon using existing ranch roads on G Ranch that are not currently designated as trails);
3. The historic KPH Maritime Radio Receiving Station.

ii. The "high road" could link the southern trail systems via the Inverness Ridge Trail, with the northern section of the Park within the planning area. The "high road" would aim to follow the Point Reyes Peninsula ridgeline (as feasible) north, using L Ranch road (not currently designated as a public trail) towards the Tomales Point Trail, and provide enhanced access to Tomales Bay State Park as well as the spur trails to Marshall Beach, Laird's Landing and other sites on the eastern side of the planning area.

c. A master trail map could create a vision for planning for both the short-term and longer-term at the same time.

i. The short-term plan would optimize for near-term public access and enjoyment. The short term plan would follow the NPS practice of making use of existing ranching roads and facilities to enable more immediate public enjoyment at a minimum of time and effort.

ii. The longer-term plan would optimize for quality and sustainability which will (1) reduce long-term trail maintenance efforts and costs; (2) improve visitor access and experiences in the planning area; (3) improve the visitor's experience learning about point of cultural, historic and natural interest within the planning area; and (4) increase volunteerism (and hence engagement) in accessing, funding and maintaining the trails.

1. The past practice within PORE of heavy reliance on pre-existing ranching and fire roads for the creation of today's trail system created enhanced visitor access to the Park in the short-term, but created a higher than needed maintenance burden because prior studies have shown that maintaining the dirt roads is far more expensive than maintaining footpaths and smaller (non-road) multi-use trails (see e.g., Trail Inventory and Condition Assessment with Recommendations, Point Reyes National Seashore and the North District of Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service, November 2003).

2. A longer-term plan for replacing existing 'dirt roads used as trails' for a new trail serving a comparable purpose but whose actual route would be set in the interests of recreational, historical and/or cultural points of interest (not merely the interests of re-using a pre-existing farm road as a quick and easy access enhancement strategy); or re-routing of one or more existing trails to account for changed conditions to enhance visitor enjoyment, lower overall environmental impact and reduce medium and longer-term costs for road maintenance (since trails are less expensive to maintain than dirt roads).

2. The planning process should also view enhanced trail access as an opportunity to highlight the historical and cultural significance of points of interest in the Park. The scope of the planning process should mesh new trail access or designation and interpretive sites that highlight:

a. working ranches where urban visitors see ranching operations and make the connection to "local" food production specifically and their food sources more generally;

b. trail segments designed to reach sites showing how the Coastal Miwok re-shaped the land;

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

**Correspondence ID:166**

Correspondence: please protect the Tule Elk behind the fence at Tomales Point.

The NPS has announced it is updating the plan for the Tomales Point Area at the northern end of the Seashore. This includes the elk that have suffered numerous droughts, trapped behind an 8 foot fence to prevent them from competing for forage or water with the neighboring ranches that lease land in the national park.

the tule elk need to be protected - set them free or at least take care of the survivors

**Correspondence ID:167**

Correspondence: I'd like to see the ranches maintained as they are now. Adds to the ambiance of the rural setting and are part of the history of the area.

**Correspondence ID:168**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

A few days ago in the New York Times an article began as follows:

“Levels of methane in the atmosphere increased last year by the largest amount since measurements began four decades ago, government scientists said on Thursday, adding to concerns about the planet-warming gas ...”

Further, your own studies found that the 5,000 or more cows at Point Reyes are the largest source of greenhouse gases in the park. Yet your new plan will allow even more livestock in coming years.

I don't understand how you can allow and even advocate for such anti-environmental policies. I used to be an admirer of the Park Service. No longer. You have become part of the problem our planet faces.

How does that feel? Or does anyone there even care anymore?

John Hauf

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There have been cattle in creeks, confrontations with livestock or ranchers, illegal dumpsites, unsanitary conditions, broken fences, locked gates, injured, sick and dying of thirst wildlife.

the tule elk need to be protected - set them free or at least take care of the survivors

thank you

**Correspondence ID:170**

Correspondence: I would hope you will abide by The United Nations as they REPEATEDLY have proven we must cut way back on animal agriculture! Animal agriculture in fact, is responsible for more greenhouse gases than all transportation combined!!!

Also-- letting ranchers graze their livestock on public lands is completely unfair to taxpayers! We all have to pay our fair share so there's no reason ranchers should pay little to nothing! That notorious Bundy cattle ranch family owes over ONE MILLION in grazing fees but because they terrorized the Forest Service in Oregon the Biden Administration doesn't want anymore “shootouts”!

You want more massive killing wildfires and to waste taxpayer dollars?

<https://unchainedtv.com/2022/04/07/un-report-time-reduce-demand-products-like-meat/>

**Correspondence ID:171**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:172**

Correspondence: Hello, I have enjoyed the Point Reyes National Seashore for 50 years. The Tule Elk are a treasure to be protected. Please conserve their habitat so that they may thrive in their natural habitat. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:173**

Correspondence: We are saddened that the park management seems more intent on supporting and expanding commercial farming in the park than protecting wildlife. Please remove the 6 ft fence intended to keep the elk within a relatively dry area.

**Correspondence ID:174**

Correspondence: PRNS has extraordinary biodiversity, including about 100 plant and animal species endangered or threatened at the federal or state level. The part of Point Reyes that is not ranched is healthy and beautiful. But the taxpayer-subsidized, private-profit livestock operations that cover a third of the park are known to emit significant amounts of greenhouse gasses, pollute the waterways, deplete and erode the land, encourage invasive species, and displace habitat. In 2020, more than 7,600 comments poured in to the NPS, over 90% of which were in protest. The CCC had a hearing on the proposed plan, and almost all of the 45,000 comments it received were similarly opposed. In 1993, the Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of Tule Elk on Point Reyes National Seashore concluded, "The long-range goal of elk management at PRNS should be the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore and associated public lands. This would involve ... removal of the fence across Tomales Point. The NPS claims that it wants to preserve ranching history, but the current ranches are modernized, commercial operations, unreminiscent of historic practices. Furthermore, preservation of history is subordinate to preservation of nature, not the destruction of nature. Ranching in Point Reyes could be preserved with a display-scale interpretive dairy and a few docents. Lastly, the much longer and truly sustainable history of the Coast Miwok people, who were brutally cleared out to make way for ranchers, is entirely neglected in the NPS plan.

The NPS has been called out for not doing it's job by the CCC. The NPS needs to stop catering to the affluent ranch owning families in Marin and do it's job of preserving PRNS for the majority people.

Dr. Sheryl Owyang

**Correspondence ID:175**

Correspondence: We need to take better care of what is left of our environment, for wildlife, marine life, plant life, and people.

**Correspondence ID:176**

Correspondence: We ALL need to work together in order to Protect and SAVE OUR Environment and the Wildlife that live there as well! Please SAVE The Tomales Point Elk!!!

**Correspondence ID:177**

Correspondence: I have fallen in love with the elk herds that live in & around Park City!! Plus the herds we saw in Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons last summer!! These majestic creatures don't deserve cruel fences!! PLZ remove the fence that keeps the elk herd on Tomales Point captive and at the mercy of drought.

**Correspondence ID:178**

Correspondence: NPS: Please if you have not yet changed the major captive plan of keeping the Elk in Tomales Point Are , remove the fence that keeps them prisoners of possible floodings! This does not

help in keeping the herds alive, productive and free to roam and rummage! I know you have the best interests in America's Heritage, the Elk! Please continue to give care and caring for wildlife!  
Thank you for your valuable time.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Moore

**Correspondence ID:179**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd  
Please help sustain wildlife in the right way; with decency and respect for their existence.

Thank you.  
Cindy Lynch

**Correspondence ID:180**

Correspondence: protect wildlife

**Correspondence ID:181**

Correspondence: As with so many animals and sometimes humans as well, we have and continue to malign and oppress their earthly born freedoms based on years of superior thinking when in fact the sheer notion of superiority and control over how humans and animals live is futile and worse, dangerous for us all. The very least we can do is to support native animal habitat and their organic behaviors and sources of their nutrition that should be just as valued as our desires to inhabit the same planet as they do and have done for longer than we have.

**Correspondence ID:182**

Correspondence: You have the input of organizations and experts who are well-informed and knowledgeable to advise you on finding a 'best' way to deal with this issue. I don't want to duplicate all that, but I do want to stress the bottom line on what is right to do. And what is not...

This elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Please take care of this in a way that will make things right. And make your grandchildren proud.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:183**

Correspondence: I am commenting on regard to the Tulle Elk herd in the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore. These magnificent animals are confined to the Point behind an 8 foot fence erected in 1978 to benefit ranchers who let their cattle graze on public lands. The Tulle Elk faces significant challenges due to drought, poor quality forage, and reduced water flow. Removing the fence,

and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd. Please take these necessary steps to protect the Tulle Elk.

**Correspondence ID:184**

Correspondence: As the NPS, it would seem that being responsible for public lands, you would also be responsible for the wildlife that lives on these lands. Therefore it would only be logical that you take care of this wildlife as well.

Remove the fence and let the elk have access to water and food. It is the right and ethical thing to do. It is also your responsibility too. You apparently don't prevent wildlife in other National Parks or monuments from being able to access food and water. Of course, private livestock are not allowed to graze those public lands to my knowledge either. Sure don't remember seeing black and white Holsteins in Glacier National Park either  
Do the right thing ASAP.

**Correspondence ID:185**

Correspondence: As the NPS, it would seem that being responsible for public lands, you would also be responsible for the wildlife that lives on these lands. Therefore it would only be logical that you take care of this wildlife as well.

Remove the fence and let the elk have access to water and food. It is the right and ethical thing to do. It is also your responsibility too. You apparently don't prevent wildlife in other National Parks or monuments from being able to access food and water. Of course, private livestock are not allowed to graze those public lands to my knowledge either. Sure don't remember seeing black and white Holsteins in Glacier National Park either  
Do the right thing ASAP.

**Correspondence ID:186**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk should not be fenced away from water.  
Ranchers own land. They have to keep their livestock on their own land.

**Correspondence ID:187**

Correspondence: This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:188**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk herd are confined to the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore and as such, are held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

This elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought, poor quality forage, and reduction in flow from springs and seeps - which



are the main sources of water for these captive elk, having caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

I beg you to do this - remove this fence and set up a corridor for these animals to leave and find food and water sources so they can survive.

**Correspondence ID:189**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence so that the Elk can move freely off the peninsula to find food to eat and not feel like they are trapped. They deserve to be free to roam. Thank you for your time.

**Correspondence ID:190**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence in order to allow the animals the freedom to get the food and water they need.  
Thank you

**Correspondence ID:191**

Correspondence: I believe the tule elk should be allowed to leave the fenced area they have been held captive in. Through means of a corridor or other method they should be allowed to roam once again. Their welfare depends upon having greater freedom.

This is a national park...

The needs of farmers should not outweigh those of the wild life.

**Correspondence ID:192**

Correspondence: A national park should be for wild animals and people to enjoy. Please remove the Elk fence and the cattle. There should not be ranching on public land. Please preserve our natural spaces.

**Correspondence ID:193**

Correspondence: As a resident of the Bay Area, I am always concern for the interaction among our beautiful Wildlife and public in general, but the one who really upset me, it is to know that ranchers and new construction are taking away more and more natural resources and land from our Wildlife!  
In past years, I could say that the interest of the federal agencies on charge to protect our Wildlife, were more in favor of ranchers and others businesses, instead of Nature! Now, I want to believe that the new management and administrators are more concern about saving the lives of so many innocent animals, like in this specific case, when in a single year we had lost the lives of 150 elks due to starvation, drought and being confined to a ridiculous area, while ranchers use the surroundings areas for their use!  
Therefore, I am here to support to open a Wildlife corridor for the Elks!  
We all have to do our part, and learn to coexist with our beautiful and helpful Wildlife, each and everyone of them has a purpose in the delicate balance of our ecosystems, so we need to make sure that they all have their natural resources to thrive and coexist with humanbeings.

**Correspondence ID:194**

Correspondence: I understand that The National Park Service (NPS) is initiating a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

Animal organizations including Wild Care have been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

I agree with setting up a willife corridor ..let's do our job and protect our wildlife which is what all of us are supposed to do...not support the ranchers, the wealthy or the politicians.

**Correspondence ID:195**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:196**

Correspondence: Please remove teh Tomales Point Elk Fence. Elk Fence. Elk are suffering due to drought and climate change and should not be left to starve and die of dehydration. Please make the responsible, common-sense and humane choice and take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:197**

Correspondence: This is easy. Special interest groups should not, and can not end these elks chance of survival.

Make a little room for these animals to room.

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:198**

Correspondence: This is easy. Special interest groups should not, and can not end these elks chance of survival.

Make a little room for these animals to room.

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:199**

Correspondence: I am entirely opposed to allowing grazing in a national park. Remove the fence and allow elk in the whole Point Reyes park. Cattle do not belong in a national park at any time.

**Correspondence ID:200**

Correspondence: The "National Park Service" ("NPS") is initiating a, public, planning process for the "Tomales Point" area of "Point Reyes National Seashore". Remove the fence, and, set up a wildlife, corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of, better, food, and, water, sources, is needed! It is the, most, humane, option for the herd! These elk are, cruelly, confined to the "Point", held behind, 8-foot, fences that were erected, in 1978, by the "Park Service" to separate this herd from the, public, land used by ranchers for cattle. They are deprived of any opportunity to seek water, or, food, sources, or, mates, beyond the, restrictive, fencing! 150 elk died, last year, from dehydration, and starvation!

Our family wants to be proactive in advocating for this, elk, herd which faces, significant, challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and, the reduction in flow from springs, and, seeps, that are the main, sources of water for the, captive, elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a, single, year (2019 - 2020).

This plan will update the, management, guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the Park. These elk are confined, and, held captive, to the "Point", held behind 8-foot, fences that were erected in 1978, by the Park Service" to separate this herd from the, public, land used by ranchers for cattle!

**Correspondence ID:201**

Correspondence: The "National Park Service" ("NPS") is initiating a, public, planning process for the "Tomales Point" area of "Point Reyes National Seashore"! Remove the fence, and, set up a, wildlife, corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of, better, food, and, water, sources, is needed! It is the, most, humane, option for the herd! These elk are, cruelly, confined to the "Point", held behind, 8-foot, fences that were erected, in 1978, by the "Park Service" to separate this herd from the, public, land used by ranchers for cattle! They are deprived of, any, opportunity to seek water, or, food, sources, or, mates, beyond the, restrictive, fencing! 150 elk died, last year, from dehydration, and starvation!

Our family wants to be proactive in advocating for this, elk, herd which faces, significant, challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and, the reduction in flow from springs, and, seeps, that are the main, sources of water for the, captive, elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a, single, year (2019 - 2020).

This plan MUST update the, management, guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the Park. These elk are confined, and, held captive, at the "Point"!

**Correspondence ID:202**

Correspondence: Please consider removing the fence enclosing the tule elk, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed. Ranching interests must coexist with wildlife issues, otherwise we are racing toward a future where neither will exist.

**Correspondence ID:203**

Correspondence: we need to help and save all animals and the environment!

**Correspondence ID:204**

Correspondence: Dear All,

Please remove the fence confining the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. This elk herd, which faces significant challenges due to drought, poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from

springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Please do the right thing, the humane thing and embrace the approach that represents the American heritage and remove the fence and create a corridor.

Thank You.

Marina Mooney

**Correspondence ID:205**

Correspondence: I know that the dairy industry is important--I love my Clover butter. Isn't there a way to allow the Tule elk to thrive along with cattle in Tomales Point? With severe drought, my understanding is that the area they're confined in won't provide enough forage or water for them through the summer and into the fall. Please consider creating a wildlife corridor that would allow them to move into new areas--and stay alive. thank you!

**Correspondence ID:206**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence confining the elk to the point, and set up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed. This is the most humane option for the herd. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:207**

Correspondence: The elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:208**

Correspondence: I am concerned about the Pt Reyes elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020). Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:209**

Correspondence: The fence needs to be removed immediately! 150 of our native elk died. No living being should be tortured to death in this criminal matter. The remaining elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk. Remove the fence now!

**Correspondence ID:210**

Correspondence: Animals are God's creations, and we need to take better care of them.

**Correspondence ID:211**

Correspondence: Please remove the 8-foot fences that separates the Tule Elk herd from public lands used by ranchers for cattle. Stop kow-towing to ranchers, we pay for public land on behalf of the Tule Elk. By removing the fences this would allow the Tule Elk to find better food and water resources. This is the MOST humane option for the Tule Elk herd.

**Correspondence ID:212**

Correspondence: Please remove the 8-foot fences that separates the Tule Elk herd from public lands used by ranchers for cattle. Stop kow-towing to ranchers, we pay for public land on behalf of the Tule Elk. By removing the fences this would allow the Tule Elk to find better food and water resources. This is the MOST humane option for the Tule Elk herd.

**Correspondence ID:213**

Correspondence: I've Hiked in pt Reyes for 40 years, and though I am not opposed to the dairy farms, I do think it is inhumane to starve and deny water to the elk heard out on Tomalas pt.

**Correspondence ID:214**

Correspondence: These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd. Please allow them to be free once again. What you're doing is abuse, torture, and murder!

**Correspondence ID:215**

Correspondence: I completely support the plan to open the restricted area that the Tule deer are enclosed in at present.

As a result of the opening they'll be able to access better grazing areas and live in a more natural way.

Cattle ranchers should not be allowed to limit the activities of wild animals that are native to the area, and in this case that's Point Reyes.

Thank you. I hope you'll allow this to happen.

Best wishes,  
Emily Ennis

**Correspondence ID:216**

Correspondence: Help and save the Tule elk now - they deserve to be in nature and not behind fences!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:217**

Correspondence: I don't know much about this situation but I believe wild elk should be able to roam freely. If this many elk are dying in one year the policy of their containment in such a small area should be reevaluated. I realize that ranchers use our public lands for their cattle, etc. but this IS public land maintained with tax money. I believe that a better use could and should be arranged for MY public land. Lets use it to feed and care for the wildlife that were here first. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:218**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence and set up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed. That is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:219**

Correspondence: WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:220**

Correspondence: Pleas remove the fence.

**Correspondence ID:221**

Correspondence: Pt. Reyes National Seashore is a National Park. Wildlife, including the Tule Elk, should be fully protected in a National Park. Privately owned, for profit, ranches DO NOT BELONG IN A NATIONAL PARK. The leases should never have been extended. The large number of confined, domesticated cattle are polluting the water. The elk are fenced away from the water & forage they need to survive IN A NATIONAL PARK. The Park Service has no business taking orders from the ranchers (who are not biologists) to decide to kill native species just because they are in direct competition for water & forage with their domesticated cattle.

Cancel the leases. Shut down the ranches. Get the domesticated animals off the park lands. Fire the Park Service personnel who allowed native wildlife to die. FULL STOP!

Welfare ranching on public lands MUST BE STOPPED. I don't care how long they have lived there. They were given plenty of time to move their operations elsewhere.

**Correspondence ID:222**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:223**

Correspondence: This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held

behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

This elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you for considering my comments.

**Correspondence ID:224**

Correspondence: Please find and implement the most humane program for our endangered Pt. Reyes Tule Elk, which could include removing the fencing to allow them to find food and water. It is cruel and inhumane and unnecessary to deprive them of water and space to show preference for thousands of cows, especially since the Elk were there before ranchers were given this space. Please help save these beautiful, indigenous creatures from the cruel fate proposed for them. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:225**

Correspondence: i cant believe we even have to ASK for you to do the right thing by the Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:226**

Correspondence: please let these beautiful tule elk roam naturally at pt reyes. These are Gods creatures. It is a sin to pin these elk up[.

**Correspondence ID:227**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk Herd which lives in this area faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 of them to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for this herd.

Please, do not allow this elk herd to continue being confined to the Point area without a viable way to be able to look for water and food sources that will keep them alive. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:228**

Correspondence: We need to protect 30% of America's lands by 2030.

Time is running out, and I implore you to save whatever public lands we can before the climate crisis "doomsday" sets in!

**Correspondence ID:229**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd. Please remove fencing to allow the elk to roam naturally in search of food.

Thank you for your attention.

**Correspondence ID:230**

Correspondence: I am very concerned about the elk at Point Reyes National Seashore. According to reports that I have read, the elk are being prevented from grazing and are being kept fenced in an area where there is not enough food. These elk are malnourished, starving and some have died.

Apparently, the elk grazing area is being limited in order to allow ranchers to graze their cattle. This arrangement was , as I understand it, put in place years ago when the park was first created.

This arrangement NEEDS to be re-negotiated. It is unconscionable that wildlife are dying in order that ranchers can graze their cattle on public lands. Ranching is a business and taxpayers should not be subsidizing these ranchers. Furthermore, the elk need to be protected and allowed to thrive.

At the very minimum, the elk need to be fed and they need to be fed immediately. The park service needs to do this now so that the elk can be sustained. The park service has a responsibility to take care of the flora and fauna of the area. The ranchers should no longer be allowed to graze their cattle on Point Reyes National Seashore property.

**Correspondence ID:231**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:232**

Correspondence: Please create a wildlife corridor for the Tule elk to enable them to survive. It is the responsible and humane action to take as the National park Service are the stewards of the nature and wildlife it oversees.

**Correspondence ID:233**

Correspondence: SHAME! Your JOB is to protect native wildlife and natural areas - NOT cave in to greedy ranchers to allow them to overgraze fragile wildlife areas with cattle! The cattle are eating the plants meant for the local wildlife and fouling the water with their droppings. Meanwhile rare Tule Elk DIE of starvation and thirst, fenced away from THEIR OWN LAND! Anyone taking part in the sham should be drummed out of the park service and never allowed to set foot on Public Land of any kind again!

**Correspondence ID:234**

Correspondence: Please remove the harmful fence and set up a wildlife corridor for the Elk. It's the right thing to do. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:235**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence confining the Point Reyes elk so that they can safely seek food and water elsewhere.

**Correspondence ID:236**



Correspondence: please do not fence

**Correspondence ID:237**

Correspondence: Let the ELK run free as that is what nature is all about. Freeing the trapped!!

**Correspondence ID:238**

Correspondence: I understand that there is a plan underway to update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

The elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:239**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:240**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:241**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:242**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:243**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:244**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:245**

Correspondence: Subject: Public Planning Process for the Tomales Point Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

I am writing to voice my concern of the past management of the Tule Elk. I strongly advocate for the removal of the fence and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed. The poor food forage and the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019-2020). This is murder, pure and simple. It is inhumane to punish the elk in favor of lucrative capital income from ranching on public land.

**Correspondence ID:246**

Correspondence: The elk have a right to be on NPS land. NPS should immediately remove the fence and allow the animals to roam. To allow ranching but not the elks makes no sense. Let the elk live, get rid of the fence. Introduce predators for population control, the way nature intended it.

**Correspondence ID:247**

Correspondence: The plan and the park management have constantly demonstrated an inability to seek out best practices and actually provide the best park possible. The natural conclusion is to totally shut down the cattle business. Yes that means zero cows. Then stop caging the elk herds restrained by the eight foot fence. Zero fences in the park is the best option. Water quality and erosion control should be the total job of the park. Water coming to each beach should be completely safe. Can we make park headquarters drink the water leaving the ranch land?

While at reforms, stop herding elephant seals around the beaches. Seals should be deciding where seals go. Herding park visitors away from the wildlife is already too much intervention.

Actual restoration of the former oyster operation should go that extra mile and restore the shoreline to a natural condition. The flat field is much more like a parking lot than any wilderness shore area.

Larry Bryson

**Correspondence ID:248**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service

Please remove the fence that keeps the elk herd on Tomales Point captive and at the mercy of drought.

Please ensure that these local elk have consistent sources of forage and water, to increase the likelihood for this species to thrive.

Mankind Continues to decimate all forms of wildlife let's see if we can put a stop to this and instead help. if we continue on this current trajectory of disrespecting our environment we will pay a huge price. Please do your part to save our Elk

**Correspondence ID:249**

Correspondence: I am writing on behalf of the tomales elk. I have been fortunate to have spent quite a lot of time in most national parks in the western US, especially the Tetons and Yellowstone and have been in close contact with most of the wildlife. If we were to lose these animals it would be like losing your soul. This cannot be allowed to happen, every effort must be made to see that this does not happen. Please, keep the natl parks intact and the wildlife thriving. Randall boltz

**Correspondence ID:250**

Correspondence: These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you very much.

**Correspondence ID:251**

Correspondence: SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR REVIEW UNDER REVIEW OF MANAGEMENT OF TOMALES POINT, POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

- The hydrology of Tomales Point, including permanent and ephemeral water sources, their importance to plants requiring mesic conditions and their availability to tule elk, red-legged frogs and other aquatic dependent species (plant and animal). The projected future conditions of Tomales Point hydrology under various management scenarios.
- The current status, historical trends and projected future status under various management scenarios of endemic plant and animal species or those listed as species of concern by federal and state agencies.
- The current status, historical trends and projected future status under various management scenarios of the native plant communities of Tomales Point, including the historical impacts of ranching activities and the impacts of tule elk and black-tailed deer herbivory.
- Tule elk and black-tailed deer seasonal use patterns of the plant communities of Tomales Point and projected use under various management alternatives.
- Factors influencing the abundance, distribution and regulation of numbers of tule elk at Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:252**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:253**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:254**

Correspondence: The continuing situation with the Tule Elk herd in the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore becomes worse & worse for the elk. They are wild animals & deserve to roam. Right now, they are fenced off by the NPS & have been for decades. They are susceptible to drought, water shortages, scarcity & poor quality of food. One hundred fifty died in one year... all because of horrible problems created by man & government agencies. It is inhumane to fence off the elk to starve so farmers & ranchers can raise cattle. Please remove the fence & set up a wildlife corridor so the elk can leave the peninsula in search of food & water. It is cruel to let them starve & die. Thank you for accepting my comments.

**Correspondence ID:255**

Correspondence: WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:256**

Correspondence: WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:257**

Correspondence: WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:258**

Correspondence: WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:259**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:260**

Correspondence: My dear National Park Service,

I have been following the story about the needs of Industrial food farming v. the needs of wildlife in the park. I understand that now there is a fence preventing the Wild Elk from finding better access to food and water.

I ask myself why I care. I care that the Park Service has chosen to elevate the needs of the dairy and beef industry over the needs of wildlife. I am not a scientist or a professor. However I do understand the principle that all parts of our environment are important for all of us and for the entire ecosystem, which includes us.

I imagine that the industry brings income to the National Park. I believe we must be careful not to wipe out the natural ecosystem in the process. I hope you will see fit to help the Elk find the food and water they need to survive. One idea is to build them an overpass. Why not? It will cost money, I know. Since the beef and dairy industry has been introduced later, why can't some of the money they bring me be applied to help the wild Elk?

I am hopeful that you will receive many comments to this effect. I personally do not eat beef. I do occasionally use dairy products. I prefer to avoid causing the Elk to starve and suffer. Since the NPS is changing the environment, I hope you will have mercy on the poor Elk by allowing them to wander and find their own place to live.

Thank you for listening.

**Correspondence ID:261**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore should be controlled and operated by the tribes! All the ranches, rich assholes and superfluous park employees must no longer be part of the area  
<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2022-04-18/point-reyes-coast-miwok-ancestral-home-kule-loklo>

**Correspondence ID:262**

Correspondence: I would like to encourage the NPS to consider doing what is best for the Tule Elk Herd that lives in Tomales Point. The 8 foot fences that were erected in 1978, are far outdated and are restricting the movement of this endangered species. These fences should be removed and they should

be allowed to roam freely. Otherwise, their movements are restricted, which is especially problematic when food is scarce on the ground and the drought makes it even harder for them to find water. The priority should not be protecting cattle ranchers who may or may not even be there, but it should be to protect our areas wild life that needs our help. A wildlife corridor is a time tested and proven successful option that would allow the herd to move as it needs to to find necessary food and water, and protect other wildlife at the same time.

**Correspondence ID:263**

Correspondence: The lands, water, and wildlife at Point Reyes National Seashore must be protected, including the Tule Elk behind the fence at Tomales Point. The elk have suffered numerous droughts, trapped behind an 8 foot fence to prevent them from competing for forage or water with the neighboring ranches that lease land in the national park. Yet cattle impacts at Point Reyes Seashore continue to threaten the climate, coast, and public health. Egregious and long-standing lease violations by ranchers have been discovered. These same ranchers are seeking 20-year lease extensions at the Seashore under the GMPA. These ranchers pay below-market grazing fees with rents subsidized by taxpayer funds. The leases should not be extended under any circumstances.

Thank you for considering this comment.

Carol Joan Patterson  
Vice-president, Northwest Arkansas Audubon Society

**Correspondence ID:264**

Correspondence: Being intelligent and humane people, as you are all ready aware, removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option and the best option for the herd. PLEASE do so. There is not a moment to hesitate. There is not a moment to waste.

**Correspondence ID:265**

Correspondence: Dear PRNS Superintendent:

I am writing you to urge to you preserve the Elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore, and to help the best interests of these noble wild creatures.

I dive (when abalone season is open....), surf, live, and work in the Park or within 2 miles of the Park boundaries, and have done so for 3-4 decades (diving since 4/1/1986, living since early 1998).

I love to interact with the Tule Elk, whom I see as some of the very last wilderness available anywhere I have been to, and which give the Park credibility and reason for its existence. The Elk herds should protected, now and forever.

For that reason, I would propose the following:

- Removal of the Elk Fence;
- Limited population management of the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd, and only for the best interests of the herd;
- Provision of water in times of need;

As for visitor use at Pierce Point Ranch, I know from personal experience these noble animals tolerate humans well (in the Park, not elsewhere necessarily, like the Lost Coast), and therefore there should be no or very limited restrictions for visitors, even as clueless as some of these tend to be; even elephant seals have adjusted well recently to clueless humans lacking respect for giants.

Us humans have done enough damage with our greed and selfishness all over the planet; it is time to reverse the insane damage we have done to life everywhere, and learn to live within our means while learning to respect the fabric of life which surrounds us. It does not belong to us, but instead it is our responsibility to protect it.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Alistair Lizaranzu

**Correspondence ID:266**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:267**

Correspondence: It should be the job of the National Park Service to keep native species safe, not to kill them off in the cruelest ways possible. But you are proposing to put up a fence across parkland to keep tule elk from having access to water. This will not only kill the elk, but kill them in a prolonged horrible, horrible way. I find this to be unethical and completely outrageous. As a tax payer I don't want my money spent to treat animals in ways that totally violate my ethics. Why should I ever have any trust in or respect for the National Park Service if this is the kind of vicious proposal you come up with. Go back to the drawing board and come up with a humane proposal that includes, not kills, a native species.

**Correspondence ID:268**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

I ask that you focus on a General Management Plan as stated in legal context rather than micro-manage an Elk plan without context that excludes the direct impact on elk that ranching and exclusion of Native history impacts on elk in the park. A park management plan is grounded in a perspective - and I ask that the park perspective shift to include/fund/support Miwok "historical value" and preservation of wildlife as a priority over Eurocentric agriculture that continues a pattern of racism and exclusion. I am writing as a resident of Point Reyes National Seashore to emphasize the egregious omission of Native Miwok from the mission of "preserving historical" sites in the park. "Special use permits" need to include the opportunity for Native Miwok to apply and be residents of the park's 28% "ranch-lands" that have continued the practice of colonial white supremacy. Those permits must be updated to include Miwok people to reside on those lands at the same reduced cost per year as charged to ranchers (approximately \$10K per site).

Secondly, the park has a responsibility to refocus its funding and resources to support restoration and signage for Miwok sites, and renaming of sites to reflect Miwok, rather than colonial racism, like changing Laird's Landing to Felix Cove and restoring/moving buildings to create a park maintained site

protected from climate change rising waters. It is essential that every aspect of the park management plan integrate the "historical value" of Miwok people and their history in this park.

<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2022-04-18/point-reyes-coast-miwok-ancestral-home-kule-loklo>

Lastly, I urge you to watch the NPS produced study of the preservation of native animal species as the foundation of the revised "Elk Plan." It is essential to build on precedents of science in the design of the elk plan. Hart Mountain is a very similar geography and historical framing as PRNS: cattle ranching alongside sparse water sources and native species antelope. You need to follow the science and ground your decision for the elk plan on credible science for water resources and support of native species.

<https://youtu.be/sjdBJ9JfspM>

NPS can successfully support all 3 aspects of the original vision of the park to "preserve dwindling seashore environment, wildlife, and historical value" by shifting the focus of history to Miwok people obtaining special use permits for residency at subsidized costs at current ranch lands and taking down cattle fences for elk to thrive, our coastal prairie to revive, and Miwok history to come alive. Please implement the science and the non-colonial racism in the "historical value" of Point Reyes National Seashore as you revise the General Management plan and Elk Plan to reflect modern science precedents and social history integrity.

Sincerely,

Margo Wixsom

**Correspondence ID:269**

Correspondence: Dear PRNS Staff,

I insist that the national park follow the science and remove cows from our seashore due to ongoing water pollution, overgrazing, bulldozing or riparian creek banks, contaminating elk with Johnes/cow wasting disease, and recently public discovery of 6 ranch buildings diverting human sewage into the park lands for decades! When is enough enough when ranchers violate laws and Superintendent never hold ranchers to the terms of leases or give them consequences? NPS is grossly negligent in its responsibility to protect the environment and wildlife.

Please revise the General Management Plan to follow the intent of the creation of the park - to preserve coastal seashore and wildlife. Stop avoiding that responsibility by singling out culling elk from the park with a separate "elk plan." Follow the science for best land and wildlife conservation and remove private ranching on public lands due to pollution and chronic violations of lease terms. In the recent Record of Decision Superintendent Kenkel ignored the vast majority of public comment and, usual promotes only rancher perspectives and interests. WHY is NPS collecting public comment to simply rubber stamp their preferential treatment of a few dozen ranchers and 20-year leases, while the preservation of the environment and wildlife for millions of visitors goes ignored?

Follow the science. Cows degrade coastal prairies and constantly pollute the waterways. NPS stopped water testing in 2013 after explaining that 38% of ranchers "met water standards - which means 62% of ranchers are violating water quality standards. They used that heinous math to END water testing for a decade as ranchers continue to pollute our park. This pattern shows that NPS makes decisions solely in the interest of a few dozen private businessmen.



PLEASE use these comments to DO your duty to protect our coastal seashore, water quality, and wildlife and end ranching so that the elk on Tomales Point stop dying behind fences. DO your duty for a General Management Plan - not an "elk plan" based on rancher whim.

**Correspondence ID:270**

Correspondence: This is a beautiful stretch of wildlife. Please do what you can to ensure that it remains beautiful and protected for future generations!

**Correspondence ID:271**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

I am writing as a California Native and Marin County resident for the past 30+ years. My Uncle was the head Park Ranger in Big Sur State Park. He deeply appreciated nature and his life's work was instilling an appreciation, respect and love of nature in others. Until recently, I had nothing but respect for the Park Service. Then I found out what was happening with the Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore, and I was mortified. The more I learned about the Tule Elk management and the general management of PRNS, the more horrific, absurd and barbaric this management revealed itself to be.

Living in Point Reyes National Seashore are rare, endemic Tule Elk, who once numbered 500,000 in Point Reyes, brought back from the brink of extinction. Rather than care for and nurture these beautiful creatures, the Point Reyes National Park service has fenced in and imprisoned the Tomales Point Elk, allowing them to suffer horrific, unnatural and unnecessary deaths of starvation, dehydration and plant poisoning, so that the Elk won't interfere with the rancher's cows' ability to graze the forage that is rightfully the Elks. In addition, the National Park Service will shoot, murder, call it what you will, the "free roaming" Tule Elk that exceed an arbitrary number, concocted by the same NPS, for the same reasons- so they don't interfere with the rancher's cows.

Meanwhile, these ranchers, who were paid handsomely for their land 50 something years ago and were expected to vacate the national seashore, are still paying well below market rates to continue ranching on National Park Lands. These rancher's cows pollute and defile the public National seashore on a regular basis, as has been well documented in the recent water pollution test results, and they even have the gall to create secret landfill dumps on these national park lands, bulldoze fragile creek beds, dump raw human sewage on our national park lands, and call themselves "stewards" of the land. As you well know, these atrocities have all been well documented, so I don't need to go into details.

If this story above seems right to you, then you have entirely lost your moral compass and have no right to be entrusted with the job to "preserve and protect wilderness, natural ecosystems and cultural resources along the diminishing undeveloped coastline of the United States" as your own mission statement states:

The National Park Service and Its Mission:

"Point Reyes National Seashore was authorized in 1962 and established in 1972 to preserve and protect wilderness, natural ecosystems, and cultural resources along the diminishing undeveloped coastline of the United States. Located just an hour's drive from a densely populated metropolitan area, the Seashore is a sanctuary for countless plant and animal species and a haven for human inspiration, education, and recreation."

The National Park Service has an obligation to protect the wilderness and natural ecosystems, yet you have allowed half of the trapped and captive Tule Elk Tomales Point herd to perish within a short year. Point Reyes is hardly a sanctuary for plant and animal species!

I have tremendous gratitude and reverence for the wisdom of Clem Miller, who wrote and introduced the bill for the establishment of Point Reyes National Seashore in 1962, to protect this amazing coastal wilderness to be enjoyed and cherished for generations well beyond ours.

Under the PRNPS management allowing ranching on our national park lands, the public has continued to be deprived of coastal access, deprived of unmarred coastal views, the coastal waters have continued to be polluted with e-coli, which will continue to close the beaches and threaten the health of the public and numerous endangered species that are under your stewardship and care. Native wildlife and plants will continue to be destroyed and disappear. I am begging you to do the right thing, protect this precious and unique place, protect its native wildlife and plant life, protect the quiet and the breathtaking views and please protect the magnificent Tule Elk. These are all treasures, for all to enjoy and appreciate. The passing of "Plan B" as the ROD was a tragedy for both the public, wildlife, and history. PRNS should be focused on PRESERVING and PROTECTING it's wilderness, not protecting ranches and killing rare Tule Elk! Ranches have NO PLACE in a national park, and you have the authority to do what's right for the wilderness, the wildlife and the future. Take down the Elk fence and rid the national seashore of ranching.

Sincerely,  
Laura Phillips

**Correspondence ID:272**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence and provide water for them. Climate change is a man made catastrophe, so the old fashioned idea that park management should be hands-off and let nature takes its course no longer should apply. Also, I think most US citizens would be shocked that National Park land is being used extensively for cattle. National parks are about preservation and recreation, not subsidizing industries that damage the local and worldwide environment. Prioritizing the health of the elk herd would a step in the right direction.

**Correspondence ID:273**

Correspondence: Please Remove the Elk Fence! It is Killing the Elk! They need to roam freely to find water and food~

**Correspondence ID:274**

Correspondence: Any planning for tule elk at Tomales Point requires a comprehensive assessment of the herd's genetic status, and by inference those of other tule elk in the Seashore.

The 10 tule elk introduced to Tomales Point have been isolated from all other elk since their introduction in 1978. These .10 elk were derived from tule elk that had experienced a number of population bottlenecks in their management history.

**Correspondence ID:275**

Correspondence: Elk and cattle could share the land. To see a healthy herd of Elk roaming freely instills the heart that we can live among wildlife. My recommendation is to remove the fencing and enable the elk to seek forage. This area is not a zoo it is open space to live and enjoy the beauty of nature.

**Correspondence ID:276**

Correspondence: Please remove the tall elk fence that has killed half the herd. This would allow the elk to roam throughout PRNS to find food and water:

**Correspondence ID:277**

Correspondence: Thanks for your consideration for protecting the Tule elk herd, a national treasure. They need to be protected from the special interests that value ranching dollars over wildlife. Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:278**

Correspondence: The Tule elk on Tomales Point are, effectively, imprisoned, and are thus at the mercy of water and forage availability within that restricted territory. This is CRUEL. These elk are held behind 8-foot fences that were erected to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

Removing the fence and allowing the elk (via a wildlife corridor) to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

152 Tule elk died in Point Reyes National Seashore's "Tule elk reserve" from 2019 to 2020, according to a YOUR VERY OWN press release. It is not right to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach.

JUST DO THE RIGHT THING, PLEASE!

**Correspondence ID:279**

Correspondence: With everything I can, I ask you to look at all the details of Pt. Reyes National Seashore before making or approving a plan. Please consider the elk that are fenced and starving and often without water in our droughts. Consider the pollution the cows make both to the air and the waters and that the ranchers were paid for their land long ago. Think about the Miwok who ought to be there caring for their land instead of the ranchers who are not. "Historical" is often used to describe the ranchers but that is ludicrous relative to the deep history of the Miwok on these lands that were stolen from them. Please look at the complete destruction of anything that grows the cows have done to the land vs the sustainable grazing the elk do. Take a look at the photos from above the elk fence to see this stark contrast. Understand ranchers are bulldozing streams, letting raw human sewage go into the fields and turning our park lands into literal dump sites. And for them, we fence and kill the elk. Please be on the right side of history here. Free the elk, return the land to the Miwok or at least the public, protect our National Seashore. "Preserve dwindling seashore environment, wildlife, and historical value" - this was the goal of Pt. Reyes' creation.

**Correspondence ID:280**

Correspondence: Please remove the tall elk fence that has killed half the herd. This would allow the elk to roam throughout PRNS to find food and water. Thanks for asking for input.

**Correspondence ID:281**

Correspondence: Dear Sirs,

It is up too us to prevent extinction of any of Gods creatures, and to preserve the life sustaining properties of the Earth. One destruction of the Garden of Eden is more than enough. We have a responsibility to future generations to see the Earth as it was for us.

**Correspondence ID:282**

Correspondence: Please remove the tall elk fence that has killed half the herd. This would allow the elk to roam throughout PRNS to find food and water. Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:283**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern:

As a tax-paying citizen who has a RIGHT to enjoy America's wilderness, I urge you to think of the Tule elk as Native Americans. They are nearly extinct. They do not have a voice. They are struggling to survive in their historical homeland, which was theirs before humans exploited the land for profit. They are part of the natural ecosystem. Killing them off is not an option. Their legacy must be prioritized. As a Californian, I am ashamed that the National Park Service and the farmers/ranchers could display such ignorance and promote such barbarity at this crucial moment in the history of our planet.

Thank you for your time and attention.

**Correspondence ID:284**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:285**

Correspondence: This is disgusting and shameful that you are intentionally KILLING rare tule elk to appease greedy ranchers. This is NOT private land set aside for grazing. This is PUBLIC land.

**Correspondence ID:286**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:287**

Correspondence: I believe with the increasing challenges of climate change and drought, the elk should not be contained by the fence. Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed; this is the most human option for the herd. While I understand the legacy and economic importance of the ranching at Point Reyes, I believe preserving the area for wildlife and ecotourism is the best use of the land.

**Correspondence ID:288**

Correspondence: The elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:289**

Correspondence: Please - no more killing of wildlife. If too many, sterilize or move to another area.

**Correspondence ID:290**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:291**

Correspondence: Our family is asking for The "National Park Service" to plan to remove the fences in the "Tomales Point" area of "Point Reyes National Seashore"! Removing the fence, and, setting up a, wildlife, corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of, better, food, and, water sources, as needed, is the most, humane, option for the herd!

This plan will update the, management, guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the Park. These elk are confined to the "Point", held behind 8-foot, fences that were erected, in 1978, by the "Park Service" to, cruelly, separate this herd from the, public, land used by ranchers for cattle!

Our family has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces, significant, challenges due to drought! Poor quality forage, and, the reduction in flow from springs, and, seeps that are the, main, sources of water for the, captive, elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a, single, year (2019 - 2020)!

**Correspondence ID:292**

Correspondence: The most humane option for the herd is to remove the fence and set up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed. Have a heart. They're out there without a safety net - no health plan, no food stamps, no safety net. I'm counting on you to do the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:293**

Correspondence: I am writing to express sadness and outrage about the current treatment of tule elk in Point Reyes, CA. They are confined behind a 3 mile long fence that has become a graveyard for more than 400 elk over the past 9 years, many dying from thirst and starvation. Meanwhile the National Park Service prioritizes destructive land and water polluting practices of cattle and dairy ranches, whose operations are subsidized by taxpayers. The drought situation is dire as water sources have dried up, forage has become deficient in mineral content, and over 150 elk perished in the last couple of years alone. NPS's failure to protect captive, suffering elk is horrifying, unacceptable and inhumane. The park should instead release the elk from behind the fence and give them access to food and water, and augment as needed due to the severe drought.

There are only around 5,500 native wild tule elk left on our planet - and yet there are as many cattle & cows at the Point Reyes National Seashore alone. NPS's plan to extend private ranch leases for another 20 years, expanding livestock and commercial crops, would effectively abandon the native tule elk population and further commodify public land. The plan not only neglects to include any measure that

would help the dying captive elk, but also authorizes NPS to kill healthy elk in the southern free-ranging herds in their quest to “manage the population”.

I plead and urge you to adopt an alternative plan that preserves the park for recreational and educational purposes, protects the tule elk populations, and phases out ranching in the next 5 years. Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd. The Point Reyes National Seashore is a treasure for all Americans and the wildlife and habitat within its bounds must be protected. Private ranching should not be prioritized above conservation.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration of this very important matter.

Respectfully,

Nicole Heslip

**Correspondence ID:294**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:295**

Correspondence: I am submitting comments in regard to the management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

This elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:296**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

**Correspondence ID:297**

Correspondence: Remove the fence - the elk were here first!

**Correspondence ID:298**

Correspondence: The National Park Service (NPS) has initiated a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

**Correspondence ID:299**

Correspondence: Tule Elk are only found in California. They deserve to be free on public land. Cattle need to be removed, their feces is contaminating the fresh water and flowing into the ocean. Now the ranchers want more land and the Tule Elk shot and killed. Cattle come a dime a dozen but Tule Elk are unique and should be recognized as endangered species. Take down the fence get rid of the cattle, the public owns the land not the greedy cattle ranchers. 28,000 acres of land for cows while Tule Elk are trapped behind a fence and starving on a 72,000 acre federal public land. Do we protect 5,000 cows that are found all over the world or do we protect 6,000 Tule Elk that are only found in California?

Hazardous Fecal Waste Pollution by Cattle Ranchers Prompts Protest at Point Reyes National Seashore  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NPCXKsUg3ss>

Waste from 5,000 cows is causing severely toxic health breaches, and compromising wild animal, environmental, and human health safety. <http://www.idausa.org/elk>

Do the right thing and FREE the Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:300**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:301**

Correspondence: It is unethical for you to stop these animals from reaching water, and more grazing areas.

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:303**

Correspondence: Who in the park service is in Who's Pocket- the cattlemen's pocket maybe?&gt;?!@!@ Just like the blm in who's pocket!!!! THIS IS PUBLIC LAND!!!! NOT CATTLEMEN'S LAND!!@!!

“These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by RANCHERS FOR CATTLE.”

“Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 ELK TO DIE in a single year (2019 - 2020).”

“Removing the fence, and setting up a Wildlife Corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd!!!!!!”

**Correspondence ID:304**

Correspondence: To whom this should Concern, 4/21/2022

You cannot allow this senseless slaughter of one of Nature's beautiful creations. These cattle have been devouring and ruining the landscape for decades to the benefit of their money-grubbing owners. The cattle pollute the atmosphere, pollute the ground, use an enormous amount of water resources and contribute to the obesity of our nation as people ingest the growth hormones that these animals are fed.

Have you ever seen the Elk on the land and how natural and beautiful they are? They are a symbol of freedom and grace not the symbol of death on the hoof. Not one person that has admired these lovely Elk would approve of this slaughter except those that have lost their appreciation of natural life.

Where are you in that mix?

Sincerely,  
Neil Illiano

**Correspondence ID:305**

Correspondence: Please help the Tule Elk herd by setting up a wildlife corridor and removing the fence to these animals can have better forage and water sources. This will help with their survival and prevent the large numbers of deaths per year. Thank you for helping these beautiful animals.

**Correspondence ID:306**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:307**

Correspondence: Please help these glorious wild animals survive! America has too many endangered animals and birds and insects such as honey bees! I am very worried about survival of all!

These wonderful animals are now added to my list to champion, out of concern for their survival!

You can remedy their current difficulties & I implore you to help! Now!

Thanks so very much, as I am counting on you & am grateful!

JLangford

**Correspondence ID:308**

Correspondence: Native elk should have more rights to parkland than domestic cattle. They are dying due to limitations to water and food. The fence needs to be removed



**Correspondence ID:309**

Correspondence: Native elk should have more rights to parkland than domestic cattle. They are dying due to limitations to water and food. The fence needs to be removed

**Correspondence ID:310**

Correspondence: I have read that The National Park Service (NPS) has initiated a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

This elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd. So PLEASE do remove the Tomales Point Elk Fence forever.

**Correspondence ID:311**

Correspondence: Please remove this fence and let the elk roam free!!!

Thanks

June Curley

**Correspondence ID:312**

Correspondence: Please make it possible to allow the elk to graze outside the area they have now. They must be preserved.

**Correspondence ID:313**

Correspondence: I urge you to stand up for the elk herd and give them more space, and better forage. Please take down the fence! In 1978, when the fence was erected, the animal rights movement was not as far as it is now. We now know that all animals are sentient beings and they deserve good treatment just as people do. Therefore, I urge you to make a positive change and give these elk the freedom and access to food and water to make a stand for animal rights.

Thank you for thinking of the well-being of the Tule Elk herd.

**Correspondence ID:314**

Correspondence: As a former CA resident and frequent eco-tourist, I'm appalled that the Park Service is blatantly ignoring their core mission by FATALLY fencing local wildlife away from their OWN food and water sources! You do NOT work for greedy ranchers - you work FOR US. Your JOB is to save and protect wilderness and wildlife, not line the pockets of ranchers getting bargain basement prices to strip all the edible plants from an area while fouling the scarce water with cattle droppings.

TAKE DOWN THE FENCE! Kick out the cattle. Allow nature to return to Public Lands - where it belongs!

**Correspondence ID:315**

Correspondence: SAVE OUR TULE ELK NOW DAMN IT!,!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! CATTLE SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED IN OUR NATIONAL PARKS, MONUMENTS, NATIONAL FORESTS!,!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! CATTLE ARE HORRIBLY DESTRUCTIVE!,!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:316**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:317**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:318**

Correspondence: National Park Service, I urge and beg you to remove the fence that keeps the elk herd on Tomales Point captive and at the mercy of drought.

Thank you for your urgency,  
Ms Setaro

**Correspondence ID:319**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence that keeps the elk herd on Tomales Point captive and at the mercy of drought and no access to water.

**Correspondence ID:320**

Correspondence: I am commenting on the management plan for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore. The Tule Elk herd in the park is suffering from lack of water and forage, and needs to be allowed to move around in search of sustenance. The fence that traps the elk at the tip of the peninsula needs to be removed and a wildlife corridor set up so that the elk can leave the peninsula in search of better food and water as needed. The current plan prioritizes cattle and private ranchers, who profit from our public land at the expense of wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:321**

Correspondence: I was not under the impression that Point Reyes National Seashore was established to provide grazing for the cattle industry. National lands should prioritize national wildlife, not industry.

**Correspondence ID:322**

Correspondence: I love national and state parks, and hope they continue to flourish not only for the humans that visit, but for the plants and animals that call them home.

In regards to the Tule elk herd that reside in the Tomales Point area, I support the research and recommendations expressed by WildCare.

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Considering the climate crisis, we must make our wild animals a priority over commercial interests, especially those like cattle that increase our global warming, and decrease our health.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:323**

Correspondence: I would like the elk fence removed at mollis point. It is inhumane and fails to care for the well-being of wild and free animals that need to source their own water and food during the climate conditions we now experience in California. Please remove the fence immediately as part of this plan. Thank you

**Correspondence ID:324**

Correspondence: I apologize for this second comment, but my spellcheck changed the name of the point and I did not want it to be disregarded For having the wrong name. My comment should read... I would like the elk fence removed at Tamales (not mollis) point. It is inhumane and fails to care for the well-being of wild and free animals that need to source their own water and food during the climate conditions we now experience in California. Please remove the fence immediately as part of this plan. Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:325**

Correspondence: I was raised in Marin County and over the last 60 years the environment has changed drastically. Climate change, extreme drought, and extraordinary fires throughout California have become the norm. And yet, the National Parks, whose mission is to preserve and protect, has apparently lost sight of why it was created in the first place. It was an extraordinary vision at its inception, and retaining the historic ranches in Pt Reyes may have been well intended, but the world has changed. The environment has changed. We are on a precipice; and cattle ranching, dairies, and other domestic animals and agriculture are perhaps the last thing that should be supported within the Pt Reyes National Park. We have so little water - it is always shocking for a native Marinite/ Californian to see how poor the conditions are. The water quality issues are real and profound; the once local wildlife (including, and perhaps especially, the reintroduced elk) are struggling to survive, and NONE should be fenced in where they have no opportunity to forage for much needed food and water. Stand true to the stated purpose of our national parks, stand true for the benefit of mitigating climate change, and stand true for those that have no voice. We, the majority, are counting on you to do the right thing now and in perpetuity. If you do not, something profound and precious will be lost forever, on your watch.

**Correspondence ID:326**

Correspondence: Sighting a Tule Elk in the wild is a thrilling experience & we are lucky to have this treasured species in our local parkland. What's disturbing to me is the seeming lack of compassion for this wildlife species need for basic health & freedom, something we are responsible for as we brought them back to the Point Reyes National seashore area where they once thrived. I would hope we would honor this trust and provide open space & access to necessary food & water for a humane environment for this herd. Do the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:327**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:328**

Correspondence: I am asking you to do the humane thing. Remove fencing and set up a wildlife corridor so elk can find appropriate food and water.

**Correspondence ID:329**

Correspondence: Hi,

I agree that the fence should come down and the herd should be able to forage for food and have a water source. I know people who live in that area and they said some of those ranchers knew the elk were dying of thirst and they just laughed about it. The ranchers do not care about any animal unless it brings them money. They kill every critter that comes onto their property.

I know cattle have to live somewhere, but I don't think they are in a good spot. They are adorable with their big brown eyes and sweet disposition, but they are so hard on the land, destroying it, and the amount of urine etc. that goes in the water is no good.

I really hope that we will finally get something good for the elk and they can once again live good lives. People don't go to the coast to see the cattle. They do go to see the elk. It's a fact. Please help the elk and bring the area back to what it used to be.

Sincerely,

Cathy Damazio

**Correspondence ID:330**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

I hope you will help protect the elk herd.

**Correspondence ID:331**

Correspondence: The Park is for CONSERVATION of native flora, fauna, WILDLIFE. Protecting the Tule Elk and remediation of the POLLUTED ENVIRONMENT (water and soil) are your top priorities. The fencing must immediately be removed and recycled. The ranchers contracts must be nullified/voided as their presence is the antithesis of CONSERVATION/the purpose/function of the Park. No harm must come to any Elk. You must stop treating the Elk as a nuisance. The ranchers are the unwelcome polluting nuisance. NO RANCHES! NO FENCING! PROTECT THE ELK AND REMEDIATE THE ENVIRONMENT THAT THE DAMN RANCHES HAVE CAUSED! OR YOU SHOULD BE FIRED FOR JOB MALFEASANCE!

**Correspondence ID:332**

Correspondence: After watching some the very last mountain caribou die in the herd close to our home, I can tell you PENNING an animal like an elk or a caribou will not guarantee their survival. Please find a way these elk can roam freely before they go extinct like the caribou in our region!!!

**Correspondence ID:333**

Correspondence: Please let these beautiful animals roam to find better food and water sources. This was all theirs before we put up fences. Please let the Elk live as they were meant to, free. Have a heart

for those that can't speak for themselves. Don't let this species die off from our doing. Mother Nature depends on us to care for it, for us and the future. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:334**

Correspondence: We need to take better care of what is left of our environment, for wildlife, marine life, plant life, and people.

**Correspondence ID:335**

Correspondence: The ranchers have been paid X10, now you wish to let them expand their self sustaining, private enterprises in our Natl. Park? The elk belong here, let them roam free, fence in the greedy, private ranchers!

**Correspondence ID:336**

Correspondence: Please ensure that the elk herds that reside on Tomales Point have safe access from the ocean to natural habitats.

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources is the most humane thing that you can do!

**Correspondence ID:337**

Correspondence: the Elks were on the land first the Ranchers moved in to their territory. We are the keepers of the land and animals we must protect and not destroy

**Correspondence ID:338**

Correspondence: National Park Service (NPS) has initiated a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

I have been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

In addition, as a taxpayer I am consistently irritated when our government allows private livestock onto public lands. Ideally, the cattle should be removed and the elk should be allowed freedom within the park. The taxpayers of this country want and deserve nothing less than for the lands that are paid for by our tax dollars to be used for what they were intended and not for subsidized livestock grazing. Anything less is a lie and a case of taxpayers being cheated.

**Correspondence ID:339**

Correspondence: I think the Elk deserve their fair share of beneficial grazing land. If cattlemen want to have land to raise cattle, they should buy their own land. They should not be allowed on park property.

**Correspondence ID:340**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:341**

Correspondence: I strongly believe that cattle ranching should be excluded from the National Park. The elk are an endemic species (yes, I know they were re-introduced, but they originally lived here) and their welfare should be prioritized. Cattle ranching pollutes the watershed and restricts public access. This land was protected so that it could be wild. The plan was that ranches in the National Park would be phased out... follow the plan! Get rid of ranching in the National Park!!! Focus on the well being of the environment, the quality of the water, the health of the land and the survival of the elk.

Please... the public wants this. Pay attention.

Thank you for your consideration.

Glenda Corning

**Correspondence ID:342**

Correspondence: Please REMOVE THE TOMALES POINT ELK FENCE.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:343**

Correspondence: Please consider removing parts of the fence constructed to prevent the Tule Elk from moving onto other parts of the landscape. All animals deserve the freedom of movement to search for food and water. A wildlife corridor is absolutely essential to maintaining the wildlife we have. When Man plays God & figures he knows better how to manage the world, calamity ensues. We now more than ever need to ensure ALL our species survive. The extinction of any animal impacts us all and places our own survival in jeopardy.

**Correspondence ID:344**

Correspondence: Hello,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comment.

Since 1978, the Tule Elk herd at the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore have been confined to this region of the park. 8-foot fences erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers is outdated and cruel.

The elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought and poor quality forage. The reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

It is 2022, and we can do better.

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed is the most humane option for the herd.

Thank you for your consideration, and please do the right thing.

Sheila Nason

**Correspondence ID:345**

Correspondence: These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle. This is just wrong, and you know it.

This elk herd faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

The best option is to get cattle and sheep, invasive species, off public lands.

**Correspondence ID:346**

Correspondence: The Elk herd should be free to roam in my and our National Seashore. I don't understand why this Elk Fence exists for the northern herd. .

We are in support of reducing cattle ranching and grazing in PRNS.

The seashore now belongs to the public and we need this open space and wilderness areas accessible for the public.

We want to interact with wild preferably pristine nature, not privately operated farms and thousands of cows and grazed public land.

At minimum it is time to open the Elk Fences on the northern portion of PRNS /Tomales State Park area

**Correspondence ID:347**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence and let these beings live! It's horrific to let them die from thirst or hunger because of the greedy cattlemen.

**Correspondence ID:348**

Correspondence: The National Park Service (NPS) has initiated a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:349**

Correspondence: Removing the fence and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd. Let them live free!

**Correspondence ID:350**

Correspondence: The National Park Service (NPS) has initiated a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.so

**Correspondence ID:351**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:352**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:353**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

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Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:355**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:356**

Correspondence: The ranches should be immediately removed from the Point Reyes National Seashore. Do not renew any leases with these ingrates who have been destroying this land for 50+ years. A couple of disgusting examples are the human sewage that goes directly from ranch workers homes to ponds on



two ranches and has likely been going on for many years, and the dumpsite of old equipment found on another ranch in the seashore. Both of these inexcusable violations were found by visitors to the park, not rangers or other park workers. What exactly do workers in the park system do for their salaries if they do not monitor what goes on at the ranches?

The NPS has a dismal record of dealing with the native tule elk and has shown very little effort to accommodate this native and endangered species other than by allowing them to die from lack of forage and water. If you are not ashamed of yourselves, you should be as the park service has clearly shown themselves as cruel and uncaring.

The land is being decimated by cattle and dairy ranches whose animals trample the native grasses and plants and turn the land into a mix of mud and manure. Having seen this degradation, I am amazed that the NPS can dare to consider itself to be anything other than the worst examples of killers of the park. It is time to turn the Point Reyes National Seashore back into the park planned by the US government when they purchased the land in 1962. Do not renew any leases with ranchers. Their time is long over and the public can clearly see the damage they have done with the blessing of the NPS.

### **Correspondence ID:357**

Correspondence: Thank you for this opportunity to comment on The Tomales Point Area Plan for Pt. Reyes. My husband, Gordon and I advocate for the hard won parkland that is rich in wildlife and a national treasure trove of trees and vegetation. We are particularly concerned for the Tule Elk and want to see these wonderful animals free to roam throughout the park for forage and available water. The idea of killing these animals in order to reduce their population is abhorrent to us. We support a park system that honors and treasures all the wildlife. Time is slipping by and our land is precious. Being long time residents of both Marin and Sonoma, we celebrated with Diane Feinstein and Barbara Boxer the creation of this park. It is inconceivable to us that the Tule Elk have suffered and died so that ranchers could raise cattle. What ever happened to the Park Service that is supposed to guard and protect our wildlife?

As you well know, cattle bring pollution and damage to the land. To increase their population goes against common sense in the face of Global Warming and the spiraling loss of habitat and wildlife. We want to save and keep this park land for the wild animals and the birds. We want to know that there is clean water, running streams and expansive grasslands where the Tule Elk roam. The Tule Elk is to Pt. Reyes as the Bison is to Yellowstone or Moose and Grizzly Bears are to Glacier National Park. They are icons. We would like the National Park System to rise above the commercial pressures of big ranching interests and protect this park for future generations, for the Natural World and for remaining true to the original promises made to us in the protection of this magnificent park. Gordon and Christine Cohen,

### **Correspondence ID:358**

Correspondence: Hi, I am an Inverness resident who moved here to live in nature at The point Reyes National Seashore. I walk two to three days a week at Abbott's Lagoon and Kehoe Beaches. I have become increasingly appalled to see cows taking over the seashore and getting out of their fenced areas and coming down to the path or to the beach at Kehoe. The smell of their toxic waste has become stronger while walking these trails and it is obvious at Kehoe that one side of the trail are healthy wetland areas with native brush while the other side is degraded overgrazed areas. Cows do not belong at a national seashore--they are polluting our waters and our park. Ranchers need to be eliminated in order to re-wild the national seashore where the fence at Tomales Point must come down so that the elk are free to forage and not die (250 died in 2020 alone from a lack of water and forage)! This is disgraceful! They are beautiful animals who draw the tourists here ( not the cows)! The Park re-introduced them in the 70's but have not provided for them properly. We need true stewards of the

land who will tend to the native plants and wild animals who live here and not pander to the whims of the ranchers who were paid millions by the NPS when they bought the land from them. The misnomer of most locals standing behind the historical and cultural myths of ranching is just not true--there are many of us who want the ranches out and the elk freed from behind the fence so that we can have a park that belongs to all of us! The Miwok were here before the ranchers and they would be the best stewards of the land--no more ranchers getting away with dumping trash and raw sewage, paying low salaries to their workers, many of whom live in sub-standard working conditions, and no more toxic greenhouse grasses from cows polluting the soil and the waters!  
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Andrea Glass

**Correspondence ID:359**

Correspondence: Native species should be a priority. The elk herd should not be confined to benefit ranchers. I do not visit a national park to see cows. The overgrazing by cattle and water pollution needs to be stopped.

**Correspondence ID:360**

Correspondence: Hello, for crying out loud please remove the fence in Tomales Bay that would allow the elk to migrate as necessary for food and water.

There is no reason to keep the poor elk trapped behind these decades old fences.

Remove the fences and set up a wildlife corridor for the Tule Elk of Tomales Bay.

Thank you very much.

Martin A. Horwitz

**Correspondence ID:361**

Correspondence: Elk herd face significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Please choose compassion for these Elk and other animals.

**Correspondence ID:362**

Correspondence: Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

**Correspondence ID:363**

Correspondence: April 25, 2022

Craig Kenkel, Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes, CA 94956

RE: Tomales Point Area Plan

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

River Otter Ecology Project, based in Marin County, CA, engages the public in supporting conservation and restoration by linking river otter recovery to the health of our watersheds through research, education, and community science. River otters, although not a protected species, are sentinel apex predators that use every part of watersheds, from headwaters to ocean. Their presence and success are important indicators of ecosystem function and environmental health.

For ten years, we have conducted intensive research on river otter populations within Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). Consistent with National Park Service (NPS) Management Policy 4.2, our "studies support the NPS mission by providing the Service, the scientific community, and the public with an understanding of park resources, processes, values, and uses that will be cumulative and constantly refined."

The following comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan (Plan) reflect our organizational mission; our understanding of laws and policies relevant to management of NPS lands generally and PRNS in particular; and our dual role as scientists working to understand the ecosystem function of the park's natural resources, and as members of the public on whose behalf these lands and waters have been entrusted to the care of the National Park Service.

As a general observation, we note that the public will not accept the validity of a planning process whose outcome is perceived to be a foregone conclusion. By characterizing the purpose of the Plan as only addressing impacts of drought on Tule elk confined within the Reserve, rather than the larger issue of management of the elk as a wildlife resource within PRNS, NPS risks a loss of public faith in the process before it has even begun. The public may justifiably assume that NPS' main objective is to avoid adverse impacts to ranch leaseholders rather than to park natural resources.

Our specific comments are as follows:

1. The planning area and affected environment should be broadly defined, and not arbitrarily limited to the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve.

The public notice of the project effort mischaracterizes the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan, which this project is intended to replace, as pertaining only to the 2,900-acre reserve at Tomales Point. At the time of the 1998 plan, all the elk present in at PRNS were confined to Tomales Point, but the plan holistically considered all of PRNS in its analysis of the affected environment. As a result, a free-range herd was established in the southern portion of the Philip Burton Wilderness Area. Replacing the 1998 plan with a management plan that considers only the 2,900 acres at Tomales Point would predetermine the outcome of the planning process as continued confinement of the elk at the reserve.

2. Management of the Tule elk as individual herds improperly serves the interests of ranchers rather than the protection of natural resources.

All the elk currently present in PRNS are descended from the 10 elk brought to Point Reyes in 1978, and should be managed as a single population, rather than as individual herds. The practice of managing

individual herds is the direct result of elevating the interests of ranch leaseholders over the protection and preservation of wildlife and other park natural resources, contrary to NPS management policies, the Organic Act, and the PRNS enabling legislation. The 2020 General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), for example, dictates management strategies for the various herds based solely on their perceived or alleged levels of conflict with ranch operations.

The planning process should thoroughly examine the management implications of recent research on genetic isolation of wildlife populations (Ralls et al. 2018), and habitat selection patterns of ungulates on wildlands in proximity to rangelands (Hughey et al. 2021).

3. The planning effort should consider and analyze the reasonably foreseeable effects of climate change on feral and domesticated ungulates and the affected environment.

The Tule elk are only one of several species of ungulates currently present in PRNS. The GMPA did not consider the individual or cumulative effects of climate change on the affected environment, including those related to ungulate grazing. The current planning effort should consider and analyze those effects, as well as the likely combined effects of climate change and feral and domesticated ungulate grazing as stressors affecting ecosystem function and resilience. Such effects may include, among others, accelerated alteration of plant communities, resulting in reduced habitat for birds and insects; reductions in biodiversity; acceleration of soil compaction and erosion; and increased degradation of riparian and aquatic habits. The planning effort should identify management strategies to avoid such adverse impacts.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Respectfully,

Megan Isadore  
Executive Director  
River Otter Ecology Project

References:

Hughey, L.F., K.T. Shoemaker, K.M. Stewart, D.J. McCauley, J. H. Cushman. 2021. Effects of human-altered landscapes on a reintroduced ungulate: Patterns of habitat selection at the rangeland-wildland interface. *Biological Conservation*. Volume 257.

Ralls, K., J. D. Ballou, M. R. Dudash, M. D. B. Eldridge, C.B. Fenster, R. C. Lacy, P. Sunnucks, & R. Frankham. 2018. Call for a Paradigm Shift in the Genetic Management of Fragmented Populations. *Conservation Letters*, 11(2), 1-6.

**Correspondence ID:364**

Correspondence: As a retired wildlife rehabilitator, I am especially concerned about the treatment of the Tule Elk behind the fence at Pt. Reyes National Seashore. It is an outrage that native wildlife is confined so that a handful of private ranchers can graze their cows. National parks should be for native wildlife - NOT COWS. The fence should come down, and the elk should be free to roam. The cattle need to be phased out. Those ranches should have left long ago. The cows are totally denuding the landscape at a national park. This is not right. If, for some reason, the NPS decides that the fence must stay -- and that

should not happen -- then the elk must be treated as any zoo animal is treated. They need food, water, supplements and veterinary care. Never, for even a moment, should Tule Elk be killed, so the cattle can graze. Those cows are all going to be killed anyway. Let the elk roam free.

**Correspondence ID:365**

Correspondence: As a longtime visitor to Pt. Reyes National Park, I cannot understand how it is that ranching continues to take place long after the leases were intended to run out. One has to conclude that the regional NPS staff are beholden to the ranchers and the farm lobby; they are not working to "preserve and protect for future generations." No one comes to a National Park to see cows - they come to experience the land, the wildness, and the wildlife.

I recently hiked out to Tomales Point, seeing several elk along the way. But the sight of the enclosing fence and what it means for the elk saddened me. The elk should roam free over land that they previously occupied for millennia; the cows should be removed to the Central Valley or elsewhere. Cows do just fine most anywhere on other agricultural land in California - the elk belong in Pt. Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:366**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:367**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

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Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

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The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

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Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:371**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:372**

Correspondence: Please take down the fences...protect the wildlife first.

**Correspondence ID:373**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:374**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:375**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:376**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:377**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore is a natural treasure, not for ranchers to profit from its private use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. Elk need freedom to move in order to access food and water; please remove all fences.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:378**

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Please take down the fence. It is so unfair to the elks. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:379**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:380**

Correspondence: I urge you to preserve wildlife. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,

Blake

**Correspondence ID:381**

Correspondence: Protecting native wildlife should be the FIRST priority...not the last priority on our public lands.

**Correspondence ID:382**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:383**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

• The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:384**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:385**

Correspondence: Save elk

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:386**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing, and take down the fence.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:387**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. In addition, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Finally, the NPS should prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:388**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:389**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this extremely important issue.

**Correspondence ID:390**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point

Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:391**

Correspondence: Removed the fence for our animals.

**Correspondence ID:392**

Correspondence: Protect the environment and preserve this important species

**Correspondence ID:393**

Correspondence: Save elk

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:394**

Correspondence: - The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

2 Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

3 The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:395**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for considering this message.

**Correspondence ID:396**

Correspondence: I am an ecologist and environmental educator in North Carolina. I have seen the Thule elk, and it made a big impression on me. In this country, we are stewards of the incredible diversity of this land--once it is gone, it is gone forever. I fear that in the case of the Thule elk, greed and temporary considerations are trumping preservation of biodiversity. I urge you to take down the fences and protect the elk--do not let the needs of cattle ranchers trump the needs of biodiversity preservation. Thank you for considering my comments.

**Correspondence ID:397**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, including me, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:398**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:399**

Correspondence: Folks:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thx for considering my comments.

**Correspondence ID:400**

Correspondence: PLEASE save the ELK this is CRUEL!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:401**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:402**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:403**

Correspondence: Save the Tule Elk. Take down the fence. Let them free so they will survive. Stop considering the ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:404**

Correspondence: We really hope you strongly consider the statement below. These are special elk and we need to protect them better!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:405**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:406**

Correspondence: Save elk

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:407**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

We have destroyed much of nature through our heedless and cruel ways. Eating meat is not essential; saving the wild life is. Without it, we perish.

Please take down the fences.

Sincerely,

Beverly Foster

**Correspondence ID:408**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:409**

Correspondence: Please treat the elk as a endangered species, as it indeed is. Remove the fence and allow the elk to run free. Modify the contract allowing the grazing of cattle in the adjacent acreage.

**Correspondence ID:410**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:411**

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The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:412**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:413**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:414**

Correspondence: Take down the fence for the sake of the wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:415**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:416**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. A decision was made years ago to close an oyster farm there, but protecting our tule elk is more important.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:417**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. A decision was made years ago to close an oyster farm there, but protecting our tule elk is more important.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:418**

Correspondence: Dear Madam, dear Sir,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,

Meryl Pinque

**Correspondence ID:419**

Correspondence: Protect Nature and protect humanity.

**Correspondence ID:420**

Correspondence: This seems like the consequence of egregious mismanagement. No excuse for it. Please remove the access to grazing by cattle in these public lands.

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:421**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:422**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:423**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:424**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:425**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:426**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:427**



Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

#### **Correspondence ID:428**

Correspondence: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE! Not the National Rancher's Service

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do DECADES ago.

#### **Correspondence ID:429**

Correspondence: As a tragedy continues at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California, the National Park Service (NPS) is accepting public comments on its planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:430**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to everyone, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife such as the rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:431**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:432**

Correspondence: I strongly urge the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:433**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:434**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:435**

Correspondence: Please consider the following comments:

1) The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

2)The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

3) Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

**Correspondence ID:436**

Correspondence: Stop prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:437**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:438**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:439**

Correspondence: Please keep the Tomales Point plan on the table. We really need to have solid straight forward and legal purpose to keep to keep this area free!

**Correspondence ID:440**

Correspondence: I agree whole heartedly with the statements below!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thanks,  
Brian Miller

**Correspondence ID:441**

Correspondence: There is NO place in Wilderness for a fence! Particularly a fence preventing wildlife from roaming freely in a National Park. The time came years ago for the livestock businesses to be removed from this Park. These businesses were bought out decades ago & should have been removed. The excuse that there is some kind of "tradition" or "heritage" involved with these private enterprises just is not good enough.

The Point Reyes National Seashore was not and is not meant for private businesses - it was and is meant for wildlife & wildlife habitat. The needs of native wildlife should be priority NOT commercial industry!

**Correspondence ID:442**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I have visited Point Reyes several times and have watched the Tule elk. They deserve to be free and able to forage in a much larger area. We need to protect them. This is more important than allowing cattle grazing.

**Correspondence ID:443**

Correspondence: TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:::

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email, sincerely, Sylvana A.

**Correspondence ID:444**

Correspondence: The NPS EMBARRASSES ITSELF. It needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do AND WAS DIRECTED TO DO decades ago. If you want public support, stop screwing us over.

**Correspondence ID:445**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:446**

Correspondence: Dear Sir or Madam:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Respectfully,

Corey Schade

**Correspondence ID:447**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:448**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:449**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:450**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Given how inappropriate such a delay has been (adverse to normal agency priorities), it must happen now.

Your agency should not be choosing to kill the wildlife you are supposed to protect. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS must end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use which was supposed to end many years ago.

The NPS must finally protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Anything else is a dereliction of duty.

**Correspondence ID:451**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:452**

Correspondence: We must protect nature!!

**Correspondence ID:453**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore is a unique CA treasure. The priority use should not be for ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, as the first priority.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:454**

Correspondence: Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. In lieu of that, fences have no place in Wilderness, so please take down the fence so elk can access food and water in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

Thank you for understanding that the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:455**

Correspondence: PLEASE

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:456**

Correspondence: Please take action to alleviate the elks' misery. Take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:457**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:458**

Correspondence: The American obsession with beef at the expense of ecosystems and wildlife is showing up vividly at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The National Park Service (NPS) should observe the imperative to preserve our native Tule elk, which, as is known, is a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Why are ANY cattle, much less 6,000 cattle, grazing at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there? Time should have been up for that misbegotten policy in 1987 as first required.

Prioritizing cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife is not the mission of the park service, especially as science continues to show degradation of ecosystems by cattle.

It must end this commercial use now.

**Correspondence ID:459**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:460**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Please do the job you were hired to do; protect our wilderness.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Cattle are negatively impacting climate change through carbon emissions. Not the Elks you are

**Correspondence ID:461**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.



The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:462**

Correspondence: Prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore, take down the fence to save native Tule Elk at Point Reyes!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:463**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:464**

Correspondence: This is horrendous. Abuse of the Tule elk is unforgivable. I have visited Point Reyes & admired these lovely little animals; to see them dying so horribly is shocking. Why? Do we lack cows in this country? Do your job! And your job is not to kowtow to greedy ranchers at the expense of our American wildlife, although the Park Service and other federal wildlife agencies are all too eager to do so. It's a disgrace, and it needs to stop NOW.

Terri Neill

**Correspondence ID:465**

Correspondence: We need elk. We don't need cattle, particularly on our national seashore.

Pls. take these fences down. I know the vast majority of stakeholders feel this way.

Sincerely,

Victoria Shorr

**Correspondence ID:466**

Correspondence: Take down the fence to save native Tule Elk at Point Reyes!

**Correspondence ID:467**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:468**

Correspondence: The fence is interfering with natural movement of the Elk and endangering them. Please take the fence down.

**Correspondence ID:469**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:470**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:471**

Correspondence: The National Park Service should tear down the Tomales Point elk fence and manage Tomales Point for native wildlife and natural ecosystems -- not livestock owners.

In 1978 native tule elk, once thought to be extinct, were reintroduced to Point Reyes National Seashore, the only national park where they live. But the Park Service is artificially confining the park's largest elk herd behind an 8-foot fence at Tomales Point, which has few freshwater sources. With recent droughts, the fence has caused massive elk die-offs.

Point Reyes is a national park, not a zoo. Tule elk should be allowed to roam and forage naturally so they can survive drought conditions.

The Park Service should ensure elk connectivity corridors and let Tomales Point elk connect with the park's two free-roaming herds in Limantour Wilderness and Drakes Beach. And no culling or hunting of elk should happen here. There's ample carrying capacity to allow the Tomales elk to expand throughout Point Reyes -- no need for elk "population management." These beautiful native animals, not private cattle operations, should be the first priority in Point Reyes grasslands.

Additionally, the Service should work actively to restore Tomales Point's natural coastal prairie vegetation; consult with tribal entities (Coast Miwok and Graton Rancheria) on a cultural inventory of important sites, archeology, and cultural landscapes at Tomales Point; and use prescribed fire/cultural fire to maintain the area's grassland and shrubland mosaic.

Finally, an economic analysis of the value of elk ecotourism on Tomales Point must be a part of the planning process.

**Correspondence ID:472**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:473**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The current fences, that are trapping wildlife and forcing them to suffer and die horrible deaths, have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:474**

Correspondence: Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like the NPS was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:475**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in the wilderness. Please end the tragic deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:476**

Correspondence: Hi - We've hiked the Tomales Point Area for years when we're in the area. In fact, Point Reyes and Tomales Bay are among our most treasured places in CA.

I have to say, we've seen the elk up on the mountain each time we've hiked the area and had no idea that the elk were fenced in to a certain area. I was under the impression they were free to wander the whole area and that they were afraid of people so stayed away on their own.

Now that I do know, I along with my whole family are advocating that you remove the fence that keeps the elk herd on Tomales Point captive and at the mercy of drought. I would urge you to remove the fence immediately so that the elk herd can have access and freedom to forage for food and water especially given the drought. We want to ensure the the elk herd has the best chance to survive and thrive. In the meantime, if not already in place, I encourage you to install guzzlers for the elk to drink from given the lack of water available. We have a nature preserve near our town and the DWP installed guzzlers years ago to provide water for all of the wild animals during the summer when water is very hard to come by.

Thanks for listening.

Vivian

**Correspondence ID:477**

Correspondence: Elk and other wildlife need access to food and water, please take the fence down!

**Correspondence ID:478**

Correspondence: Dear Sirs,

I invite you to prioritize wildlife over cattle and ranchers. Fences should not be placed in the wilderness. Rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness are tragically dying by not having access to food and water because of fences, it's an agonizing death.

Please, put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes once and for all.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:479**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS has a responsibility to protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Please do the right thing.

Fences have no place in Wilderness, that is common sense. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:480**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Rancher rights have been satisfied. Now get the cattle out of the National Seashore. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:481**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in wilderness. Wildlife first ALWAYS over cattle!

**Correspondence ID:482**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but the ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:483**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just ranchers. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:484**

Correspondence: For the sake of the tule elk, let them roam freely.

**Correspondence ID:485**

Correspondence: Dear Sir or Madam,

Please consider the following.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not only ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS is duty bound to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Wild animals cannot adjust to fences, which are not part of their internal maps of wild areas. Please remove the fences at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fences so Tule elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by ending commercial ranching at Point Reyes, as considered decades ago.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

Marilise Tronto

**Correspondence ID:486**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:487**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Cattle grazing was supposed to end, and should do so. now.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Parks should be preserving wildlife, not cattle ranching, cattle ranching is not compatible with a PARK!

**Correspondence ID:488**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:489**

Correspondence: I have enjoyed my visits to Point Reyes, mostly because of the natural setting and wildlife. There are plenty of other, less cherished areas, for cattle to graze. It's a protected area for good reasons.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:490**

Correspondence: It is abominable that our public agencies, in this case the NPS, continue to favor private gain over public good and the integrity of natural systems. Take down the fences and give back to elk what they need to live!

**Correspondence ID:491**

Correspondence: REMOVE THE FENCES, PLEASE! Tule elk should not be sacrificed for staff convenience. Commercial ranching was supposed to end long ago. Why are you recalcitrant?

**Correspondence ID:492**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

PLEASE help the elk; livestock don't have to graze EVERYWHERE!

**Correspondence ID:493**

Correspondence: I visit Pt. Reyes for an extended period at least twice a year. One of the main attractions when driving up to the Lighthouse is seeing all of the elk roaming freely. I read the book "The Oyster Wars" and learned a great deal from that book about the politics and the clashes between "nature" and business interests and while it appeared that nature had won in that case, in this case it's nature that will take the hit in favor of the dairy producers.

I urge you to remove the fencing the is preventing the Elk herd from roaming free or at greater distances. I am so disturbed by what's happening with the Elk up there that it's making it much less pleasant to visit the area. Of course, the world doesn't revolve around me but the point is that man's encroachment upon nature never seems to end.

So, for what it's worth, I just wanted to add my voice to the argument in favor of taking down the fences. Please consider this. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:494**

Correspondence: Please prioritize the safety of the Tule Elk and other wildlife, and take down the fences that fence them in. Ranchers should have their cattle on their ranches, and wildlife should live in the wild. And I speak for my husband and my kids and grandkids on this.

**Correspondence ID:495**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:496**

Correspondence: I urge you to remove the fencing at Point Tomales in the Philip Burton Wilderness so the elk will have access to food and water.

The NPS should prioritize the needs of wildlife by ending commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans and not for the ranchers who are profiting by using public land. The wildlife there deserve the protection of the NPS.

**Correspondence ID:497**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:498**

Correspondence: Elk need a home. Imported farm animals can live ANYWHERE!

**Correspondence ID:499**

Correspondence: I'm so disgusted by the treatment of the Tule Elk. It's time to take down the fences and allow these creatures to live in their natural environment. Cattle should NEVER have land in National Parks and especially if it could lead to the unnecessary deaths of native species.

Correspondence: Please take down these fences and expand the range for these elk. Don't be the cause of their extinction!!

**Correspondence ID:501**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

• The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:502**

Correspondence: At 81 years, I would like to see Tule elk at Point Tomales survive me. As you should know, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife for the future generations of Americans.



Fences may make good neighbors, but they have no place in Wilderness. The National Park Service needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The National Park Service must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:503**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:504**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Please prioritize wildlife over cattle.

In solidarity,  
Laura

**Correspondence ID:505**

Correspondence: For heavens sake, be about life and keeping nature alive and healthy. It's not all about money, surely.

**Correspondence ID:506**

Correspondence: I have visited Point Reyes since 1966. Now that it is a national seashore, I do not understand why, when its name is the Phillip Burton WILDERNESS, ranchers are allowed to graze cattle there. The wildlife should have absolute priority over domestic livestock like cattle. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:507**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:508**

Correspondence: Please protect tule elk in this region! It's time to prioritize wildlife -- the elk -- over cattle-grazing operations.

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:509**

Correspondence: Why are there fences? To keep out poachers. Don't think so. Quit only thinking of the ranchers who profit from this use of land! It is public land.

**Correspondence ID:510**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and consideration, much appreciated.

**Correspondence ID:511**

Correspondence: FOR GODS SAKE THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON WAY, WAY TOO LONG HELP THESE POOR ANIMALS

**Correspondence ID:512**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:513**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:514**

Correspondence: To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my concern about fencing at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness: Fences have no place in Wilderness and the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness and remove the fence so that elk can access the food and water they need.

I urge you to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes (like it was supposed to do decades ago).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Michael Laird

**Correspondence ID:515**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:516**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. This is an absolute death sentence. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare

Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:517**

Correspondence: We can do this. We need to do this. Tear down those fences.

I can remember my days wandering Point Reyes seashore with clarity. I can remember the elk. I can't remember the last hamburger I consumed. Cattle have options nature doesn't have. Tear um down and set nature free to survive again.

**Correspondence ID:518**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:519**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:520**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:521**

Correspondence: While the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife!

I believe that fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:522**

Correspondence: I have been to these wild areas and cattle do significant damage to native vegetation as well as their waste fouling the environment. If these people want to raise cattle, let them do it on their PRIVATE property. Further, cattle do environmental damage by releasing methane as part of their digestive process, which is a climate damaging gas. So we need to reduce cattle production as part of climate remediation. I vote for wild animals, i.e., deer, on public wilderness areas not cattle. Stop letting cattle on public areas.

**Correspondence ID:523**

Correspondence: I BEG you: Please take down the fences in the Point Reyes Refuge to save Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:524**

Correspondence: FOR GODS SAKE THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON WAY, WAY TOO LONG HELP THESE POOR ANIMALS

**Correspondence ID:525**

Correspondence: I BEG you: Please take down the fences in the Point Reyes Refuge to save Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:526**

Correspondence: another example of misuse of public lands. wild animals, not cattle on those lands, please. michael earney

**Correspondence ID:527**

Correspondence: Please Take down the fence to save native Tule Elk at Point Reyes!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all qAmericans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:528**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National seashore is not a resource for the livestock industry.

Taxpayers want to preserve wildlife, not subsidize grazing.

The NPS needs to do its job and protect wildlife like Tule Elk-not fence them.

**Correspondence ID:529**

Correspondence: This is horrific and must be stopped. What is wrong with people, despicable.

**Correspondence ID:530**

Correspondence: I join all those urging the NPS to stop the tragedy at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California. It's obvious that for-profit ranchers are being prioritized, despite that favoritism causing continuing deaths of rare Tule elk.

Please consider the following critical points:

1. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
2. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
3. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing, by protecting wilderness and the native wildlife meant to be protected there.

**Correspondence ID:531**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:532**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:533**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:534**

Correspondence: PLEASE DO WHAT IS RIGHT FOR THE TULE ELK HERDS NEEDING TO ROAM PAST RESTRICTIVE FENCES AND BORDERS TO GET TO WATER AND FOOD. THESE ANIMALS ARE JUST AS IMPORTANT AS ANY OTHER SPECIES OF WILDLIFE. THEY ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT TO OUR ECOSYSTEMS AND ENVIRONMENTS. THE LAND BELONGS TO ALL SPECIES OF WILDLIFE, AND THESE ANIMALS SHOULD NOT HAVE TO DIE OR SUFFER BECAUSE OF FENCES AND RESTRICTIONS TO GET TO WATERWAYS AND SUSTENANCE.

**Correspondence ID:535**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk are important. This is their only home. Ranchers should go vegan & stop profiting from Federal lands that belong to the American people & should not be used for anyone's profit.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:536**

Correspondence: FOR GODS SAKE THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON WAY, WAY TOO LONG HELP THESE POOR ANIMALS

**Correspondence ID:537**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation in this matter.

**Correspondence ID:538**

Correspondence: I used to live in San Francisco and Pt. Reyes was one of my favorite spots to go hiking. It makes me sick that Ranchers are favored over the wildlife that calls the area "home."

Fences do NOT belong in the Wilderness. The fact that that so many Tule elk continue to die as a result of this fence is unconscionable. These elk NEED access to food and water!!

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,

Jason George  
Brooklyn, NY.

**Correspondence ID:539**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:540**

Correspondence: Please save the tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:541**

Correspondence: FOR GODS SAKE THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON WAY, WAY TOO LONG HELP THESE POOR ANIMALS

**Correspondence ID:542**

Correspondence: This planet is NOT ours to rule and manipulate, rather this planet and all ecosystems allow the human creature to live and to survive. We NEED this planet; this planet does NOT need us other than to leave it in peace. We have NO alternative viable. Free the elk to move and to live their natural lives in peace; they DESERVE so. ACT NOW!

**Correspondence ID:543**

Correspondence: I ask that you remove the fences in the Point Reyes National Seashore area. The fencing is for the benefit of the ranchers but the land is for the public. The rare Tule elk that inhabit Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness need our protection. Instead, the fencing is preventing the elk from reaching food and water. I believe that the NPS' aim is to protect native wildlife instead of working for commercial ranchers.

Please do your stated job and protect the native wildlife, including the Tule elk, in the Point Reyes National Seashore wilderness area.

**Correspondence ID:544**

Correspondence: Hello,

I'm writing with regard to the tragedy at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California. Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.



Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. These numbers are deplorable.

\* The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

\* Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

\* The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:545**

Correspondence: Please make Tomales and Point Reyes Wildlife area into a natural animal preserve and not for cattle.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:546**

Correspondence: FOR GODS SAKE THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON WAY, WAY TOO LONG HELP THESE POOR ANIMALS

**Correspondence ID:547**

Correspondence: Penning wild animals in areas that do not provide them with adequate room or adequate access to food and water resources is but cruel and stupid. The world as we know it is radically changing. The world's intricately interwoven ecology is being undermined, it sometimes seems, at every turn of government management and private enterprise attempts to mindlessly extract value to boost corporate quarterly profits. The world is as it is because it developed this way to function maximally as a planet that could host a broad range of lifeforms. Every time a life form goes extinct, it is as if a brick were removed from the foundation of a towering edifice. At some point, too many bricks will be removed and the edifice will crumble visibly enough so that even the most hardened hearts and the most obtuse minds will recognize the danger to which all life on the planet will be exposed. It is not without note to point out that starving animals is not just cruel, but sadistic. Support the Tule elk herd. It is the right thing to do, not just for the herd, but in the long run for the health and well-being of our planet.

**Correspondence ID:548**

Correspondence: PLEASE PRIORITIZE ELK AT POINT REYES.  
IT'S TIME FOR THE CATTLE TO BE REMOVED SO THAT THE ELK CAN ACCESS FOOD AND WATER.

**Correspondence ID:549**

Correspondence: FOR GODS SAKE THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON WAY, WAY TOO LONG HELP THESE POOR ANIMALS

**Correspondence ID:550**

Correspondence: The wild animals are dying. Remove the fence!!!!

**Correspondence ID:551**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:552**

Correspondence: Please save the Tule elk !

**Correspondence ID:553**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I thought your name means National Park Service, not National Ranchers Service, or is it actually that, nowadays?

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:554**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Cattle are destructive to the wilderness environment and have a severe negative impact on the flora and fauna.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Correspondence ID:555**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:556**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:557**

Correspondence: FOR GODS SAKE THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON WAY, WAY TOO LONG HELP THESE POOR ANIMALS

**Correspondence ID:558**

Correspondence: Please act to protect our wildlife at the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. These animals are a national treasure. They should not die so that people can make profits.

The NPS was supposed to end commercial ranching at Point Reyes decades ago. Please take responsibility to prioritize the needs of native wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:559**

Correspondence: No grazing and no cattle. I am a vegetarian and have been one for over 25 years...

**Correspondence ID:560**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:561**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:562**

Correspondence: I am very concerned about the Tule elk in the Phillip Burton Wilderness and the death rate there. I hope the Park Service will remove the fence that is hindering elk access to food and water near Pt. Tomales very soon!

Ranchers' interests must not supersede the protection of native wildlife. Furthermore, the commercial ranching at Pt. Reyes was supposed to end quite a while back. Let's end it now and protect the wilderness -- a fenceless wilderness.

Thank you.

Sharron

**Correspondence ID:563**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:564**

Correspondence: To Whomever It Concerns:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:565**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:566**

Correspondence: I am a member of Wilderness Watch and I agree with what they stand for to protect our environment and the animals that live in our wilderness areas.

I especially agree with the following:

- 1) The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- 2) Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- 3) The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:567**

Correspondence: Leave the natural beast alone! LET THEM BE FREE especially up there!

**Correspondence ID:568**

Correspondence: Our family members are imploring the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over cattle at "Point Reyes National Seashore"! We are speaking up for Tule Elk and the "Phillip Burton Wilderness"! PLEASE remove the fence!

As a tragedy continues at "Point Reyes National Seashore", in Northern California, the National Park Service is accepting, public, comments on your planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and, wilderness, management issues" at "Tomales Point" in the "Phillip Burton Wilderness". At issue is the fate of, native, Tule elk, a, rare, subspecies, nearly, extinct across California, and, rapidly, and, needlessly, dying at the "Seashore" due to NPS mismanagement! The NPS "General Management Plan for Point Reyes" keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands, commercial, agricultural use, and, extends, cattle, ranch leases for up to 20 years!

Instead of protecting the Wilderness, and, the elk that live there, the NPS has the, largest, elk herd at the "National Seashore" fenced into an enclosure at "Tomales Point"! Not only is there NOT enough forage for the, confined, elk, but, ongoing, drought has caused, scant, freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by, visitor, photographs of dead, and, emaciated, elk!

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage, and, water, with the, nearly, 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the "National Seashore", decades after the government paid, fair, market value to acquire, private, ranches to end, livestock, grazing there! When "Point Reyes National Seashore" was established, in 1962, permitted, ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years! In a move that prioritized, cattle, ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the, 25-year, time period were granted, new, leases by the NPS! So, some 28,000 acres of, public, land at the National Seashore" continue to be grazed despite the, original, agreement to end this, commercial, use!

Elk, cut off from, needed, food and water, are dying at alarming numbers! The elk population, behind the fence, dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then, 221, more, elk died by 2020, and, another, 25 percent died, more, recently!

**Correspondence ID:569**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THAT FENCE AND FREE THE ELK, THEY ARE MORE IMPORTANT TO OUR ENVIRONMENT AND STATE PARKS THAN THE CATTLE. MOVE THE CATTLE TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FENCE AND WATCH HOW FAST THE PROBLEM IS SOLVED.

**Correspondence ID:570**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife. The Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Each elk looks to the public to protect its right to life and its livelihood. We must recognize our interconnectedness and act to help all species.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was delegated to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:571**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:572**

Correspondence: We need to start moving toward a more sustainable way of feeding ourselves which does not involve big "Ag" and eating meat. Trying to feed eight billion people on the planet with current food production just isn't sustainable. By making the move to a more planet-friendly way of feeding ourselves, we'll preserve undeveloped natural landscapes which are important not only for the wildlife and flora that reside there but human beings as well.

**Correspondence ID:573**

Correspondence: FOR GODS SAKE THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON WAY, WAY TOO LONG HELP THESE POOR ANIMALS

**Correspondence ID:574**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

The Tomales Point Area Plan needs to consider the importance of allowing grazing and unconfined access to the Tule elk.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Allowing wildlife access is critical their status and health.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:575**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service needs and must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. We

all know, fences have no place in the wilderness. The tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness needs to end, and the National Park Service can end this tragedy by taking down the fence so the elk can have access to food and water!

My hope is the National Park Service will prioritize the needs of native wildlife, not ranchers, by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:576**

Correspondence: Take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:577**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:578**

Correspondence: The fencing by the Philip Burton wilderness area, Point Reyes California needs to be removed so that the Tule Elk are not hindered in their quest for sustenance and water. Please consider the lives of these animals, and the place they have in this area.

**Correspondence ID:579**

Correspondence: I don't understand you at all. I thought California was very giving to animals who need help,

What are you doing????? I have heard a lot of crazy things you have in mind.

Let these poor animals out, and let them roam. We have never seen here any beautiful animals as these, OPEN THE GATE for God's sake, and let them be free !!!!!

**Correspondence ID:580**

Correspondence: Please don't fence these animals in - let them do what they need to do. STOP destroying our environment - don't be EVIL !!!

**Correspondence ID:581**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:582**

Correspondence: Elk are more important than cows. Elk are part of the natural system--the interdependent web of all California existence. Cows are not. We need to begin to "manage" California

like Californians, not Europeans--which means NOT for cattle. No fences. Cattle belong on private property.

**Correspondence ID:583**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:584**

Correspondence: BEYOND URGENT: TAKE DOWN THE FENCES! To try to bring this horrendous american-made tragedy into calm common sense, we are the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE here- not the cattlemens association and we need to manage our wildlife and wild resources for the sake of all Americans not just those who want to GRAZE THE LAND while HUNDREDS OF NATURAL WILD TULE ELK HAVE CLEARLY DIED FROM THIRST AND HUNGER. Maybe thousands more speciaed affected and suffering? FENCES DO NOT BELONG IN WILDERNESS AND DO NOT BELONG IN OUR NATIONAL PARKS.

SHAME ON THE NATIONAL PARS SERVICE! PLEASE CORRECT THIS so that we Americans, who care about our land and our country and believe in the good potential of our great society and again think there can be some COMMON SENSE.

PLEASE TAKE DOWN THE FENCES AND STOP KILLING THE TULE ELK.

**Correspondence ID:585**

Correspondence: Take down the fences!!! We must prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore! We, the American Citizens of this country do not pay to support private owners livestock. That is their responsibility. Point Reyes National Seashore is for all of the public to use AND for our wildlife! It is our job to protect the native Tule Elk, are rare subspecies on the brink of extinction due to mismanagement of the area.

Stop selling off our lands for private use!!! Do your job. Remove the cattle and let the Elk roam free unencumbered.

Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:586**

Correspondence: Dear NPS:

I am speaking up for Tule Elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness because I am against the NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes that will keep elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.



It is insane, inhumane and morally outrageous for the NPS to confine the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers.

Please consider the following and do the right thing to protect wildlife, not ranchers:

\* The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

\* Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

\* The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your compassion and willingness to keep things wild, as they should be.

Sincerely,

Naomi Weisman

**Correspondence ID:587**

Correspondence: The fences need to come down, Period

It's unconscionable to cage any animal

The wildlife have Rights

**Correspondence ID:588**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:589**

Correspondence: Please listen to the following points and do the right thing:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and Elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. The NPS is leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst. How the NPS can be so cruel and heartless when it ought to be protecting all this park and its inhabitants is beyond me. This must end. The cows must not be the only ones able to survive during a drought. Visitors have witnessed, taken photos of dead and emaciated elk. It is speciesism. Please save the Elk.

**Correspondence ID:590**

Correspondence: Please, take down the fences!!! Be a supporter of for our NOW-RARE AND ENDANGERED native elk. Commercial ranching has no place in Nationally protected wild lands. SAVE OUR PRECIOUS WILD PLACES AND THE ANIMALS WHO HAVE ALWAYS LIVED THERE .

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:591**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness! The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Respectfully,  
Christine Roane

**Correspondence ID:592**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:593**

Correspondence: At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Does NPS select which group of wildlife it deems to cull in their slaughter of wild animals.

**Correspondence ID:594**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

-The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

-Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Please understand that WE DO NOT SURVIVE WITHOUT HEALTHY, SAFE WILDLIFE!! THEY ARE CARETAKERS OF OUR ECOSYSTEMS, WHICH MEANS THEY HELP US ALL TO STAY HEALTHY!! WE ARE DESPERATE RIGHT NOW TO SAVE OURSELVES, WHICH MEANS SAVING WILDLIFE AND ECOSYSTEMS!!

-The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I am NOT paying taxes to maintain a ranch!!! I am paying to protect wild places!! MY money talks, not the money of wealthy ranchers and corporate interests!!

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:595**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:596**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:597**

Correspondence: For 50+ years while I lived and worked in Marin County and visited Pt. Reyes often, I do not remember the native elk dying or having the problems they now have. Come on, we're smart and clever, and we can come up with a solution, other than fencing elk in, that respects the elk and their needs. Be humane. Be smart. Stop starving and harming the native Elk!!!! Yes, you find a way to be fair to the Elk and stop killing them.

**Correspondence ID:598**

Correspondence: Get rid of commercial ranching in Point Reyes and prioritize native wildlife. Take down the fences that keep the Tule elk from grazing in our park. This land belongs to me and my family and we do not approve of the way the NPS is managing it in favor of ranchers and their destructive cattle. The way the ranchers have misused the public owned park makes me very angry. This needs your attention immediately.

Polly Pltsker

**Correspondence ID:599**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:600**

Correspondence: There should be no fences in wilderness! Give the Tule elk access to food and water! Put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes!

**Correspondence ID:601**

Correspondence: The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there.

This is antithetical to the preservation mission of the park service.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by

the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you

**Correspondence ID:602**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS MUST protect the seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in wilderness areas. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS MUST prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, as it was supposed to do decades ago!

**Correspondence ID:603**

Correspondence: Hello:

I'm writing to you today to implore you to take down the fence that is prohibiting the Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. There shouldn't be any fences in the wild - that's crazy! These elk deserve just as much of a place to roam free and raise their young as any other species; including humans. Please do the right thing and remove these fences.

Thank you,

Stacy

**Correspondence ID:604**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The number of elk that have died inside the fence due to starvation is cruel and unacceptable. The reason for the designation of the park as a National Seashore is to protect wildlife and not cattle.

Fences have no place in Wilderness nor do cattle. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Thanks for your time.

**Correspondence ID:605**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:606**

Correspondence: Please accept these remarks and comments on behalf of our magnificent Tule Elk Deer that need help from being held back from being able to get to water and food. This is unconscionable and unacceptable. These beautiful animals deserve respect and care, just like any other species of wildlife. They are so important to our landscapes and ecosystems. Please get them the help they need ASAP, for their sake. Thank You.

**Correspondence ID:607**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

These elk serve not just as natural icons of wildness in California, but also serve as a draw to tourists from around the country and world who come to Marin county to see these great creatures and the place they call home. I have lived in the Bay Area for most of my life including in Inverness and Petaluma. I have brought family and friends from all over the world to this area to see the elk and know the positive economic impact Pt. Reyes as a natural space offers to the residents of Inverness, Pt. Reyes Station, and much of west Marin county. Please take down the fences and stop catering to the interests of a monied few.

Thank you,  
Jim and Tammy Patton

**Correspondence ID:608**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife. The Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Regarding the Phillip Burton Wilderness, the NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:609**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:610**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness.  
The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed

**Correspondence ID:611**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:612**

Correspondence: Animals deserve better than this:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:613**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:614**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk were in the Point Reyes area long before the ranchers arrive. The Tule Elk are important for the balance of nature in the area. Therefore it is imperative that the National Park Service remove the fencing so the elk can move about freely. It is a National Park and the Park should allow the native species to survive. The ranchers can find other non-public lands to raise their cattle!!!

**Correspondence ID:615**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:616**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:617**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:618**

Correspondence: Please save the Elk and take down the fences

**Correspondence ID:619**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:620**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:621**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:622**

Correspondence: The "Point Reyes National Seashore" belongs to, all, Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use! The NPS MUST protect the "Seashore", and, its wildlife!

Fences have NO place in Wilderness! The NPS MUST end the tragic, ongoing, cruel, deaths of, rare, Tule elk at "Point Tomales" in the "Phillip Burton Wilderness", by taking down the fence so, that the elk can access food and water!

The NPS MUST prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to, commercial, ranching at "Point Reyes" like your were supposed to do, decades ago!

**Correspondence ID:623**

Correspondence: I agree 100% w/talking points already listed PLUS I've long believed it is irresponsible to allow ranchers to bring their for-profit animals to graze on land meant for wildlife and that DOES belong to "we, the people" - all of us not just a few! Have also volunteered w/USFS on meadow restoration following cattle such as was possible after deeply rutted areas of small streams in which one

could hardly walk! As an animal lover and vegetarian who is healthier than many ten years younger, the elk ARE FEW IN NUMBER COMPARED TO “meat-on-the-hoof” which takes far more water than crops, needs more land and is NOT really a healthy food product. Civilization should be farther along in intelligent methods of food production and it is NOT w/cattle, especially when they out compete wildlife that I love to see in my native state. Cattle are everywhere it seems. Elk are not! I will pay to see wildlife but NOT to see yet more cattle, especially where ELK belong!!!

**Correspondence ID:624**

Correspondence: get the cattle out.

help the tule elk.

save this evermore-rare bit of habitat for wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:625**

Correspondence: Take down the fences! Allow Tule Elk and other wildlife enough room to roam and forage for food. Humans have ruined enough of the planet and run too many animals from their homes already.

**Correspondence ID:626**

Correspondence: Value wildlife over commercial cattle interest, one enriches our national heritage and benefits all the people, the other benefits commercial beef industry interests while destroying the land, wildlife and national legacy.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:627**

Correspondence: As a US citizen and lover of wildlife and our park system, I find it tragic that the US Park Service prioritizes profit and private enterprise over public use and protection of wildlife. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes wrongly considers cattle more important than the endangered Tule Elk native to the area, and risks the very survival of the elk.

If the extinction of a species means nothing to our National Park Service, whose duty it is to protect our Parks and the species thereon, then the system is truly broken and worthless. Please do your job and decline to renew the leases to ranchers whose cattle compete with and are killing off the elk. Keep alive not only these precious few elk but also the faith and hope we Americas place in our governmental agencies.

**Correspondence ID:628**

Correspondence: Wildlife and under no way subsidize overgrazing

**Correspondence ID:629**

Correspondence: Please allow the Tule Elk access to their water and food sources.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all , not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time.

**Correspondence ID:630**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:631**

Correspondence: First of all, Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers or other corporations who profit from its use. The job of NPS is to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS must end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

It is very cruel to keep them fenced in with no food or water.

Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes right now.

**Correspondence ID:632**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:633**

Correspondence: To paraphrase Ronald Reagan: "Park Service - Tear down that fence!!

To paraphrase Moses: "Let my elk go"

Fences for cattle or any other purpose are an intrusion on Wilderness and prohibited by the Wilderness Act.

My last visit to Pt Reyes was disappointing. It is not proper to exclude the public to a portion of the area. It was never right to grant the ranchers exclusive access to any portion of the park., no extension of that permit should be granted. They agreed to the original permit. Grant them an extension? When will it end?

There is more than enough land in California for cattle without allowing them to continue in a National Park, of all places.

**Correspondence ID:634**

Correspondence: I have been living in this country for over 51 years and I have seen the changes to the environment.

Stop allowing Ranchers to use the Public Lands, which should be off limits and stop eating meat. This country is the fattest and most unhealthy in the World!

I am a senior now and am never sick, nor need any medication. Would bankrupt Big Pharma.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:635**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:636**

Correspondence: The National Park Service needs to take action at Point Reyes National Seashore to prevent the alarming numbers of elk that are dying. These elk are dying because they are cut off from food and water by the fences put there for the ranchers.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:637**

Correspondence: At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Dear NPS:

I am submitting my comments regarding the Tule Elk management plan.

I am disappointed that the NPS has elected to restrict the area where the largest elk herd are held. The forage is limited and drought conditions have left hardly any remaining water sources to exist. This is literally bringing the elk to the brink of starvation and dehydration.

Why is it that cattle and ranchers always get favored over the native wildlife and the public opinion which favors that the elk be entitled to exist and utilize the National Seashore?

Was not livestock grazing supposed to end decades ago when National Seashore lands were acquired? Why are these ranchers still allowed to continue operations on land that the government purchased for native wildlife?

What I find particularly troubling are the new leases that were granted to ranchers who refused to move their cattle which now gives them renewed 'rights' to graze on government-owned land. This displaces all the needs of the native wildlife. Approximately 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

1. Please remove the fences. This is not what publicly owned land is about. I oppose my tax dollars being used to starve out and kill the elk.
2. The NPS needs to stop the preventable deaths of Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
3. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:638**

Correspondence: SAVE THE TULE ELK AND OTHER AREA WILDLIFE YOU STUPID ASS IDIOTS, REMEMBER IT'S THE TAXPAYERS WHO MAKE YOUR PAYDAY HAPPEN AND NOT THE FUCKING CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION YOU STUPID BRAIN DEAD ASSHOLES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:639**

Correspondence: I have been living in this country for over 51 years and I have seen the changes to the environment.

Stop allowing Ranchers to use the Public Lands, which should be off limits and stop eating meat. This country is the fattest and most unhealthy in the World!

I am a senior now and am never sick, nor need any medication. Would bankrupt Big Pharma.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:640**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please prioritize wildlife over commercial interests. Our lack of concern for wildlife is bringing us closer to putting more and more animals in endangered status.

**Correspondence ID:641**

Correspondence: Please, please take down that awful fence! Protecting our native wildlife is much more important to the interconnected biodiversity of all life, than cattle. Cattle are the invasive species that shouldn't be here! Have the native elk die is criminal. Get a grip, and protect the park, not ranchers!!!

**Correspondence ID:642**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Take down the fencing and save the native Tule Elk!

**Correspondence ID:643**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:644**

Correspondence: Stop this horror! Fencing these elk in so they starve or die of thirst is animal abuse and needs to stop now. Our government should not be killing and slowly torturing animals to death for the sake of special money interests--cattle ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:645**

Correspondence: The citizens of the USA should NOT be, essentially, paying for the business costs of ranchers. National Park land is for the benefit of the public and native wildlife,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:646**

Correspondence: I am writing in regard to the dire situation faced by native wildlife at the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Fencing has created unlivable conditions for wildlife, particularly the rare Tule Elk, whose numbers are dropping precipitously from one year to the next. They will not be able to recover if the fencing is maintained. Ongoing, severe drought conditions have accelerated their demise as they cannot reach water sources due to the fencing.

The fact that cattle grazing rights have been extended again and again for the benefit of ranchers, at the expense of native wildlife in a National Park that belongs to all Americans is shameful and represents unacceptable management by the NPS.

I ask that the NPS live up to its mission by ending cattle grazing rights and prioritizing native wildlife at the Point Reyes National Seashore as initially agreed upon over 50 years ago. To do otherwise is an immoral failure of wildlife and the American people who pay your salaries.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

**Correspondence ID:647**

Correspondence: I am highly in favor of expanding the range for Tule elk range and reducing the cattle range. Let's face it, the elk were here first and deserve the right to forage wherever they want to.

I have spent years learning about and hunting elk. Way more interesting than cattle.

This is an easy call. Just remove the cattle and take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:648**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

As humans who consider themselves to be the so intelligent we need to put that evolutionary pride to use and think more broadly about this world and act like responsible stewards of the planet.

**Correspondence ID:649**

Correspondence: Dear Park Service,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you in advance.

**Correspondence ID:650**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:651**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS must take down the fence in the Phillip Burton Wilderness so the Tule elk can access food and water. These preventable, tragic, and ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales must stop.

As it was supposed to do decades ago, the NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife and end commercial ranching at Point Reyes

**Correspondence ID:652**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence

**Correspondence ID:653**

Correspondence: Wild elk should not be fenced in and fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:654**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:655**

Correspondence: Has the entire country lost a focus on preserving our natural resources and wildlife !!!!!!!!!

the Point Reyes Nat'L Seashore belongs to ALL OF US-it is not the PLAYTHING OF THE NPS!!!!!!!!!! the ranchers do not decide it's use !!!!!!! the Tule Elk are rare- they should not be the victim's of rancher greed and NPS apathy !!!!!!!

the Phillip Burton Wilderness and the Tule Elk MUST BE PROTECTED AT ALL COSTS.ANYTHING LESS INDICATES TO ME OF SOMETHING UNDERHANDED BEING DONE TO SATISFY THE RANCHERS. AM I

WRONG- PROVE IT -PROTECT THE ELK AND THE PHILLIP BURTON WILDERNESS NOW!!!!!! I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WATCHING HOW THIS IS HANDLED!!!!!!!!!!!!.

**Correspondence ID:656**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:657**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:658**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:659**

Correspondence: Please take down the fences at Point Reyes National Seashore. The Elk can't get to water, and they are dying. This is public land and should be for all, not private ranchers. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:660**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The ranchers agreed to move out decades ago and it's time for force them out! Immediately!

**Correspondence ID:661**

Correspondence: Dear Tamales Point Area Plan:

The main issue we have here is this is wilderness lands. I can see cattle in Forest lands, and other public lands but wilderness is where wilderness comes first. Fences should not be in a wilderness, no motor vehicles, and really no commercial businesses. I'm not against the cattle industry but there needs cannot come first. They are leasing the right to have their cattle on public lands. It is not there's. The wildlife and the enjoyment of the public come first on wilderness lands.

I hope you will take these comments into consideration.

Sincerely,

Maesa Luzier

**Correspondence ID:662**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

he nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:663**

Correspondence: Please protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Please prioritize the overdue needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Please realign your priorities.

Thank you for your attention.

**Correspondence ID:664**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern:

As a former resident of Sonoma CA and a regular visitor to Point Reyes, I strongly urge the National Park Service to take the necessary action to correct the current situation at Point Reyes.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Bob Winckler

**Correspondence ID:665**

Correspondence: Wildlife and wilderness are crucial in the fight against climate change especially when treated with respect to habitat. Cattle had their run at Tomales Point, now it's time to stop the cattle grazing and let the elk be. Do the right thing here

**Correspondence ID:666**

Correspondence: I do not understand what is wrong with the government not protecting endangered Tule elk and encouraging the expansion of cattle while fencing off elk so they cannot reach need food and water.

If you can't protect them at Point Reyes National Seashore (and wildlife should be your first concern, not grazing cattle on national lands), then at least move them to an area where they can get food and water.

Starving them to death is inhumane and cruelty to animals. That's illegal. To do this to a rare subspecies of elk is unbelievable! These are living, breathing animals and they should be taken care of, not left to die a long slow death of dehydration and/or starvation!

**Correspondence ID:667**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. That is your job!

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:668**

Correspondence: I totally agree with the following:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:669**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:670**

Correspondence: Our public lands must be available to all, not fenced to be exploited by a few. Please remove the fence that negatively impacts the native elk which are now rare and unable to wander and feed sufficiently to maintain their numbers.

Thank you,

Karen Stamm

**Correspondence ID:671**

Correspondence: I urge the USPS (I am an ex-USFS fire fighter) to take DOWN the fence limiting the wild elk there from roaming and reaching water. Your actions to date are cruel and not in the interests of the people or the USPS but maybe in the interest of cattlemen. Please respond and immediately take down the fence and allow the elk who have been there longer than we have, to survive. I believe this to be your duty. We are watching as citizens.

**Correspondence ID:672**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:673**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:674**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting public comments on the planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

I respectfully urge you to protect Tule Elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you, in advance, for doing the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:675**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:676**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:677**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:678**

Correspondence: End the dairies on Pt. Reyes National Seashore once and for all!! They were supposed to be there for only 25 years. It is now going on for almost 6 years. Drakes Bay and Abbots Lagoon are polluted!!

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:679**

Correspondence: Pleased to be understood;

I1= The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

I2= The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

I3= Fences have no place in Wilderness.

I4= The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

I5= The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife within all of The NPS.

I6= The NPS needs to advocate for all native wildlife within there living acres like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank You!

**Correspondence ID:680**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THE FENCE!! THIS LAND BELONGS TO ALL AMERICANS AND WE LOVE THE ELK.. THEY ARE THE ANIMALS THAT BELONG HERE.THE COWS NEED TO BE ON PRIVATE LAND ELSEWHERE. THIS IS PUBLIC RECREATION LAND AND WE WANT TO SEE ELK NOT COWS.

**Correspondence ID:681**

Correspondence: National Park Service, please be fair to this species of elk, which are becoming endangered. Allow them access to their needed access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:682**

Correspondence: Aren't enough suffering due to factory farms?

**Correspondence ID:683**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



The plan violates several federal environmental laws, including the Point Reyes Act, which established the Point Reyes National Seashore in 1962 for the purposes of "public recreation, benefit and inspiration;" the Organic Act, which requires the agency to leave natural resources "unimpaired" for the benefit of future generations; and the Clean Water Act by allowing ranches to circumvent water quality standards. The Park Service's inadequate environmental review for the plan violates the National Environmental Policy Act.

The cattle fencing prevents public access to one-third of the entire National Seashore.

Your management of this national treasure has been an utter failure to carry out Congressional intent.

**Correspondence ID:684**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence at The Point Reyes National Seashore. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you!

Kelly Schwartz

**Correspondence ID:685**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern,

Please consider the following facts regarding the needs of the Tule elk and take actions to prevent their suffering and death. At the very least the elk should be able to access food and water especially when it only requires taking down a fence.

“The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.”

Thank you for your consideration regarding the Tule elk and please keeping the wilderness a safe place for native wildlife.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Trosper

**Correspondence ID:686**

Correspondence: Nature comes before profits!!!! Without nature there will be no profits. We will cease to exist along with everything else on this planet. It is time we have Native Americans take the lead in caring for our wilderness, state, and national parks. They were masters of forest and its inhabitants welfare and stewardship long before we came here. Nature MUST always come first.

**Correspondence ID:687**

Correspondence: I am concerned about the Tule elk at Point Tomales.

-The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

-Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

-The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Tanya Lervik

**Correspondence ID:688**

Correspondence: I strongly urge you to take down fencing at Point Reyes. Tule elk are starving due to these fences and are dying at alarming rates.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness - period! The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please stop pandering to ranchers and do what's right for the animals that inhabit this area and the general public. Take down these fences - protect tule elk and other animals that inhabit their native environment.

**Correspondence ID:689**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:690**

Correspondence: I would like to make three valid points pertaining to the Tomlaes Point Area Plan. First, The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. Secondly, the NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Finally, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for this opportunity to make a comment,  
Earl R Poteet, LCSW, MSW

**Correspondence ID:691**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Elk, are cut off from needed food and water and are dying at alarming numbers.

Thank you for your consideration of this important wildlife consideration.

John M Messer

**Correspondence ID:692**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. The NPS must protect Tule elk by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:693**

Correspondence: Decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing at the Point Reyes National Seashore it is still happening. When Point Reyes was established in 1962, it permitted ranchers to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, are trapped behind a fence, cut off from needed food and water, and dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. Fences have no place in Wilderness and should be removed from Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do many years ago. Stop kowtowing to big business!

**Correspondence ID:694**

Correspondence: I write to ask that you remove the fences that keep Tule elk from entering land that ranchers want their cattle to use. The area where the elk currently are contained lacks enough fresh water and forage material to sustain the elk, and the ranchers' desire to make money off the land isn't a sufficient justification.

Please remove the fence and find a way to ensure that the Tule elk can access their longtime foraging grounds. As the cliché goes, the elk were there first.

**Correspondence ID:695**

Correspondence: We are rapidly losing our native wildlife unless we provide them the help they need. Point Reyes National Seashore is home to the Tule Elk and they need to be given access to food and water and not fenced off from it. Cattle grazing is not appropriate there and cattle should no longer be allowed to use this land. Give the Tule Elk subspecies its chance to survive and be enjoyed by all Americans. The American people own the park not the cattle ranchers who can take their cattle elsewhere.

Thank you,

Carol Hinkelman

**Correspondence ID:696**

Correspondence: The ranchers have bullied NPS for long enough! The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National PARK Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, not ranchers' interests! Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago!

**Correspondence ID:697**

Correspondence: When I lived in the Bay Area, I used to love traveling to Marin County and the Point Reyes National Seashore to see the ocean, the mountains, and the wildlife, especially the beautiful and majestic elk. I am so sad to learn what is happening to the places I loved.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:698**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore is currently used by ranchers to graze cattle at the expense of native Tule elk. The ranchers were supposed to leave after 25 years and should have, but the NPS renewed their leases. National lands are for the benefit of all Americans, not just ranchers.

Cattle fences are keeping Tule elk confined to small areas that can not support the population. Stick to the original agreement and prioritize wildlife over cattle.

Furthermore, raising cattle for meat contributes to greenhouse gases and should be greatly curtailed if we are to survive as a species. By leasing to ranchers, you are supporting global warming. Wildlands should be used for carbon storage, not production.

**Correspondence ID:699**

Correspondence: Fences have zero place in wilderness. The NPS needs to end the preventable deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. This is murder for ranchers and their millions of cows.

**Correspondence ID:700**

Correspondence: Hello - It is imperative that you protect wildlife over the interests of ranchers who have been well-subsidised over the years.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS must end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Please so not fail these animals.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you.

Kind Regards -  
Cynthia Dietzmann

**Correspondence ID:701**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:702**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:703**

Correspondence: he Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

It is unacceptable for fences to be put up to exclude native wildlife.

gael gardner

**Correspondence ID:704**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:705**

Correspondence: I used to live in Stockton, CA and loved going to Pt. Reyes National Seashore. It is a beautiful piece of property and it was wonderful seeing the Tule Elk. Please protect them and take down the fences so they can get food and water.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:706**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:707**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife and end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. Those leases SHOULD have ceased in 1987!! In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Keeping the Elk confined without adequate food and water is nothing short of animal cruelty! Please free the Elk by removing the fences.

**Correspondence ID:708**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Our wildlife is more important than ranchers. We need to help, or there will be no wildlife for our kids to admire.

**Correspondence ID:709**

Correspondence: wildlife should take priority over domestic livestock

**Correspondence ID:710**

Correspondence: PLEASE PRIORITIZE THE NATIVE ELK, OVER NON-NATIVE CATTLE.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:711**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:712**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:713**

Correspondence: When I went to Berkeley, I many wonderful hours at Point Reyes and Point Tomales. This National Seashore belongs to all of us, not just some ranchers that want to make a profit. Cattle

don't belong there at all, but if you allow them, they should not get priority over the wildlife that has made its home there for decades.

Allowing ranchers to fence off the water and food supply of wildlife is a travesty. This is a National Seashore...stop allowing ranching.

**Correspondence ID:714**

Correspondence: Please consider age old patterns and routines of the animals. They don't intellectualize to exist just instinct!

Thank you,

Jude Maglione

**Correspondence ID:715**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:716**

Correspondence: NPS should be protecting wild life. Fencing in a rare subspecies of Elk to starve while cattle roam on protected land is wrong. Do your mission, not let ranchers make profits on pubic land your agency is supposed to be caring for.

**Correspondence ID:717**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:718**

Correspondence: Gosh! Not hard at all to tell whose pocket the NPS is in, financially and politically.

**Correspondence ID:719**

Correspondence: Please prioritize our nations wildlife over special interests, particularly big ranchers and big agri-business. For too long the Department of the interior, the BLM and other government agencies have knuckled under to these special interest and our nations wildlife has been decimated as a result. I therefore implore the National Parks Service to NOT bow to special interests and remove the fences at Point Reyes National Seashore. The fencing is preventing Tule Elk and other wildlife to forage for food and water and they are dying at record numbers. Will the Park Service wait until they are



extinct before acting responsibly to prioritize their well-being over special interests???? Here are the salient points:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Frankly, I and the vast majority of the American populace are sick of this S--t. We are mad as hell!!!!!! Do the right thing and save the Tule Elk by removing the fencing erected to benefit big cattle ranchers. Enough is enough!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:720**

Correspondence: We face a great need to allow nature to recover and operate as it would without human interference. In this case, we need to restore more of the tule elks' territory and allow them the space and food they require. This will also support other wild species to utilize the area, increasing biodiversity. We also need to create ways to ensure a successful and mutually beneficial relationship with farmers, ranchers, and other landowners. This can be achieved through innovative solutions for sharing the landscape as we restore natural places and allow natural processes to continue.

**Correspondence ID:721**

Correspondence: Proper wildlife management of the tule elk at Point Reyes does not mean starving them or depriving them of water. This situation must be fixed to prioritize the health of the tule elk herd, as opposed to prioritizing private cattle ranching on this public land.

**Correspondence ID:722**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:723**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:724**

Correspondence: save the Tule elk! take down the fences and let them cross where they need to go.

marlene ludlow

**Correspondence ID:725**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, and the NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences and cattle have NO place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:726**

Correspondence: Please consider the following:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:727**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:728**

Correspondence: I write as a regularly voting, concerned American & Bay Area citizen - as well as lover of Point Reyes and its wildlife.

The Point Reyes National Seashore is national land and does NOT belong to ranchers, so I have been baffled as to why the NPS, charged with its protection, has seemed to concerned with pleasing these ranchers.

Please take down the fence designed to help ranchers profit from raising cattle on national land at the expense of wildlife like the Tule Elk.

There is still time to fix this obvious and galling wrong. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:729**

Correspondence: Take down the fence. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:730**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

Make Point Reyes National Seashore a natural area. We need this more than the beef it produces.

**Correspondence ID:731**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Claudia Hasenhuttl

**Correspondence ID:732**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence at Point Reyes National Seashore/Tomales Point and let the Tule elk roam. This land should be accessible to ALL animals, not just cattle. The National Park Service should be protecting these magnificent elk (and other creatures). The American taxpayers expect you to do your job and help protect wildlife and wilderness, not help destroy it.

**Correspondence ID:733**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:734**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Our wildlife is a precious gift and must be protected. Yet you continue to put man's greed & indifference above their welfare. This is their home and you are depriving them in favor of ranchers! You have failed as a Caretaker. Please do not let them down again!!

**Correspondence ID:735**

Correspondence: PLEASE STOP TYE FENCE!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness areas!!

PROTECT ENDANGERED SPECIES & THEIR NATURAL HABITATS!!

**Correspondence ID:736**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:737**

Correspondence: Take down the fence for the Elk. It is their home.

**Correspondence ID:738**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,

Eric

**Correspondence ID:739**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing and protect Tule elk and all wildlife at The Point Reyes National Seashore.  
Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:740**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:741**

Correspondence: This is not a cattle ranch, this is WILDERNESS ! A fence! I know you people are crazy, but for God sakes you need to get rid of crazy. You do not put fences up in a wilderness area. Just like you don't put a boat in your bathtub. It doesn't make sense. In the more and more this lack of leadership and brains continues, the more that this country just goes in the shitter. It's time you people wake up, get your head on straight, and recognize wilderness and cattle have nothing to do with each other.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:742**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Ruining the lives of Tule Elk is unconscionable.

Please help turn this situation around.

Thanks for your time.

**Correspondence ID:743**

Correspondence: I am a concerned citizen, retired soldier, and public policy specialist, who cares for the wilderness. As a tragedy continues at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California, the National Park Service (NPS) is in the planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS

mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Instead, the NPS needs to protect the elk population by:

- \* The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- \* Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- \* The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

#### **Correspondence ID:744**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

#### **Correspondence ID:745**

Correspondence: Tule elk are dying needlessly at Point Reyes National Seashore. This is happening because the National Park Service has fenced them into areas which do not provide adequate food and water. And this has apparently been done to allow 6,000 cattle to graze at the National Seashore without competition from the elk. The elk are native to Point Reyes. The cattle do not belong there. The enclosures which are confining the elk should be removed immediately.

#### **Correspondence ID:746**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:747**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans.

**Correspondence ID:748**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:749**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

Thank you.

Correspondence: TOMALES POINT AREA PLAN - IS THIS AREA A PUBLIC SPACE OR A PRIVATE RESERVE FOR FARMERS TO MAKE A PERSONAL PROFIT..?? SINCE WHEN DO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS HAVE AUTHORITY TO FENCE OFF PUBLIC LANDS...!!!!????? THIS IS ILLEGAL TO SAY THE LEAST..!! THE WILDLIFE OF THIS PARK NEED ACCESS TO ALL THE LANDS TO FREE ROAM..!! THESE RESTRICTIVE, PRIVATE FENCES MUST BE REMOVED NOW ..!! NOT 1 YR , 2 OR 5 YRS/ FROM NOW BUT NOW...!!!!!!! HOW LONG HAS THIS ILLEGAL FENCING BEEN HAPPENING ..??? ENOUGH ....!!!! REMOVE ALL PRIVATE FENCING NOW ...!!!

**Correspondence ID:751**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Please consider that, obviously, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please step up and be bold in preserving our natural resources. We are counting on you.

**Correspondence ID:752**

Correspondence: Hello! I am sure you are struggling to meet the needs of the ranchers and the elk. Have you considered the situation in the Brazilian State of Mato Grosso? They have a successful management plan of soy farming and beef farming while maintaining the tropical forest there. Here is the TED talk link to help facilitate the understanding:

[https://www.ted.com/talks/nat\\_keohane\\_a\\_new\\_economic\\_model\\_for\\_protecting\\_tropical\\_forests?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/nat_keohane_a_new_economic_model_for_protecting_tropical_forests?language=en)

I realize you are not trying to manage tropical forest with soy farming, but you are trying to preserve the coastal lands that the elk so desperately need with the cows. This is all part of the climate change problem, and there is a way to keep the beef in production and not sacrifice the land or the elk. Please consider the elk as they have no voice and they are the big obvious suffering species, but there has to be more impact than that. There has to be a way to balance the needs of both groups, and I know you can do it with some thoughtful intervention!

Please, please consider all the alternatives, and maybe the cows and elk can be best friends!

Thank you from your friends in the Pacific Northwest,  
Laura Waite  
Dr. Ian Waite, environmental ecologist researcher

**Correspondence ID:753**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Specifically, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:754**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife. The Seashore belongs to all, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Commercial ranching at Point Reyes was supposed to have ended decades ago. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife! Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:755**

Correspondence: Hello,



I am writing about the practice of confining elk behind fencing at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:756**

Correspondence: Elk cut off from foraging and finding water to drink are dying in alarming numbers. We have an ethical obligation.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:757**

Correspondence: It is just so unfair and wrong to let our Tule Elk Deer languish and suffer while being confined or restricted to a certain area of land, when they need freedom in order to get to water and sustenance that they so dearly need and deserve. Cattle and sheep are not the only ones that need these lands to roam freely in, but all wildlife species need this and the same. Our Tule Elk Deer are just as important and necessary to our ecosystems and environments as any and all of our species of wildlife. Please help them get what they need in order to live and thrive. Thank You.

**Correspondence ID:758**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:759**

Correspondence: Please accept my comments on wilderness management at at Tomales Point. As I'm sure you are aware, Tule Elk in the Phillip Burton Wilderness are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population within the confines of the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, with 221 more elk dying by 2020 and another 25 percent dying more recently.

- I urge the NPS to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

- I remind the NPS that the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,  
Calissa Grady

**Correspondence ID:760**

Correspondence: Dear Sir,

Please protect the rule elk. Your job requires that you oversee their protection.

Please do not put monetary means, or influence from cattle ranchers or lobbyists, ahead of the care and needs of the rule elk.

There seems to be a war in wildlife in this country.

Wildlife is being decimated in many western states.

I have lived in Carmel by the Sea and am familiar with the protected area for the elk.

As humans we have to care for the lesser species, and make every effort to enforce their protection, which includes the habitat for them.

They should not be slaughtered, under any circumstance.

If America knew of this and were allowed to vote, it would be overwhelming to protect these rare elk.

I am sure there are forces that want these animals murdered and removed.

This would be wrong and I am positive the agenda for the removal ( slaughter of these animals ) is evil .

Greed forces many people to do the wrong the wrong thing

Please allow these magnificent animals to live.

I will be glad to donate funds to help preserve their habitat and home.

The future of these majestic elk, is in your hands.

Please I beg of you to do the right thing, by protecting their life ahead of cattle.

You will obtain more money from tourist dollars wanting to view the elk, then from other sources that want to destroy them.

Thank you for reading my comments and letter.

Thank you for your consideration in this dire matter of utmost importance

Please let your guidance come from your heart

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:761**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not to individual ranchers who profit from its use. I find it unconscionable that the NPS is confining rare tule elk at Pt. Reyes National Seashore to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 privately owned cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years, and yet when some of the ranchers refused to move after the 25-year

time period, they were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use 35 years ago!

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying in alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. Again, this is unconscionable. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. It is urgent that the NPS prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:762**

Correspondence: My husband began his working career as a National Park Service ranger on the Mall in Washington, D.C. We are both big supporters of the National Park Service which normally does the "right thing". Bot NOT this time.

Please remember that the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Also fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water--what a horrible thing for NPS to do.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

PLEASE DO THE RIGHT THING ON BEHALF OF THE ELK.

**Correspondence ID:763**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:764**

Correspondence: Other people can clearly explain the science.

I'm urging the ETHICS about PROTECTING NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS instead of prioritizing human disruptions.

PROTECT WILDLIFE!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:765**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL of us, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The mission of the NPS is to protect the Seashore and its wildlife for the benefit of everyone. Why is priority given to ranchers who were supposed to leave after 25 years? Commercial ranching has no business being in a national park, and should be ended immediately! Now you are killing off rare native Tule elk by starving them to death and depriving them of water, just to benefit the privately owned cattle who should not be there. This is outrageous! Take down the fence at Tomales Point and let the elk roam in search of what they need.

**Correspondence ID:766**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:767**

Correspondence: Seems like the fence at Point Reyes is NOT working, detrimental to the elk and needs to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:768**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:769**

Correspondence: The ELK need your help in catering to their needs rather than the cattle that can be cared for elsewhere.

**Correspondence ID:770**

Correspondence: Please do NOT renew the cattle grazing leases. This is a National Park; not a cattle ranch. What ever happened to the Park Services mission to protect and promote survival of local Indigenous wildlife. What you are doing to the Tule elk is cruel; wrong; and short sighted. Just exactly what type of malfeasance has gone on to cause your park to prioritize money over the mission to protect wildlife?

**Correspondence ID:771**

Correspondence: Fences have NO place in Wilderness. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Please fulfill your responsibility to the to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:772**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank You

-Tim

**Correspondence ID:773**

Correspondence: Fences get in the way of migration for many wildlife. Ranchers are “renting” areas for livestock grazing at really cheap rates. I believe that wildlife should get priority over cattle and sheep. We the taxpayers are already paying for said grazing areas - save the land for the wild. Thank you for taking the time to read my comments.

**Correspondence ID:774**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:775**

Correspondence: All National Parks must be protected against all forms of private enterprise.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:776**

Correspondence: “Tear down that wall!” This was Ronald Reagan to Gorbachev.

But now I say, WTF are you doing? You are the National Park Service for ALL AMERICANS, not the cattle rancher protection agency. The native tule elk should be given priority over for-profit cattle ranchers. The cattle are causing unbelievable pollution of this area, and YOU are causing undue suffering for a native species that was almost driven to extinction.

DO YOUR JOB! It must be corruption within your agency and the big pockets of cattle ranchers and their lobby that is preventing you from taking RIGHT ACTION.

WHAT IS YOUR EXCUSE?

Protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and end commercial ranching on this public land. Citizens demand it!!!

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:777**

Correspondence: The fences need to come down. The elk need to have freedom of range and not restricted to a government mandate that we are so tired of. What right on federal lands owned by all do you have the right to restrict these animals to have free range? Where does it say that cows have the right over those animals who were in this area first are now restricted so cows can graze!

What gives you the right to fence off federal lands without making it public so there can be a discussion. Who gave you the right to fence off this area? If it were legal, it would not have been done in seclusion without public awareness and that alone says much about what you are doing behind the backs of the public who pay for these federal lands with tax money.

.If you are so sure you are correct in what you are doing then allow the public information and a voting process to see what they want. The democracy is a fallacy when policies like this are done to benefit a few.

I am sure you will have your day in court to find out just how much has gone on without public knowledge and to change the outcome of your poor decisions..

**Correspondence ID:778**

Correspondence: When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Instead, cattle grazing has continued and the native population of Tule elk are confined behind fencing, and are dying of hunger and thirst.

This is a WILDERNESS AREA. Grazing must stop, and the elk must be allowed to live unrestricted, as the original agreement specified. We need to save as much of our natural wildlife as we have left.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:779**

Correspondence: take down the fence and let the tule elk get water to drink.this killinf of the tule elk so ou can let cattlemen use our nationalland for their profiteers is abominable and deplorable. it needs to stop.you are killers and madmen.

**Correspondence ID:780**

Correspondence: Please consider that wildlife continues to require our appropriate actions to stay healthy today and in the future and prioritize that over grazing permits.

**Correspondence ID:781**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:782**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, as indicated by the word "National" in its title. The NPS should not prioritize the use by private ranchers who profit from its use. The desires of these commercial ranchers should not be permitted to ruin the area for native wildlife by including fences which keep the rare Tule elk, among other species, from reaching food and water sources. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife and fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:783**

Correspondence: This national park is where animals should be free to roam. the farmers should figure out how to live with them since they chose to stay in this area.

**Correspondence ID:784**

Correspondence: There is no shortage of habitat for cows. They range all over the US on both public and private lands. They damage a lot of those lands, but because they are a part of "economic development" that damage is for the most part overlooked.

Elk, on the other hand, have exceedingly limited and constantly shrinking ranges. They need to be able to move across the landscape to fulfill their life needs. The situation of the Tule elk at the Philip Burton "wilderness" is dire. Their life needs are being ignored and the easily predictable result is occurring - they are dying.

This is not why we the people designated wilderness areas. Please grant the elk the precedence they deserve over the privately owned domestic stock who benefit from the imprisonment of the elk. Please remove the fences and allow the elk to roam to fulfill their life needs.

**Correspondence ID:785**

Correspondence: Tule elk are dying needlessly at Point Reyes National Seashore. This is happening because the National Park Service has fenced them into areas which do not provide adequate food and

water. And this has apparently been done to allow 6,000 cattle to graze at the National Seashore without competition from the elk. The elk are native to Point Reyes. The cattle do not belong there. The enclosures which are confining the elk should be removed immediately.

**Correspondence ID:786**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:787**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:788**

Correspondence: It's cruel and inhumane. Animal cruelty is a felony and everyone of you thats letting those animals doe need to be prosecuted and sent to prison. Someone there get those animals food and water now, not tomorrow or the next day Now!

**Correspondence ID:789**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:790**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in wilderness. The NPS must end the series of deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:791**

Correspondence: At Point Reyes, elk and other wild fauna should be given priority over cattle and other domestic animals when allotting grazing space in the Tomales Point. Cattle grazing was to have been



permitted for only 25 years after the reserve was established. Now long after that date, cattle should be excluded, fences taken down, elk freed to range over their original territory to keep them from starving.

**Correspondence ID:792**

Correspondence: Public lands belong to all Americans, including American animals (who were here a million years before us), not ranchers/business. The thule elk in Point Tomales need access to food and water and it should be their right.

I am sick of subsidizing ranchers. If they want to profit from cattle, then let them pay all of the expenses to realize that profit. I want to subsidize nature, and that means the elk, not the meat processing industry that causes more greenhouses than almost any other industry, so subsidizing it is the last thing we should do.

The NPS needs to help rather than hinder Nature in public park lands. It is time to end ranching at Point Reyes and give thule elk free range.

**Correspondence ID:793**

Correspondence: Do the right thing! Think like Stewards!!!

**Correspondence ID:794**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:795**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:796**

Correspondence: I thank the NPS for accepting public comments regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan. In light of our current biodiversity crisis, there is nothing more important at this moment than ensuring all our remaining wildlife is protected and allowed to flourish.

Part of doing just that includes safeguarding every one of our few remaining wild places--their habitats. The Point Reyes National Seashore is one such place, and I strongly urge the NPS to protect the Seashore and, thereby, its wildlife.

Fences, for example, do wild spaces no favors and have led to ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. The simple, lifesaving solution to this problem is, of course, removing fences so that these elk can access food and water. We simply must rethink our relationship with nature if we are to maintain healthy life on this planet.

I thank the NPS to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes and prevent further losses to extinction.

**Correspondence ID:797**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:798**

Correspondence: wildlife over cattle

**Correspondence ID:799**

Correspondence: I am commenting today to request that the enclosure being used to confine Tule elk at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore be taken down and the elk allowed to forage freely.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. New leases should not have been granted to the ranchers who refused to leave, and even if they were, the presence of the extant wildlife should have been taken into account and given priority. The elk population- composed of a subspecies of elk nearly extinct elsewhere in the state of California- behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. They cannot afford to lose more of their herd. There is nowhere near enough forage behind that fence, and the ongoing drought is killing them off at a horrific rate.

NPS should have put an end to commercial ranching in national designated Wilderness decades ago. Native wildlife had the place first; more importantly, Wilderness belongs to all Americans, not only to ranchers, and the Tule elk are part of our national heritage. Please take down the fence. Allow the elk full access to food and water. Please do it before it's too late.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:800**

Correspondence: please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore

**Correspondence ID:801**

Correspondence: I am concerned about how the National Park Service (NPS) is managing a property in northern California. Specifically,

1. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

2. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at

Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

3. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point

Reyes like it was supposed to have done decades ago.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted cattle ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS.

So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Tule elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying in alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25% of the remainder have died since then. Fences must be removed and leases must be terminated. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:802**

Correspondence: The arrival of elk herds down from the mountains into the basin is one of the most wonderful events about life in Park City UT! I can't imagine the outrage that would be raised if fences were put up to keep them from migrating!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:803**

Correspondence: I hve visited Point Reyes many times and always enjoy seeing the Tule elk. The presence of wildlife is a crucial aspect of our park system. Being able to see wildlife is a special enhancement to my park visits.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness or non-wilderness park areas unless they have some important historical value. Even then the historical value cannot outweigh the protection of nature. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. It needs to do its part to protect biodiversity.

**Correspondence ID:804**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:805**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:806**

Correspondence: I have been to Point Reyes National Seashore on more than one occasion and I've seen the Tule elk there. More must be done to protect them and ensure their survival. This should be a higher priority than agricultural uses.

**Correspondence ID:807**

Correspondence: Pt. Reyes area is public land not the playground of a few disgruntled ranchers. The Tule Elk are on their way to extinction.

We the people demand more Elk and less cattle. Commercial. ranching must stop in the Pt. Reyes Area. Fences need to come down.

Wildlife needs to be prioritized. The NPS owes this to the elk and the people of the United States.

Sincerely,

Dan Heffernan

**Correspondence ID:808**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:809**

Correspondence: Flexibility and the capacity to adjust policy in the face of need is crucial to good government. When the need is this obvious, the government risks looking like nincompoops -- I mean, incompetents.

Please do your job and take care of these endangered elk. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:810**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle.

**Correspondence ID:811**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:812**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:813**

Correspondence: Please do more to protect wildlife and their habitats. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:814**

Correspondence: Please prioritize Tule Elk over livestock. Remove fences to facilitate their movement and encourage their long term survival.

**Correspondence ID:815**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:816**

Correspondence: This situation is the usual power-play between business and government. In this case, government has sided with business against wildlife and environment. Fairly typical. Stand back and look at the situation. Ranchers were given 25 years to relocate. That was more than enough time for them to

find a suitable alternative to Point Reyes. When they didn't follow the ruling, were they prosecuted for thumbing their noses at the law or penalized in any way? No, they got a new lease. What did NPS teach them? Just be non-compliant, and you will get your way. WHY give them continued opportunity to cause the extinction of a native species? They were allowed to stay for "history," but their history pales in significance in comparison with the history of the evolution of a native species. Side with wildlife. It is unacceptable that the elk are dying of hunger and thirst, because they are restricted to an inadequate environment, so cattle can muck up the environment. They have nowhere else to go. Ranchers have other options. How about doing the right thing this time?

**Correspondence ID:817**

Correspondence: Hi,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please, NO more cruel starving of the elk of food & water. Please use compassion for all wild animals. STOP the commercial ranching!

Sincerely,  
Ramona Draeger

**Correspondence ID:818**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:819**

Correspondence: Take down the fence!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans and the animals that live there, not to ranchers who want to profit.

The job of the NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, so why are you protecting businesses instead?

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness, by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

This has gone on too long. Get your priorities straight and save the elk. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:820**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

There is no excuse for the needless deaths of elk because of cattle ranching. Remove this fence immediately!

**Correspondence ID:821**

Correspondence: Perhaps The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:822**

Correspondence: Nobody “needs” wild animal parts to exhibit as “trophies” on their recreation room walls. Although elephants are not native to the United States, it is still important to protect them.

People who enjoy killing animals for their parts are, in my opinion, less than human. Do not pander to their bloodthirsty desires by enabling them to import wild animal parts from other countries.

**Correspondence ID:823**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died

more recently. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:824**

Correspondence: Point Reyes belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I have long enjoyed visiting Point Reyes but always wondered why there was still ranching. I was shocked to learn that it should have ended long ago. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:825**

Correspondence: Good afternoon,

It so saddens me to see, one again, how the short term priorities of the few can outweigh the long term benefits of many. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing,

Chloe

**Correspondence ID:826**

Correspondence: I support efforts to spare the elk from extinction.

**Correspondence ID:827**

Correspondence: Prioritise Wildlife over Cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like the NPS was supposed to do decades ago and prioritize the needs of native wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:828**



Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please take down these fences and keep the remaining wild places free. This is no place for commercial ranching not to mention all the issues to the planet and the animals involved.

**Correspondence ID:829**

Correspondence: Will you please do something to help these animals? The "WildLife Services" seems to be made up of hunters who kill wildlife. I'm sure the next thing on the list for these animals is to be "Humanely Killed" by your sharp shooters. You are disgusting!

**Correspondence ID:830**

Correspondence: The ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness could be ended by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. This National Seashore are not just for use of ranchers for their profit. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:831**

Correspondence: I am very disappointed that you are still managing the Point Reyes National Seashore for cattle ranching. This is completely inappropriate on our public lands. The native Tule Elk herd that is currently trapped behind fences at Point Tomales in the Burton Wilderness needs to be freed immediately to roam and access food and water. It's also past time to implement your stated intention to eliminate ranching on this rare and precious place.

Thanks for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:832**

Correspondence: Because the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use, I urge you to put the people and wildlife before the ranchers. Please protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. Please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:833**

Correspondence: I think the NPS should prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tear down the fences and put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:834**

Correspondence: As a former Inverness resident and West Marin business owner I'm disappointed that this issue has not been resolved. The national park needs to preserve native species and it needs to decrease the destructive cow population. Remove the fence

**Correspondence ID:835**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was

**Correspondence ID:836**

Correspondence: The wildlife in all the parks must be made the priority. There should be no farm or ranch animals on park property, that is not what my tax dollars should be paying for, they are paying for wild animals to be in the parks and freely ranging there without worry of not getting enough food. because of farm and ranch animals eating all the food. That is never what these parks were supposed to be about! Please stop this nonsense now!

sincerely,

Susa Kaiser Johnson

**Correspondence ID:837**

Correspondence: Support wildlife. Cattle ranchers have taken over WAY too much land and power. They will never have enough. Open up the land so that the wild animals like elk can roam. I have land in Lewis County, which I leave unfenced so that elk and deer can roam. And they do. Welcome to them. STOP BOWING DOWN TO CATTLE RANCHERS.

**Correspondence ID:838**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:839**

Correspondence: Dear All,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank You.

**Correspondence ID:840**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:841**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:842**

Correspondence: It is a sacrilege to allow fences within the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Remove all fences and allow all wildlife, including elk, to move freely within the Wilderness.

And, end the leasing of land within the Wilderness, including leasing for all livestock grazing.

**Correspondence ID:843**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:844**

Correspondence: IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO DO YOUR JOBS AND PRESERVE OUR MUSTANGS AND BURROS AND ALLOW THEM TO GRAZE ON FEDERAL LANDS, INSTEAD OF THE DAMN CATTLE RANCHERS AND YOU POLITICIANS TO STOP LETTING THEM BUY YOU OFF.....OH YES, I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT.....SOLD OUT TO THE USDA WHO CONTROLS THE BLM.....DO YOU REALLY THINK WE ARE STUPID???!!! GET READY., WE ARE GOING TO FIGHT YOU ON EVERY TURN.....THESE ANIMALS SERVED US WELL, NOW YOU ARE RUNNING THEM DOWN, KILLING MARES AND THEIR FOALS, STALLIONS AND SLAUGHTERING THEM

BY THE THOUSANDS.....WE ARE THROUGH STANDING BY AND DOING NOTHING.....GET READY,  
WE ARE COMING AFTER EVERY POLITICIAN WHO TAKES MONEY AND ALLOWS THIS.....GOT  
IT???????????????

**Correspondence ID:845**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. And, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Lastly, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:846**

Correspondence: Wildlife were here first. Please respect mother nature.

Thank you,

Dana Sanchez

**Correspondence ID:847**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:848**

Correspondence: Hello,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Regards,

**Correspondence ID:849**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore is a Wilderness area, which never should have fences. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The landscape and the wildlife must have the highest priority. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Thank you very much.

**Correspondence ID:850**

Correspondence: Take down the fence at Point Reyes...

**Correspondence ID:851**

Correspondence: It is heart wrenching and horrifying to learn, that instead of protecting wilderness and wildlife, the NPS is instead intentionally cutting off elk from much needed food and water and resulting in their death at alarming numbers. Why is this allowed to happen? Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk population that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

In today's world, we have an obligation to correctly manage wildlife, not just allow it to needlessly perish. The NPS belongs to all Americans, not just ranchers who profit from its use. Why do we continue to prioritize profits over the protection of wildlife? It's unconscionable.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing and find a humane solution.

A concerned citizen and animal rights activist.

**Correspondence ID:852**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:853**

Correspondence: Sir / Madam:

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Paul L. Maloney

**Correspondence ID:854**

Correspondence: Save the Elk.

**Correspondence ID:855**

Correspondence: Our wildlife is dwindling. Please protect whatever we have left.

**Correspondence ID:856**

Correspondence: Fences do not belong in the wilderness, please remove these to protect the elk and other wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:857**

Correspondence: No More Dyeing Elk - It's time to give this land back to the rightful inhabitants!

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:858**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:859**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

• The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:860**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:861**

Correspondence: I lived in San Francisco for about four years. When my mother came to visit from North Carolina for a few days, one of the places I took her was the Point Reyes National Seashore. It was a special place then, the sort of place you'd take a special friend or family member.

Now, it's less so. That's in large part to the decision by the National Park Service to allow cattle ranchers to continue ranching beyond the 25 years they were granted after the Park Service purchased their land in 1962. Maintaining their ranches--and the fences that contain their cattle--is having a devastating impact on the wildlife of the area. It's time to change that, before it's too late.

Fences have no place in wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, as it was supposed to do decades ago.

I'm sending a copy of my comments to my senators and asking them also to take action on this matter.

**Correspondence ID:862**

Correspondence: Park Planning (?!) against native and rare species and for private interests denigrating the Park and all it is supposed to stand for? Shame.

**Correspondence ID:863**

Correspondence: At Point Reyes we have a sad but very fixable situation. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. We are not short of cattle nor should a domesticated animal get priority over a wild and in this case endangered species.

Let buy out the ranchers and turn the park back to the public who come in part to see elk not cattle. Pay the ranchers a fair market value for the cattle and end the contract with the ranchers.

Thanks for considering my thoughts

**Correspondence ID:864**

Correspondence: Please remove the Tule elk fencing at Point Reyes National Seashore and terminate the destructive cattle grazing.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Yves Decargouet

**Correspondence ID:865**

Correspondence: As you consider changes in the environmental use rules, especially possible expansion of the agricultural use of the Point Reyes National Seashore in northern California, it is imperative that you include the future of the native Tule Elk, which is on the verge of extinction as it is. Continued use and ability to fence off PUBLIC Land for private land use denies these elk access to water and pasturage. Simply, there are multiple, logical reasons NOT to approve the considered rule change. And the first is when will the survival of a species already suffering from mismanagement. I strongly urge you refuse to grant the proposed rule change for the following reasons in addition to those I have noted above.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:866**

Correspondence: Please protect the lives of the Tule Elk who are perishing from lack of food and water by fencing. Their dwindling herds need to be preserved. Remove the fencing!

**Correspondence ID:867**

Correspondence: I pay money to the National Park Service annually, and I expect my money to go toward protecting our national parks and seashores, and the wildlife in them.

The national seashore was set aside to protect the environment and wildlife there, not the cattle. It appears the National Park Service is deliberately murdering the elk.

I recently spent three days at Point Reyes, and I don't mind SOME ranches continuing to exist as long as the elk are protected.

The cattle can be sold or moved.

Some of the elk can be moved to appropriate settings where they can thrive.

The fence causing the elk to die needs to be removed immediately.

Thank you,  
Cynthia Ferguson

**Correspondence ID:868**

Correspondence: These are not my own words, but I whole-heartedly agree with them:



The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:869**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:870**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:871**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore in California belongs to all and not to cattle ranchers who profit from its use. The park is home to native Tule elk The NPS needs to prioritize wildlife and not domestic cattle. Fencing must be removed to permit Thule elk to access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:872**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:873**

Correspondence: Why have the F&WS, National Park Service, and other related government agencies become WHORES FOR THE CATTLE, RANCHING, AND HUNTING INDUSTRIES??

This is not your job, and in fact flies in the face of your actual responsibilities.

I am tired of the continued compromise of our wild spaces for profit-seeking, ATV-driving, killing-enthusiast children over the better part of humanity's population. STOP dragging us all down to your nihilistic, perverted disposition about how to exist properly on this planet. All your quarterly profits and beach houses won't be worth anything if the Earth cannot sustain life successfully thanks to the numerous idiots being "serviced" by groups like the National Park Service.

Grow up and act a like a responsible adults.

**Correspondence ID:874**

Correspondence: Please save the Tule Elk and remove the fences! The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:875**

Correspondence: Let wild animals live wild and free.

**Correspondence ID:876**

Correspondence: The needs of the wild elk are more important for the National Park Service to take care of. The cattle are privately owned. They will get fed, or they will get moved to better grazing land by their owners who gain a profit off of them. The wild elk on the other hand depend on the NPS and people who care regardless of profit. That in fact is one of the main reasons for the existence of the NPS.

**Correspondence ID:877**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:878**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:879**

Correspondence: Please save the Elk. The Seashore belongs to them

**Correspondence ID:880**

Correspondence: The National Park Service is prioritizing cattle over wildlife and this must stop. Fences do not belong in the Wilderness. and the fence must be removed. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore, as they are cut off from needed food and water.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. And the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Remove the fence!

**Correspondence ID:881**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:882**

Correspondence: choose wildlife over corporate profit

**Correspondence ID:883**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my comments on an issue that's very important to me.

**Correspondence ID:884**

Correspondence: Please allow the wildlife to live freely. they were here first and they are totally innocent. Cattle are raised to eat. What a shame. Killing, killing, killing.

**Correspondence ID:885**

Correspondence: I am appalled at the apparent lack of respect for wildlife at Point Reyes National Seashore. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. This is entirely unacceptable!!!

I understand that the US government government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Ranchers should NOT be able to continue to graze on public lands, especially when they were paid fair market value for the land by the US government decades ago. As a private citizen I could not refuse to leave land I had sold, so why does NPS allow the ranchers to do this??? As a result of extreme bias for cattle and against native wildlife, rare elk are dying. It is bad enough that native wildlife is dying so that ranchers can make a profit at the expense of the US tax payer, but to value cattle and profits over a rare animal makes no sense at all.

I am a US tax payer and I want to enjoy national park land in its natural state. I would visit a ranch if I wanted to see cattle, and I MOST ESPECIALLY DO NOT want to come to a national park and see DYING wildlife. This is entirely unacceptable and cruel!!!!

**Correspondence ID:886**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:887**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

• The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:888**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

Ridiculous.

Our wildlife are being cordoned off everywhere with roads, trails, buildings, housing developments and now this because of a few domesticated animals?

Last I heard, Elk don't eat cattle.

Give them free reign, free range!!!

Sincerely,

Pamela Hinrichs  
Shetland Court  
Highlands Ranch, CO 80130-3940

**Correspondence ID:889**

Correspondence: Hi - We've hiked the Tomales Point Area for years. It is beautiful given both the landscape and wildlife. I'm very surprised to learn that the Elk we've seen each time we've visited are trapped behind a fence. This is an area where wildlife and humans should share the land given how vast and open the park is. I'm definitely an advocate of removing the fence that keeps the elk herd on Tomales Point captive and at the mercy of drought and other challenges.

Please remove the fence so that the elk herd can have access and freedom to forage for food and water especially given the scarcity and availability of water. The elk herd has the best chance to survive and thrive if they have the freedom to roam and access the natural resources of the area.

Thank you!

Tom

**Correspondence ID:890**

Correspondence: Dear Park Service, it pains me GREATLY to see that you are not able to do your designated job of caring for the land and animals entrusted to your care but rather you allow ranchers to prioritize their cattle over the needs of wildlife and even allow them to stay and abuse the land for their cattle long after the 25-year time period ended.

Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk. This is NOT what the Park Service should be doing! Please focus on your mission of removing the fencing and allowing the elk to feed and survive on land that was DESIGNATED for park use. The point of the Burton Wilderness is just that! Please take care of the elk.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:891**

Correspondence: Please know that these things matter:

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please understand that these things matter to a lot of us citizens and we want you to step up and do the right thing now.

**Correspondence ID:892**

Correspondence: I see no reason to restrict the animals from foraging for food. Allowing their freedom to roam will help to foster additional herds and increase their usefulness. Every animal adds to nature's bounty and all animals provide various items for the entire herd.

**Correspondence ID:893**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service (NPS) must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences do not belong in Wilderness. The NPS must end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it agreed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:894**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:895**

Correspondence: NPS should eliminate livestock grazing within the National Seashore. The current practice of restricting Tule Elk within a small fenced area is deleterious to their survival. Eliminate livestock grazing and allow the Elk full freedom to access food and water in our National Seashore, forthwith.

**Correspondence ID:896**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

I am a concerned citizen and a regular user and proud member of many of our country's National Parks and National Monuments. I have been reading many articles and documentation about the situation at Point Reyes - a place that my family has traveled to and enjoyed several times- and I do not understand why the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The

NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. I am sickened from seeing many visitor photographs of the dead and emaciated elk. I have also read scientific studies showing that not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk to die of hunger and thirst. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

I question why the NPS confining these elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must do its job to protect the Seashore and its wildlife for all of us.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:897**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:898**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern:

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Please remove the fences so that wildlife can access food and water, and return this land to the American people.

Sincerely,  
Tod Babick

**Correspondence ID:899**

Correspondence: This area was set up as a wildlife center and not for ranching. Take down the fences which prevent the animals from accessing the water.

**Correspondence ID:900**

Correspondence: It is harmful to allow ranchers to take over (tax-free, at that) public lands. It damages the ecosystems, interferes with wildlife, results in ranchers killing innocent wild animals. Far too much

public land is used on subsidized ranching; it's bad for public health and bad for animals, both wild and domesticated.

**Correspondence ID:901**

Correspondence: Please take down fencing at Point Reyes to protect the Tule elk. Cattle should not be allowed to be more important than native wildlife in any of our National Parks, monuments, forests or other public owned landscapes. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:902**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:903**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:904**

Correspondence: I have always loved visiting Point Reyes National Seashore as an easy day trip from the East Bay. Part of the enjoyment is getting to see the Californian wildlife whether in the ocean, on the beaches, or on the hills and bluffs. This includes the Tule elk.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

As a Bay Area resident I do purchase dairy products from local producers but these ranchers have additional properties in the area. NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting a gradual end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:905**

Correspondence: Please remove the fencing that is causing recurring deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales.

Maintaining wilderness attributes must be paramount in the management of Wilderness Areas. Using fencing to segregate domestic cattle from wild elk is contrary to this priority. Ranching *may* have a place in *some* wilderness areas, but the land belongs to the American public, and the American public has declared that wildness must be preserved here. If this priority cannot be maintained while allowing commercial ranching at Point Tomales, then the ranching must be put to an overdue end.



**Correspondence ID:906**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:907**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

As a former resident of California and neighbor to Point Reyes I understand how important it is to do the right thing. Fences have no place in this wonderful setting.

**Correspondence ID:908**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:909**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

As a former resident of California and neighbor to Point Reyes I understand how important it is to do the right thing. Fences have no place in this wonderful setting.

**Correspondence ID:910**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence! The Elk are relying on you to make the right decision!

**Correspondence ID:911**

Correspondence: This is the ancestral and current

home of the Tule elk. It is not the home of the cattle. This place is a national seashore in a wilderness area. Let me repeat that: this is a WILDERNESS area. It is no place for cattle. This subspecies of elk is endangered, the cattle are not. The math is easy - SAVE THE ELK!!

**Correspondence ID:912**

Correspondence: The National Park Service, I was under the apparent misinformation was to protect the wild and the wildlife in areas they served in. It appears now that your mission statement is either faulty or just wrong. In Point Reyes National Seashore we have Tule Elk thought to be extinct until they were discovered in California. The NPS appears to be working very hard to make sure these elk get extinct rather than live. I have seen the photos of the Tule Elk maintained behind fences??? and kept from water and maintained not at all. Correct me if I am wrong but aren't commercial cattle using all the resources in this area? Weren't the cattle be gone 10 years or more ago?? The Point Reyes National Seashore I always felt belonged to me and the family not the ranching business. Has the NPS decided it prefers to care for commercial cattle and business that is privately owned rather than the people and their salary that we do pay for? When I hear about the NPS working to kill or remove wildlife and not being concerned over the habitat, I become sad and angry. More and more animals/wildlife and lands/wilderness are reclassified as animals and lands and nothing special. We all suffer who care but the ranchers just squeeze a little tighter and ruin more and more for the rest of us. Be honorable and do what is best for those of us who can not which includes the wildlife and habitats.

The last I heard the people near the Point Reyes National Seashore are offended by the smell and watching the Tule Elk go without water or food because they are fenced in. In my state we have laws against animal abuse. Will you manage if you are charged?

Please do what is right and kind not what a business person wants. They want it all at no cost to them. I want them gone. This is my land and your land to care for not them to stink up and ruin. Thank you for your time.

**Correspondence ID:913**

Correspondence: There is no reason to continue to allow Elk to suffer while cattle use up the food source needed by the Elk on Federal Land that we all own.

This use has been extended way beyond what was promised the ranchers.

Your system stinks of nothing more than "Behind our backs Politics".

How much longer are you going to allow Lawless Greed to continue?

**Correspondence ID:914**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern:

I am very concerned about the fate of native Tule elk. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Please help the the elk. It is cruel and unnecessary to let them die. There must be a compromise between the ranchers and wildlife and I urge you to find it.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:915**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness, that should be abundantly obvious. The NPS needs to stop the continuing deaths of Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. This also is abundantly obvious.

The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife and put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. This should have been done decades ago, and that also is abundantly obvious. You need to do your job, do it properly, and stop all this clueless farting around.

**Correspondence ID:916**

Correspondence: Dear Park Service,

I am outraged about what has been happening with the Tule elk at Point Reyes for the past few years. The tule elk is the most iconic wildlife species there, in the only national park where they can be found. So for gods sake - PROTECT THEM.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely, Amanda Taylor

**Correspondence ID:917**

Correspondence: Wildlife need to be able to roam freely. The effects of wildlife in helping to curb climate change have been scientifically proven so even if you don't believe they are sentient beings that deserve to live in the best way possible, you should consider the benefits to society that they provide.

**Correspondence ID:918**

Correspondence: As a tragedy continues at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California and the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California which is rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, you have the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by many visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

You are confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

You need to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The duty of the NPS is to protect wildlife not to lease land to private cattle ranchers. Please do your duty and allow the Elk to graze freely. Thanks very much.

**Correspondence ID:919**

Correspondence: Please get rid of the cattle - they are an environmental disaster!

**Correspondence ID:920**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:921**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:922**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Let them out, why are you letting them be killed like this. This is disgusting and tragic and inhuman.

**Correspondence ID:923**

Correspondence: Wilderness does not include cattle.

Publicly owned lands should not be subsidizing private cattle interests.

Preserve the Tule elk.

A few more cattle is not worth losing a subspecies of elk.

**Correspondence ID:924**

Correspondence: We can't continue to let questionably legal cattle grazing in Point Reyes threaten the survival of the remaining endangered Tule elk. Please do everything in your power to end ranching in Point Reyes to allow these elk to survive. The wilderness exists for our people as a whole, not for the profit of a few ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:925**

Correspondence: Wilderness is for the wild.

Ranchers must respect this fact.

Plus these facts:

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.
- The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness.
- The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water
- = The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Do your dang job!

**Correspondence ID:926**

Correspondence: The US government bought the land for the refuge. Make sure the elk have enough food and water, even if it means displacing cattle

**Correspondence ID:927**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:928**

Correspondence: It is long past the time for putting an end to cattle grazing on Point Reyes National Seashore. Originally in 1962 this grazing was allowed for 25 years. It is 2022, 60 years later, and the cattle are still allowed. Remove the cattle as was meant to happen 35 years ago and take down the fence that impedes the movements of the Tule Elk. Wilderness and wildlife have a tremendous value for all Americans.

**Correspondence ID:929**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:930**

Correspondence: The National Park Service is charged with protecting the wildlife at Point Reyes National Seashore, not sacrificing it to ranchers and their cattle for their profit.

To that end, please remove all fences from the Phillip Burton Wilderness; fences have no place in Wilderness. The elk need access food and water there, and those fences present a significant barrier to them. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife like the elk by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, just as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:931**

Correspondence: When I lived in the Bay Area (for nearly 30 years) I was a frequent hiker at Point Reyes and was always dismayed at the amount of land set aside for the cattle industry. I knew that at some point in the near future the park service was due to reevaluate the preferential treatment given to the lease holders in the ranching industry. I trust the park service will do the right thing and remove the fencing that breaks the wilderness up and that Pt Reyes will return to its natural glory as one of the jewels of the park system. That ranching is currently allowed at the detriment of the tule elk and other wildlife is shocking and goes against the moral code of the park service. I've seen first hand what bad stewards of the land these ranches are (soil erosion, invasive grasses, AND chasing away hikers on OUR

PUBLIC LAND. Enough already, please consider your obligation to the environment and the public and make the right decision.

**Correspondence ID:932**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:933**

Correspondence: Please protect our national wildlife for my grandchildren and great grandchildren.

**Correspondence ID:934**

Correspondence: TULE ELK of Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California treatment ABOMINATION

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, DECADES after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and END livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

NPS is supposed to look after our PUBLIC lands and wildlife NOT Ranchers and their livestock!!! Your treatment of the Tule Elk is abominable and shows that NPS does NOT CARE about doing their job properly and is apparently staffed by extremely cruel rangers. RENEWING the leases of ranchers that REFUSED to vacate at the end of the 25 year agreement shows that NPS put GREED over the welfare of the nearly extinct Tule elk.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. That is NOT how taxpayers that are paying you expect you to do your jobs. THAT IS AN ABSOLUTE DISGRACE! Take the fencing down and allow the elk to access food and water ASAP!!!!

**Correspondence ID:935**

Correspondence: I am disturbed to discover that cattle are still being allowed to graze within a NATIONAL PARK! Especially since the NPS bought the land years ago. The cattle must go, the fence must come down, the endangered elk must be allowed to freely graze. This land (to quote the song) is OUR land and does not belong to the ranchers, who are using it--and us--to make money! And frankly, WHY is there any fencing within a national park??? I truly don't understand why commercial ranching is still at Point Reyes when it was supposed to end decades ago.

As well, the NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Finally, I cannot believe that citizens have to remind the NPS what their job is! This situation strikes me as distinctly questionable and I wonder who is making money here. Besides the the ranchers, that is.  
Ellen Zarter

**Correspondence ID:936**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:937**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

**Correspondence ID:938**

Correspondence: prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. Enough with the special interests of cattle ranchers and cattle farmers.

WILDLIFE SHOULD BE FIRST.

**Correspondence ID:939**

Correspondence: What is going on here? Federal lands should have wildlife as their first priority, not cattle. Let the ranchers find their own land. The elk have no "owners" to provide for them other than the federal government. Given the rapid decline in the elk population, it's clear they need the water to survive.

**Correspondence ID:940**

Correspondence: I believe in the free range travel for all animals. Impeding their natural movement is very detrimental to them as it is obvious in the situation. What we need to do is follow suit with natural bridge animal crossings.

**Correspondence ID:941**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



**Correspondence ID:942**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:943**

Correspondence: National Park Service:

The purpose of designated wilderness areas in our national park and Department of Interior system is to preserve wildlife and their habitat.

Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness should be protecting wild species like elk, NOT expanding commercial agriculture and cattle ranching. The Tule Elk are seriously dwindling from the local and regional competition in California for water amid climate change and overuse by agriculture and municipalities, as well as further take of their habitat by ranching and agriculture and its fencing.

I have visited the Tomales Point and Point Reyes National Seashore a few times, while doing outdoor hiking and camping with California friends. I want to see its natural habitat preserved for wildlife like elk, migratory birds and sea mammals, and I believe my friends in Sacramento and the Bay Area want this area preserved too.

The ranchers and farmers should go elsewhere (to a place not so critically prone to water shortage, and that isn't robbing our present national parks, monuments and wilderness public land), or get into a different profession.

**Correspondence ID:944**

Correspondence: I have read about the plight of elk at Point Reyes in several publications. The Seashore is land that was preserved for the enjoyment of all and the prioritization of the rights of ranchers who profit from their use of it is outrageous and disgusting. The wildlife should not have to compete with cattle. The cattle were supposed to have been removed many years ago and this removal should be delayed no longer! The public prefers to see rare wildlife when visiting such a place rather than cows. Please right this disaster immediately.

**Correspondence ID:945**

Correspondence: The segregation and resultant starvation and dehydration of Tule Elk in Point Reyes National Seashore is shameful animal cruelty. Privately roaming cows should be allowed only insofar as they do not supercede the native elk.

**Correspondence ID:946**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently

**Correspondence ID:947**

Correspondence: I am writing to urge you to make the protection of the ELK herd at Point Reyes National Seashore your highest priority. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I also believe that keeping the fences up is a violation of the Wilderness Act. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for attending to this message.

**Correspondence ID:948**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:949**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:950**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:951**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:952**

Correspondence: Wildlife before cattle!!!! Cattle is a major contributor to the ruin of our Earth.

Commerce cannot take precedence over our ever shrinking wildlife and nature!!!

It is unconscionable. Enough is enough!!!!

**Correspondence ID:953**

Correspondence: It is way past time to STOP putting Nature LAST. We as a population are only PART of the World's LIFE. The World is NOTHING without Nature, and those are not JUST words. Remember we NEED the world, the world does not need US.

**Correspondence ID:954**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:955**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:956**

Correspondence: Once again the NPS is making decisions that are counter to the ecosystem in order to pander to private enterprise. The cattle do not have rights over the indigenous flora and fauna in our national parks. The NPS is just that, charged with SERVING the needs of our parks and protecting the ecological health of these NATIONAL areas.

**Correspondence ID:957**

Correspondence: #planetbeforeprofit

If ranchers need more acreage let them buy it! Government land belongs to everyone not just the wealthy

**Correspondence ID:958**

Correspondence: Any protection for vulnerable wildlife is important to preserve.

**Correspondence ID:959**

Correspondence: It seems a plan can be developed that protects the Elk population and allows for cattle.

**Correspondence ID:960**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:961**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:962**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:963**

Correspondence: Please end the tragic ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk by taking down the fence at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness so elk can access food and water. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:964**

Correspondence: Hello,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing.

Thanks,

Dan crum

### **Correspondence ID:965**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”- Mahatma Gandhi

“We should respect animals because it makes better human beings of us all.”-Dr. Jane Goodall

### **Correspondence ID:966**

Correspondence: Hello,

Thank you for allowing me to comment.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thanks

### **Correspondence ID:967**

Correspondence: Elk also need safe areas to mate, build a den and raise their young. Unfortunately, most parts of this country where they do that have seen flood-waters rise above sea-level.

Millions of animals are also cut off due to completed construction on parts of Trump's wall at the Texas-Mexico border; even after Congress said we would NOT pay for it, construction started anyway.

And millions of animals have endured abuse before 2016

**Correspondence ID:968**

Correspondence: Wildlife have no other options.....humans do !!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:969**

Correspondence: Please our animals and our park

**Correspondence ID:970**

Correspondence: Point Reyes is a national treasure that belongs to all Americans. Please take down fences that keep Tule Elk from accessing food and water. They belong there, cattle do not.

Thank you,

Alice

**Correspondence ID:971**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:972**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

• The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:973**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:974**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife for the generations yet to come. The seashore was preserved for a reason and the park service has not been operating in good faith for the protection and preservation of this precious resource.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. This seems a clear priority based on the ultimate mission of the management of park lands. The land has been acquired and the former cattle ranchers notified and grazing should have been phased out by now! There is no more time to wait. The wildlife within the borders of the park must be protected and prioritized.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:975**

Correspondence: Your department should not fence in Tule Elk which are at risk of extinction and need far more grazing areas, nor favor commercial interests in wilderness areas.

**Correspondence ID:976**

Correspondence: Trapping and leaving elk to die is beyond unacceptable. Something must be done immediately. Please consider the following:

1. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.
2. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
3. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
4. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you-  
Deborah

**Correspondence ID:977**

Correspondence: Wildlife need a place to be wild. The National Park Service needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you for listening.

**Correspondence ID:978**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the

Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:979**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:980**

Correspondence: I live in Arizona, but I have visited Point Reyes National Seashore; it is a beautiful place with views of the Pacific Ocean and the Bay of Tomales. This National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fences so the elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of naive wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The bullying tactics of the ranchers and their refusal to leave must not be acceptable and rewarded.

Please do the right thing for wildlife and for people who care about wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:981**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan. I doubt that my comments will matter given how the Tule Elk have been treated in the past but I guess I still want to believe that decisions might be better this time.

Like many people, I have visited the Tomales Point Area and I have followed how the Tule Elk have been mismanaged at Point Reyes for many years. This mismanagement is extremely upsetting.

Visiting the area and seeing the way the Tule elk, a native species, is restricted to a small area because of fencing is extremely upsetting. It makes my visits very unpleasant and each time, I return home more angry at those who manage this area. Even more upsetting, instead of seeing natural landscapes when driving out to the Tomales Point Area and other parts of Point Reyes I drive by endless numbers of cows. There are fields and fields of cows and rows and rows of the tiny igloo huts housing calves waiting that have been taken from their mothers and are waiting to be slaughtered. I've taken many photos of the cows and confined calves to share with friends. This is what much of Point Reyes looks like.

Then we drive through high fencing and arrive at the small area where Tule Elk are confined and die when there is not enough water or food. That humans in this day and age will allow these elk to die from lack of



water and food is unbelievable. Managers lack any sense of kind, humane treatment of animals. They should be held responsible for cruel and inhumane treatment of confined animals just as dairy farmers are if they did these same things. How can humans be so immune to suffering? And you are government workers.

I've always been interested in Tule Elk. We lived for most of my life in California. I remember visiting central California looking for Tule Elk in the 1980s after their numbers were so low. I was active in Sierra Club and we hoped these native elk herds would finally have more areas to survive and thrive. Point Reyes seemed like the perfect place. Like many people, we visited the Point wanting to enjoy natural scenery and wildlife.

Unfortunately, the area is managed for domestic livestock not native species like Tule Elk. Being close to large cities, this could be an area where visitors could have wonderful experiences. Instead, Tule Elk are left to die during droughts when water and food may be inadequate. This says a lot about our government and the manages of Point Reyes.

I am extremely disappointed in the management of this area and of the Tule Elk on Tomales Point. I hope those who make decisions about this area will come to their senses and realize that people want to protect our wildlife and our wild places. Tax payers spent millions purchasing these lands. Why? To have dairy and meat cows and to grow vegetables. NO. This is not what we want on our public lands.

Very disappointed in the past  
and hoping for better decisions in the future,  
Martha Hall

**Correspondence ID:982**

Correspondence: Hello,  
The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
I believe that fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:983**

Correspondence: THE NATIONAL PARKS ARE FOR PEOPLE TO SEE THE WONDERS OF THE FORREST!

**Correspondence ID:984**

Correspondence: THE NATIONAL PARKS ARE FOR PEOPLE TO SEE THE WONDERS OF THE FORREST!

**Correspondence ID:985**

Correspondence: I do not understand why the NPS is dooming the tiny number of Tule Elk to certain death. Obviously, it's the profit factor and vocal aspects of the cattle ranchers. Why don't you just sell hunting tickets and let hunters finish them off quickly- the NPS gets money and you end the noisy public from demanding action that might give the Elk an actual chance to live. I am so repulsed by your

inaction over the years to allow this species to live. Adding in the long term drought and lack of water and forage. What is wrong?? Do something. I am a tourist with enough dollars to travel and I might spend it in a NPS location. I wish I had power to end such an injustice.

**Correspondence ID:986**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all of We the People, not just to or even also to ranchers who profit from grazing on our land. You must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

You must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. Ranching/grazing was supposed to end decades ago. Get on with it.

**Correspondence ID:987**

Correspondence: Commercial ranching has no place in Point Reyes National Seashore. This means that fences must come down to open the Phillip Burton wilderness up to Tule elk which are suffering too much death from being cut off from the food and water they desperately need. The NPS needs to manage this Seashore for all Americans and wildlife, not for ranchers who tend to “cry wolf” when they don't get to have their way.

**Correspondence ID:988**

Correspondence: Wildlife should have precedence over cattle on public lands at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Elk should not be dying so that cattle can be run on the National Seashore at Tomales Point at not much cost to the ranchers.

Please remove the fencing that is causing so many Tule elk to die needlessly.

**Correspondence ID:989**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:990**

Correspondence: There are SO many reason that this should happen. These Elk are part of this Natural process. We need them, they don't NEED us.

**Correspondence ID:991**

Correspondence: Prioritize and protect wildlife in Point Reyes!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:992**

Correspondence: Native wildlife deserves priority over ranching profits. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

**Correspondence ID:993**

Correspondence: PATHETIC!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:994**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The Elk belong there. 6,000 head of cattle don't.

**Correspondence ID:995**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:996**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:997**

Correspondence: Prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore! Save the elk.

**Correspondence ID:998**

Correspondence: please help our wildlife and take down the fences.

**Correspondence ID:999**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle and wealthy cattle ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:1000**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

GO VEGETARIAN!!

**Correspondence ID:1001**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1002**

Correspondence: Fences do not belong in wilderness areas. The NPS committed to protecting these endangered elk over 20 years ago and must stop enforcing a policy of confinement which is starving a substantial proportion of the herd. NPS should be prioritizing the public interest in preserving this species rather than protecting the profits of a small, private group of ranchers with deep pockets who use degrade public lands by gazing their cattle on said lands at pennies on the dollar.

**Correspondence ID:1003**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern:

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Florence Sullivan

**Correspondence ID:1004**

Correspondence: I am calling on the National Park Service to protect Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife for all Americans. It must never be private grazing land for ranchers who profit from its use.

Specifically, I point out that fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, as should have been done decades ago.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Correspondence ID:1005**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THE FENCE!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

TAKE DOWN THE FENCE!!!

**Correspondence ID:1006**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use and misuse. It is the NPS's duty to protect the Seashore and its wildlife, not cater to privately owned cattle herds.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water - food and water that is being squandered by profiteering interests.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for addressing this miscarriage of public resource management.

**Correspondence ID:1007**

Correspondence: At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

This is monstrous!

**Correspondence ID:1008**

Correspondence: Take down the fences. Protect the elk. Cattle must not be favored over elk.

**Correspondence ID:1009**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THE FENCE!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

TAKE DOWN THE FENCE!!!

**Correspondence ID:1010**

Correspondence: Dear Sir,

I am writing to contest fencing in these rare Elk. They will eventually die of starvation and lack of water if the fence is not taken down immediately!!! Please have compassion for the elk.

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Carolyn Anderson

**Correspondence ID:1011**

Correspondence: Is it true that Cattle have higher priority over Elk to the point where Elk may die off?

I thought the land was set aside to preserve nature and wildlife that is endangered.

We also need to deal now with Climate Change to avoid a Sixth Extinction for most of life on this our only planet.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1012**

Correspondence: To prevent our own native Tule elk from accessing grazing and WATER is wrong and cruel

It's obvious you all know this.

Stop being ruled by cattle grazing and dairy interests that are being provided more than their share.

Take down the fences.

**Correspondence ID:1013**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1014**

Correspondence: I am surprised that the NPS has not taken a more proactive approach to consider the need to better manage the elk rather than fencing them in to allow cattle more grazing. I understand the politics in this, pandering to politicians who are bribed by special interests who often have the economic interests of their members while downgrading the need for a more inclusive environment. However, the NPS has an obligation to keep a closer watch on wildlife in order to maintain reasonable

herd size. And when starvation and drought adversely affect wildlife and what seems to be an obvious need to expand herd ability to forage further, there should be a move to reduce the pen size by expanding herd boundaries. Please consider the implications of drought and other problems affecting the elk and provide a better plan to ensure the herd will be allowed enough sustenance to maintain their ability to live. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1015**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THE FENCE!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

TAKE DOWN THE FENCE!!!

**Correspondence ID:1016**

Correspondence: Stop cattle grazing at Point Reyes. Remove fences and cattle.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1017**

Correspondence: Please put the lives of native wildlife over the needs of wealthy ranchers grazing cattle in this Wilderness. Cattle don't belong there. This fence should have come down long ago. The Tule elk are starving and dying of thirst at times because the fence withholds food and water sources from them. Other native creatures are probably affected by this as well.

Your highest priority should be the health and protection of wildlife. The Tule elk is surely a special kind of animal to survive all the impacts Man has had upon their environment for a couple hundred years. Let's let them have their home back!

**Correspondence ID:1018**

Correspondence: There is no excuse for allowing more of our public lands to be abused by prioritizing grazing and other special interests at the expense of native wildlife. I am sick of having our land trust used to fill the coffers of private concerns!

**Correspondence ID:1019**



Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over commercial ranching on public land. The Tule Elk need grazing area and should be the primary consideration of the National Park Service. Wildlife and the ecology of the Point Reyes area should be protected by the NPS. Cattle owned by private companies should not push out wildlife and create a situation where Tule Elk are dying. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all of the American people, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Take down the fence so that the Tule Elk can have food and water. End the commercial ranching on public land that is killing wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1020**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1021**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1022**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1023**

Correspondence: we must allow native wildlife a space to live. No cattle at Pt. Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1024**

Correspondence: NPS: Please do your job!!! Protect the Point Reyes National Seashore For the wildlife, not for cattle ranching!!! The rare wild Tule Elk should not have to die for a few ranchers profits. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1025**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for considering the future of all wildlife for future generations

**Correspondence ID:1026**

Correspondence: No cattle pushing out native species.

**Correspondence ID:1027**

Correspondence: .

Fences have no place in the Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. When does the NPS start behaving like they are supporters of parks and animals rather than greedy ranchers...SHAMEFUL that you have caused the death of so many beautiful elk....This must change, as it is literally murder....

**Correspondence ID:1028**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, NOY RANCHERS. What is happening to the Tule Elk is a disgrace and goes beyond cruelty.

Enough is enough. Take down the fences.

**Correspondence ID:1029**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Not only the seashore should be protected but all its wildlife.

Also fences keeping wildlife to roam freely is inhumane in my eyes as all wildlife should be able to roam and live freely. Isn't that the definition of wildlife???

Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion as all animals mean a lot to me.

**Correspondence ID:1030**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1031**

Correspondence: To : The National Park Service

Re: The Proposed Tomales Point Area Plan for the Point Reyes National Seashore

Wilderness Management of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Herd

The current 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan has failed to protect the Tule Elk herd from starvation and death from dehydration during the recent catastrophic droughts. The current 2,900 acre Tomales Point Tule Reserve lacks sufficient freshwater sources and mineral-rich forage to sustain the Tule Elk herd as evidenced by the recent die-offs. The NPS should eliminate the 8 foot high Elk fence that currently traps the Elk herd in what has become a barren wasteland and allow the Elk access to the forage and freshwater sources that are available for cattle. Park visitors should be able to view a healthy herd of Elk rather than malnourished and dying animals. Currently, the NPS has placed the welfare of cattle and ranchers' profits above the welfare of wildlife. The NPS has a duty to maintain wildlife and native ecosystems within the National Seashore and this duty should be enforced in the Tomales Point Area Plan.

Visitor Use and infrastructure management at the Pierce Point Ranch

The NPS has failed to anticipate the significant increase in public visits to the Pierce Point Ranch. The area has inadequate parking, picnic areas, restrooms, and hiking trails to accommodate visitors. What should be a major destination and interpretive center for visitors has instead been allowed to deteriorate into ruins. Additional facilities and hiking trails should be built to accommodate visitors. There is ample space available for improvements and the Tomales Point Area Plan should acknowledge the need for increased visitor use.

**Correspondence ID:1032**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Donna Sharee

**Correspondence ID:1033**

Correspondence: Take down the fence to save native Tule Elk at Point Reyes!! Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

**Correspondence ID:1034**

Correspondence: At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Free the elk and protect Point Reyes ecosystems for native wildlife -- not the livestock owners whose cattle are destroying them! The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1035**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Elk herds are used to moving around in their territory, fences inhibit movement and can cause severe injuries to all types of animals who get caught in the wire trying to get past these fences.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. National parks are meant to belong to the people of the United States not just a select few who profit off the use of lands that belong to others.

Is there no end to this country following Trump policies to make money and kill wildlife?

**Correspondence ID:1036**

Correspondence: I have visited Pt. Reyes and hiked around its fabulous area. I have seen the elk, and I enjoy the herd of elk that call my own area home. Cattle do not belong in state and federal lands that belong to the public. Our taxes pay for these areas to safeguard the native plants and animals that live there. Ranching is a private operation and does not belong on public lands. We protect these areas for a reason, so that as we continually encroach on wild areas there are lands set aside to protect the natural beings that inhabited those lands before we ever came along.

I am asking you to give the elk access to their natural food and water sources, areas they can reach without conflict with ranchers or even tourists.

Thank you.

Valerie Nordeman

**Correspondence ID:1037**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Why are these ranchers given special treatment over wildlife in an area designated for the protection of said wildlife and habitat? The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

This is absurd on its face that the NPS is allowing this farce to move forward. The NPS should be ashamed of themselves and should stop allowing welfare ranchers from further impacting wildlife and habitat that belongs to all Americans. NOT JUST WELFARE RANCHERS!

Thanks You,  
Jon Hager  
Riverton, Utah

**Correspondence ID:1038**

Correspondence: I am submitting my comment to do what is necessary to protect the Tulle Elk at Point Reyes. Please consider the following:

1. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
2. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
3. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Clearly, there is a conflict of interest as most of these ranchers are also self-serving politicians with no regard for wilderness of wildlife. This situation must be remedied and the Tulle Elk saved.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1039**

Correspondence: The elk were here first. As a citizen and taxpayer, I believe you are mismanaging this situation. I want elk. not cattle. Ranchers have been grazing their cattle on public lands for little or now money for decades. I recall the Bundy fiasco in Nevada. Has he ever paid the millions of dollars he owes for grazing rights? I doubt it. He is protesting for his "rights" to land that is not even his and nothing is done about it. The ranchers are the parasites on public lands not the elk. Please do the right thing and protect these gorgeous creatures for future generations. You are failing at your job to protect them and our beautiful planet.

**Correspondence ID:1040**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1041**

Correspondence: Tule elk are much more important than domestic livestock. I have ranched most of my life and always prioritized the wildlife over livestock. I have moved fences, taken down fences and established wildlife drinkers. I imagine the grazing fees are much less than private fees just like the forest service and BLM. Another example of a government bureaucracy not seeing or understanding the entire picture. Take down the fences.

**Correspondence ID:1042**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1043**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1044**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

There are many locations in the West that still have open range, without fences.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1045**

Correspondence: Hi,

I urge you to take a different approach to the management of the Tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1046**

Correspondence: As a long time loving visitor to and supporter of Point Reyes National Seashore I deeply feel the value of it that belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

I implore the NPS to rise to this challenge to steward and protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Wilderness has become such a rare and precious value in America. And fences are antithetical to the meaning of. Wilderness.

As a longtime supporter of cultivating partnerships in land use practices I urge NPS to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

I speak for my own and future generations who depend on an ecosystem that supports the utmost diversity in wildlife and other varied members of this extraordinary ecosystem.

Please, I plead the NPS to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

My generation and future generations applaud your carrying out of the true fundamental imperative of this invaluable resource, the Wilderness of Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:1047**

Correspondence: Take down the fence.

Stop folding to the cattle industry. Cattle don't belong in the wilderness.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1048**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

DONATE

Help us protect Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness. All first-time donations matched by a generous member in Alaska.

**Correspondence ID:1049**

Correspondence: Protect the native elk. They should have priority over domestic livestock! We have ,damaged enough of nature, and must stop!

**Correspondence ID:1050**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in wilderness, take them down so wildlife can have access to food and water. This area is after all a public site, not a cattle ranch.

**Correspondence ID:1051**

Correspondence: Are you kidding me?!?!? You are prioritizing cattle grazing over the survival of endangered Tule Elk on the Point Reyes Peninsula by fencing the Tule Elk off from water and food so the cattle can have it instead???? Are you the park Service or the shareholders of the cattle company? Take down the fence that is keeping Tule Elk from grazing and finding water for their survival. I can't believe



this is even in question. Who is paying you off??? Every day I read another situation where the Park "Service" is servicing the interests of greedy ranchers and corporations rather than the security, survival and safety of wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1052**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1053**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1054**

Correspondence: Apparently, all ranching was supposed to end after a date which has passed. What happened? The government should go in and remove the cattle as soon as possible...otherwise we can kiss the elk goodbye.

That is just another sad example of how economic interests trump wildlife needs. An example which needs to STOP now!

**Correspondence ID:1055**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing for the elk. They are a precious resource that cannot be replaced.

Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:1056**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1057**

Correspondence: Take down the fence

**Correspondence ID:1058**

Correspondence: I have three points to make:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1059**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1060**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1061**

Correspondence: I believe the federal government needs to improve it's stewardship of our national heritage.

1. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

2. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

3. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thanks,

Tom Phillips

**Correspondence ID:1062**

Correspondence: The elk were there first and they need the range.

**Correspondence ID:1063**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1064**

Correspondence: Your motto should be Wildlife First. Not ranchers. Take down the fences so the Tule Elk can survive!!

**Correspondence ID:1065**

Correspondence: As you are obviously aware: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. I hope you will help solve this crisis.. thank, #an

**Correspondence ID:1066**

Correspondence: I'm urging you to preserve, protect, and grow the population Tule elk in your General Management Plan for Point Reyes. No fences, no expanded commercial agriculture, no extended cattle ranch leases. Let nature be.

**Correspondence ID:1067**

Correspondence: Keep the cattle out of the National Sea Shore, if the ranchers did not follow the original time limit for grazing, take them to court and remove them, no "special" new deal for those who did not follow the original time limit.

The elk need the space and the NPS is supposed to protect them, not the ranchers bank accounts. Please void all grazing agreements and return the public lands to the elk.

**Correspondence ID:1068**

Correspondence: Please stop putting the needs of greedy ranchers ahead of all Americans. National Parks belong to all Americans not to a privileged few who deem them as their private property and all

the wildlife in them. There has been enough damage done to the earth and the wildlife due to the greed of humans. It's about time, we all started being better stewards of the earth and wildlife, if not only because it's right, but it's also better for us and for our children and grandchildren.

Sincerely,

Michèle Osland

**Correspondence ID:1069**

Correspondence: I am just a taxpayer in New York, but I believe the Park Service should remove the fence at Point Reyes National Seashore in northern California and prioritize natural wildlife over cattle. Isn't this public land? Isn't the NPS financed by the nation's taxpayers? As a public entity, the NPS should work for all of us and not give priority to the influential commercial farmers of northern California. NPS should take down the fence that causes more Tule elk to starve to death every year. Allow the elk to roam free and return them to their original, rightful, and healthy lives in Point Reyes. Become an organization that actually works for the preservation of wilderness. Let the wildlife take over. No more cattle. No more fences. Amen.

**Correspondence ID:1070**

Correspondence: Hello:

The land of Point Reyes is the heritage of all Americans, not just to ranchers who wring profits from it. In addition, the wilderness should have no fences. It should allow for the free movement of wildlife. Finally, the fence presents a hazard for rare Tule elk. The fence is highly detrimental.

**Correspondence ID:1071**

Correspondence: Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you for the possibility to comment this issue.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please keep wilderness wild!

Sincerely,

Jörg Gaiser

**Correspondence ID:1072**

Correspondence: Please be reasonable and let the wildlife roam in the wild eating their natural food and having plenty of space to roam and water to drink. Today especially, when so many species are threatened, this action of taking down the fence seems urgent and important. It saddens me to think of these animals suffering and possibly dying out because of ranching and short sided thinking. Please take down the fence and support these animals in their return to the wild. Our planet will be better for it.

**Correspondence ID:1073**

Correspondence: We are sending this comment to you because Pt Reyes and the natural seashore and surroundings is one of our favorite spots to visit when we are in CA visiting with family there.

We agree with the following statement-

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife and climate change concerns by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Dr Harry and Patricia C Schwarzlander

**Correspondence ID:1074**

Correspondence: Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sherri Hodges

**Correspondence ID:1075**

Correspondence: To put it simply, haven't we lost enough already? Please do your d\*\*n job and protect these special animals before it's too late.

Sincerely,  
Rick Priebe  
Grand Rapids, Minnesota

**Correspondence ID:1076**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1077**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness and the NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1078**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1079**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1080**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The

NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Clearly this is correct!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1081**

Correspondence: I should remind you that Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all us Americans equally, part of its mandate. Parks are not the BLM with a commitment to mixed use

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1082**

Correspondence: Private, profiting ranchers are not the concern of tax payers who pay to have nature protected for its beauty and for posterity. Fences are not natural and fences are not our concern.

Wildlife like Elk are. It's plain and simple and will not be complicated by special interests of the few. Special interests whose interest isn't in protecting nature but ensuring their personal profit--something of which matters nothing to anyone outside of those ranchers. The NPS must prioritize the needs of wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching once and for all along Point Reyes--as it was always intended.

**Correspondence ID:1083**

Correspondence: PLEASE remove the fence trapping the wildlife in Pt Reyes, CA. Wildlife and the shoreline must be the priority.

**Correspondence ID:1084**

Correspondence: Please think of the Tule Elk over cattle!!

**Correspondence ID:1085**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use, and fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Toward that a end, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Specifically, the NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1086**

Correspondence: It's an absolute disgrace that the National Park Service personnel at the Point Reyes National Seashore continue to kowtow to the ranchers profiting from their continued use of land that belongs to all the people of the United States.

Why haven't these supposed Park Rangers been replaced with personnel actually capable of doing their jobs--i.e., protecting the natural environment and its native wildlife, particularly the Tule Elk?

Instead of protecting this nearly EXTINCT subspecies, the NPS personnel allow cattle to forage in and despoil a designated wilderness area while keeping this nearly extinct subspecies penned in an enclosure, where they are deprived of fresh water and given scant access to food. That would be despicable treatment at any time. But during an ongoing and relentless drought, it should be reason for immediate dismissal. Why should native wildlife have to die to protect cattle that have no place in a wilderness area? Why should NPA personnel lick the boots of ranchers whose actions threaten to annihilate a species from an area that has been established as a refuge?

If the NPS personnel refuse to do their jobs, fire them or transfer them to Alcatraz. It's nearby, and they can take a ferry.

The Elk have no place else to go.

As for the ranchers? Kick them off National Park land they should never have had access to in the first place. If you can't--because of the disreputable actions of the current "officials"--force the cattle into enclosures, give the land back to the wildlife that belong there, and prohibit the ranchers from any activities that might endanger the Elk (and other natural fauna).

My wife and I lived in the Bay Area for nearly 20 years and drove up to the Point many times. The ranch was an absolute eyesore back then; I can't imagine what an embarrassment to the National Park Service it must be now.

Do what's right. End this disservice now.

**Correspondence ID:1087**

Correspondence: The Sierra Club said it best:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1088**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.



**Correspondence ID:1089**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1090**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

DONATE

Help us protect Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness. All first-time donations matched by a generous member in Alaska.

Wilderness Watch

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**Correspondence ID:1091**

Correspondence: RE: NPS planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, especially from agricultural and domestic cattle pollution.

Fences have no place in Wilderness!! The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1092**

Correspondence: Dave Searles

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dave Searles

President and Historian, American Heritage Society, Inc.: a registered non-profit heritage corporation  
President, The Ecotopian Society: an educational, environmental, progressive, and public interest lobbying agency  
President, Scottish-American Heritage Society: the purpose of which is to create a Scottish-American Heritage Center at Brodhead

MA, History, Washington College, MD

BA, Milton College, WI, History-Political Science major and minors in Criminal Justice and Natural Resources

**Correspondence ID:1093**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore should not be used for private business concerns. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1094**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Those ranchers are on public land that was purchased with government money for a national park. Why are these people still controlling the land? If I buy property, I expect to control it. This smells like corruption.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The cattle need to go; they are the trespassers.

The NPS needs enforce the laws of public property owned by the American people by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. If the current administrators don't follow the law, they must be replaced.

**Correspondence ID:1095**

Correspondence: I love the Point Reyes National Seashore. It belongs to the public and not just the ranchers whose lease should have ended decades ago, as was agreed. I don't understand how this lease was extended, but must be ended now. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife and end this commercial ranching.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in the Phillip Burton Wilderness and especially fences that block native wildlife (the Tule Elk) from accessing food and water. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of these rare elk at Point Tomales by taking down the fences.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1096**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1097**

Correspondence: I am opposed to NPS livestock grazing, the first 25 year permit, and the second 25 year permit! This land was designated as open space, and wildlife refuge! Now the tule elk are dying in record numbers over special interests , grazing by cattlemen who are not even supposed to be on the PUBLIC lands! I think the NPS needs to get their priorities straight, as this was an agreement from the 1960s and needs to be upheld! As far as cattle ranchers who "refuse" to cease and desist their livestock operations on public lands, they need to be taken care of in court !

**Correspondence ID:1098**

Correspondence: I have been hiking with these elk since the 80s. Wilderness is for wildlife not cows. Recommend you gradually retire leases in wilderness and this would be a good one for now. Such a unique ecosystem for sure...to boot:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1099**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The human species is destroying the ecosystem and all for the love of money!

Regards,

Douglas E. Johnston, Jr.

**Correspondence ID:1100**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

Please change the current situation at Point Reyes National Seashore regarding commercial cattle ranching. I understand that this is impacting the lives of Tule Elk that are becoming rarer due to fencing that reduces that area the elk can forage. Some things in nature should remain as pristine as possible for the existing animals, insects, birds, etc. We can certainly find other areas to raise cattle so we can all enjoy our hamburgers.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1101**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1102**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1103**

Correspondence: Dear leaders of the NPS.

I am deeply disappointed that, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing at Point Reyes Natural Seashore, NPS is instead prioritizing private ranchers grazing their cattle there while the Tulle Elk are cordoned off, starving, and dying of thirst.. When government institutions act like this, it cements and reinforces every fear of big government overreach that, under false pretenses of protecting our environment, prioritizes the interests of a select few over the greater public good. It feels very corrupt and only undermines the public trust in government institutions.

These are public lands and should be treated as such, not as a special sweetheart deal for a select few ranchers to the detriment of the natural wildlife and environment that the NPS is allegedly supposed to be protecting there.

Sincerely yours,  
Kelly Peterson

**Correspondence ID:1104**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you kindly,  
Patricia Young

**Correspondence ID:1105**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
GBB

**Correspondence ID:1106**

Correspondence: Dear Park Service,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please protect wilderness for the people and not corporate ranchers.

Sincerely  
Erica Johanson

**Correspondence ID:1107**

Correspondence: We continue to wreak havoc on all life around us on this planet. These incredible animals and the importance of their place in the environment is being mocked with the decisions we are making. This is not the world I want to turn over to my children. Please take a stand for what is right and just and respect these animals as part of our national heritage.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1108**

Correspondence: Please do what's right to protect the endangered elk. Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1109**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1110**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife and fences have no place in wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS also needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Please do not allow this inhumane tragedy of immense suffering in pursuit of the almighty dollar to continue.

Thank you.

“The human appetite for animal flesh is a driving force behind virtually every major category of environmental damage now threatening the human future - deforestation, erosion, fresh water scarcity, air and water pollution, climate change, biodiversity loss, social injustice, the destabilization of communities and the spread of disease.” - The World Watch Institute

**Correspondence ID:1111**

Correspondence: These elk are a very small herd, subject to extinction. The NPS has the job to protect species on the brink, not exterminate them.

You could move the excess animals to other suitable locations instead of letting them die on the hoof.

Your service seems to choose expanding livestock herds over a national treasure.

Livestock around the country has an abundance of public land that comes with a pittance of fees.

The Tule Elk can't be replaced.

Calif dumps many gallons of milk down the drain every day. Beef herds are abundant. But the elk that are irreplaceable are not. Your mission is to protect the elk for now and future generations. Not prop up failing dairy farms in difficult locations. If things run their course, the elk will be gone by the time these ranchers realize it's over for them. Over the long term the Pt.Reyes area is a bad location for ranching, but not for wildlife.

I support Ag. I love drinking milk and eating beef. Support these industries where they are well suited, not a rocky, desolate place that is a National Seashore.

Randy Short

**Correspondence ID:1112**

Correspondence: SAVE the ELK and send the cattle to the ranches where they came from!! This is wilderness for wildlife, not greedy ranchers who destroy the land and water. Who in the Park Service is getting their pockets lined for ignoring the plight of these ELK??

**Correspondence ID:1113**

Correspondence: Hello. The elk should be allowed to remain at the National Seashore. The cattle ranchers need to remove their cattle to another area and allow the elk to remain in their natural setting. There should be fines in place for those who refuse to relocate from the federal land. The fences need to be removed before more of the endangered animals perish. It is criminal that this has been allowed to go on for so long. Their profits should not cause the extinction of a species. Please remove the cattle and fences and allow these animals to roam free.

Thank you,  
Pamela Oerth

**Correspondence ID:1114**

Correspondence: Hello NPS,

I'm writing regarding the Point Reyes National Seashore. This shoreline belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness; wilderness should be left open for all life to enjoy. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS must be prioritizing the needs of native wildlife by forever putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1115**

Correspondence: This information is heartbreaking. Please, do everything possible to halt this cruel practice immediately.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1116**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore does not belong to ranchers, but to all Americans. What is the NPS doing to protect wildlife and the seashore? What are fences doing in a wilderness? Do you realize that they prevent the endangered Tule elk from accessing food and water? Get ranching out of there and start paying attention to the needs of native wildlife!

**Correspondence ID:1117**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1118**

Correspondence: It would be nice if the government, which is supposed to represent and serve the people, would stop taking its orders from whoever has the most money.

Let's make saving the native wildlife at Point Reyes the priority over the money-grubbing ranchers who are, as far as I can tell, are grazing their animals illegally on public lands, meaning lands that are supposed to be protected for the public, not handed over for commercial purposes.

Release the elk.

**Correspondence ID:1119**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I plan to visit this area in the near future and want to see elk herds, not dead elk on fences.

**Correspondence ID:1120**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence that is blocking Tule Elk from access to the Northern Seashore land that 6, 000 cattle are grazing on and drinking from streams in the area. The Elk are dying from starvation and thirst as documented by a tourist on the scene who found emaciated Elk behind the fence with no access to grazing and water.

**Correspondence ID:1121**

Correspondence: It is wrong to continue to lease for grazing any park wilderness that has already been paid for. The current grazing leases smack of bias or corruption and undermine public trust.

The NPS needs to demonstrate the integrity it is supposed to have in protecting special places in our beautiful country.

**Correspondence ID:1122**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, and not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS exists to protect the Seashore and its native wildlife not to subsidize ranching.

Fences are inappropriate in our Wilderness areas. I remember seeing the cattle on my last visit to the park and wondering why they were being raised there. Its not in keeping with the intent of the creation of a wilderness area.

With this in mind, NPS should end tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fences so native wildlife have access to food and water.

The NPS should prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as was previously prescribed.

**Correspondence ID:1123**



Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Stop renting grazing rights to ranchers.

Thank you,

Anne Young

**Correspondence ID:1124**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1125**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Let's do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Catherine Clevenger

**Correspondence ID:1126**

Correspondence: So we the taxpayers (thru the government) paid for this acreage for preservation and now cattle companies ranchers are allowed to lease the area for their profits at the expense of the wildlife. Sweet deal for the lawless. How do I get tax money to pay for my business expenses? Seriously this has scam written all over it and the wildlife dependent on this land are starved to extinction. I doubt you really care about public concerns but count me as furious over this. We are a lawless country for the wealthy.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1127**

Correspondence: As stated in its original authorizing legislation, the National Park Service mission is to "preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations."

Will the Tule Elk be around for future generations? Preserved unimpaired?

The NPS's idea of "managing" the Tule Elk is fencing them in to the point of starvation/dehydration and death. This is cruel and irresponsible. The NPS has a moral obligation to ensure the survival of this unique subspecies as long as it remains trapped behind a fence. Really, restricting wildlife on its own native lands is ridiculous! It's the cattle that should be behind a fence. Wild lands belong to wildlife, not the cattle industry. It's time to end the cattle ranching permits and give the land back to the native wildlife that call it home. The NPS has lost sight of its mission.

**Correspondence ID:1128**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence in the Point Reyes National Seashore to help save and protect our precious elks. Please.

**Correspondence ID:1129**

Correspondence: The Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore must be saved from dying off. They do not have enough forage or fresh water to survive in the fenced-off portion of the park at Tomales Point. The other 28,000 acres of the Seashore is being leased to private ranchers for grazing commercial cattle. This practice was supposed to end years ago. the NPS bought many of the ranches during its first 25 years, but when some ranchers refused to sell, the park service changed the plan and leased land for commercial cattle raising again.

Please return to the original plan. Cattle raising doesn't belong in dry lands of the West. The eastern States raise the vast majority of meat for our country without damaging the land. Public land should reduce private grazing out west each year to restore a balance.

The Phillip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes should not be partitioned by a fence. The elk should be allowed to graze the whole Seashore. Wildlife should be the focus of park management, as was intended when this National Seashore was established.

**Correspondence ID:1130**

Correspondence: It should be plain to anyone actually looking that wildlife's value is far beyond that of cattle farming. ALL life forms an interconnected web that keeps a delicate, easily destroyed balance.

PLEASE do NOT favor an industry over wildlife. We have too much at stake.

**Correspondence ID:1131**

Correspondence: The National Park Service is supposed to be protecting the land and its wildlife, instead you are apparently prioritizing commercial interests. they can take care of themselves, and wild life cannot.

As a taxpayer, I find your priorities so skewed. Given the difficulties that our land and its denizens are having because of climate change, you should be protecting wildlife rather than standing by and letting it die off. Please take down the fences which are endangering the elk at Pt. Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1132**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1133**

Correspondence: While I am not familiar with this particular breed of elk I am familiar with cattle that come in to an area and destroy all of the natural foliage on whatever piece of ground they invade. They also put off enough gasses to kill our atmosphere and as such need to be herded to the stock pens and destroyed. The Elk we are supposed to be protecting need to be taken out of their small area so they can help the natural foliage return along with any of the other animals that are native to that area including the predators.

Maybe you could also put some solar energy windmills or panels to help more than just the animals.

**Correspondence ID:1134**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1135**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1136**

Correspondence: To all concerned,

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Sincerely,  
Susan Haebig

**Correspondence ID:1137**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, and end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1138**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1139**

Correspondence: I remember when all this started - the Government was going to buy out the cattle ranches so that the Native Tule Elk could have room to roam and thrive at Pt. Reyes. Cattle Ranches really don't belong in a Park anyway. But.... all that has fallen apart. There are still cattle - 6000 is a LOT of cattle, and the Tule Elk are not allowed to roam the entire area of Pt. Reyes. Please reverse this and favor the Elk. They are Native to CA. Please hold the cattle ranchers to their permits and remove them when the permits expire - not renew the permits. Take down the fences and let the Elk roam. Remove the cattle.

**Correspondence ID:1140**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1141**

Correspondence: Please remove all fences that are killing wildlife, especially the rare Tule elk. Commercial ranching must be stopped here.

**Correspondence ID:1142**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1143**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. I plead for them to be cared for and not so die of starvation and dehydration.

"Wildlife, resource, and wilderness management are issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife. Some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

How can the government do this? The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I have paid my taxes for over 60 years and I do not want my tax dollars to be used to slowly kill an endangered species. I cannot tell you how upset this makes me. The FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS SUPPOSED TO PROTECT WILDLIFE, NOT FENCE OFF HELPLESS ELK TO SLOWLY DIE OF THIRST AND HUNGER. THIS IS PUBLIC LAND - NOT THE RANCHERS'.

THIS IS NOT THE AMERICAN WAY.

**Correspondence ID:1144**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1145**

Correspondence: Take down all fences to save the animals of all kinds!

**Correspondence ID:1146**

Correspondence: Please protect Tile Elk and do not allow them to contain them in unsafe fencing. Please prioritize wildlife over ranching. Wildlife should be allowed to live their lives safely in the wilderness. Thank you,  
Paige

**Correspondence ID:1147**

Correspondence: When is wildlife going to take precedence over welfare ranching profits? Millions of animals are killed by wildlife services, and horses are rounded up, because of the corporations that have corrupted your agency and others. The public doesn't want cows on public lands. These are OUR public lands, not theirs.

**Correspondence ID:1148**

Correspondence: I am beyond angry that ranchers and cattle grazing are consistently taking priority over native wildlife. Instead of fencing in Pt Reyes elk and allowing ranchers to graze their cattle freely on leases extending past the 25 year limit, all commercial cattle grazing on our public lands needs to be stopped immediately and the elk be given free range. This land does NOT belong to ranchers, it belongs to the American people. The needs of a few people in that business do not take precedence over the preservation of an endangered species, and fences should have no place in wilderness areas. It's past

time for changing our priorities. Grazing cattle is destructive to the environment on many levels. Let the forage go to the rightful inhabitants of the land. It's not all about economic interest.

**Correspondence ID:1149**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1150**

Correspondence: The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1151**

Correspondence: Please protect wildlife at the point Reyes seashore. Cattle grazing should not take precedence over the areas native animals and plants.

**Correspondence ID:1152**

Correspondence: Dear committee members reviewing this policy,

I live in ,seaside, Oregon,with three herds of Roosevelt elk in our local area. I am thrilled every time they pass through our yard and garden. They pass on through rather quickly, after trimming the various plants they like. The thought of them being fenced off in a public park, hungry, while privately owned cattle are provided grazing seems ethically wrong to me. If this is indeed the case, it seems the custodians are deliberately doing harm rather than what the park was set up too for its natural wildlife, not private farming needs above the wild animals needs. Please, do what is right!

Thank you, Robin Anderson

**Correspondence ID:1153**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The ranchers have no pre-emptive right to that land. If each rancher got one vote, and each citizen who cares about wildlife got one vote, the ranchers would lose the election.

**Correspondence ID:1154**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1155**

Correspondence: This is the national parks not a grazing land for ranchers save the animals that belong there

**Correspondence ID:1156**

Correspondence: We have too many Cattle and too few elk.

**Correspondence ID:1157**

Correspondence: We have too many Cattle and too few elk.

**Correspondence ID:1158**

Correspondence: Fuck ranchers.

- Ranchers do NOT own the Point Reyes National Seashore. It belongs to all Americans. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife from ranchers, period.

- Wilderness is wildlife habitat, not rangeland. The NPS needs to remove all fencing that prevents the rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness from accessing food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife over any concerns for ranchers by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Fuck ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:1159**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1160**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore is a national park, open to all. I was unaware that national parks were available for private profit, such as is offered to local ranchers. My understanding of the Park Service is that it protects the area it serves, in this case the seashore and its wildlife.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. Take down the fences and end the tragic deaths of the native Tule Elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness so elk can access food and water.

Thank you for accepting my comment.

**Correspondence ID:1161**

Correspondence: You are killing an endangered species, the Tule Elk. They have no food and no water. Either free them or ensure their water and food.

The farmers have been abusing your trust since 1990, they either pay or go away.

**Correspondence ID:1162**

Correspondence: I am writing to protest in the strongest possible terms the shameful failure of the NPS to protect the Wilderness and the elk at Point Reyes.

Not only is there insufficient forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused the freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

For shame!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. That is your duty and mandate.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do your duty to the American taxpayers and take down the fence! Save the Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:1163**

Correspondence: Get rid of the fences! GET RID OF THE CATTLE!! Your purpose is not to subsidize ranchers!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1164**

Correspondence: This is a terrible situation that YOU HAVE CREATED BY SIDING WITH THE BEEF PEOPLE. Here are the rest of my comments, copied from Wilderness Watch because I don't want my comment thrown out for using swear words.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1165**

Correspondence: Take down the fence and allow to Elk to graze over the entire Tomales Point.

Thank you, with love,  
Sally

**Correspondence ID:1166**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1167**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades

**Correspondence ID:1168**

Correspondence: Please do what needs to be done to save the Elk!  
Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:1169**

Correspondence: Please consider the safety of the animals!!

**Correspondence ID:1170**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The Point Reyes National Seashore does not BELONG to anyone. It is supposed to exist for the life and health of all native plant and animal species. Cattle are certainly not native.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1171**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1172**

Correspondence: it's past time to prioritize wildlife over profits and ranching. This is both disturbing and disgusting and the fences need to come down NOW.

**Correspondence ID:1173**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1174**

Correspondence: Hi -- Please save the Tule Elk and remove all fencing from this area. Our park areas and native species can't be put in danger because of commercial interests such as oil and commercial ranching and farming.

**Correspondence ID:1175**

Correspondence: Point Reyes nat'l seashore doesn't belong to ranchers feeding at the public trough.

What that HELL are they doing there anyway? Oh yeah, feeding at the public trough. And what the HELL are fences doing in the Philip Burton wilderness other than restricting elk movement-which contributes to their demise! Cattle and fences be gone, NOW,

And can you get the criminal cloven bundy to cough up the unpaid grazing fees he owes the govt.-that would be you and me!!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:1176**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1177**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1178**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence. Surviving elk need access to grazing and water. Very cruel not to. All American's land.

**Correspondence ID:1179**

Correspondence: I have walked the shoreline at Point Reyes and treasure the memory of a wild and scenic place. But now I hear of fenced in elk herds and free roaming cattle. This is upside down. The elk should be free in a national protected site, and cattle that are raised for profit for private entities should NOT be foraging on land owned by us all -- not when elk are starving and thirsty.

Please change your policies and allow a natural site to be inhabited by its natural creatures, as wild as the location. Thank you for listening to my plea.

**Correspondence ID:1180**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1181**

Correspondence: please remove all fencing so that the native elk population can survive. They should have priority over domestic cattle. Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1182**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1183**

Correspondence: Please protect tule elk by removing fencing in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1184**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife and put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:1185**

Correspondence: The health and welfare of the Tule elks and all wildlife should be your top priority. To deny them water and food in favor of privately owned cattle is outrageous and cruel. The fences should be removed immediately!

**Correspondence ID:1186**

Correspondence: Why by golly, I have no personal rights to The Point Reyes NATIONAL Seashore but cattle "ranchers" do? For their personal profit?

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, INCLUDING! native AMERICAN wildlife! Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Commercial ranching is toxic; Power and profit to do wrong are toxic.

Good luck there if we continue wrongfully.

**Correspondence ID:1187**

Correspondence: Gentlepersons:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your attention to my opinion on this important matter.

**Correspondence ID:1188**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1189**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1190**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1191**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence & prioritize wildlife over cattle.

**Correspondence ID:1192**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1193**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1194**

Correspondence: First, it's critical to state that the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1195**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife for all.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1196**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1197**

Correspondence: As frequent visitors to Point Reyes, my family agrees with these points:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.  
Please allow the elk to live freely.

**Correspondence ID:1198**

Correspondence: As frequent visitors to Point Reyes, my family agrees with these points:  
The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.  
The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.  
Please allow the elk to live freely.

**Correspondence ID:1199**

Correspondence: Private enterprise is just that, private, and should not be subsidized at the cost of lands that belong to all Americans Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1200**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1201**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1202**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1203**



Correspondence: Take down the fence at Point Reyes. You are killing wildlife there blocking all kinds of animals from moving freely.

**Correspondence ID:1204**

Correspondence: When I saw the damage to Elk Heard I was. saddened, And angry as H....What right do the Cows have over The Elk, that were roaming that country long before Cows.!! If you want cows then figure a way to keep them inside the boundry , without killing. I am sure that anyone could have figured a way for the Elk get to the water & cows still be fenced in without leaving their pastures.

HOW COULD YOU DO SUCH A HORRID THING??? WHAT would you do mr cow owner if it had been your Cows instead?

And to the Park System !!!! Where were you when fence went up, & you could see what the damage was going to be. Why did you not take action then.

MW

**Correspondence ID:1205**

Correspondence: Please protect The Tule Elk its so important to preserve wildlife and save wildlife like the Tule Elk from going extinct.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you  
Sue Hall

**Correspondence ID:1206**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

In solidarity with Wilderness Watch, I believe the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Respectfully,  
Genevieve Guzmán

**Correspondence ID:1207**

Correspondence: All life is precious. We must save wildlife and preserve the balance of nature.

**Correspondence ID:1208**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all U citizens, NOT just to cattle ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its natural wildlife.

Fences have NO place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to END the tragic, ongoing slaughter of rare Tule Elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so Elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of Native wildlife by putting an END to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades earlier.

**Correspondence ID:1209**

Correspondence: Fences don't belong in wilderness areas, and wildlife native to such lands belong there while domestic stock does not. As part of the public that owns such lands, I urge and expect the National Park Service to remove fences and livestock from the area and let it remain as fully wild as the term "wilderness" implies.

**Correspondence ID:1210**

Correspondence: The public is now aware of the mismanagement of The Point Reyes National Seashore in relation to the endangered Tule Elk who are suffering and dying needlessly.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Besides, ranchers can feed and water their cattle, but the Elk have no recourse.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1211**

Correspondence: I love the idea of the seashore and the wild lands behind it and applauded the agreement to move ranching off our public lands, It was very disappointing when the NPS reneged on that agreement and extended the leases.

Spending time at Point Reyes is heartbreaking, tiny dairy calves being held in small plastic crates while Elk die from lack of resources. Land that should be used for wild animals is being used to abuse domestic farm animals and the wild animals that should be living on the land are penned up behind a fence.

I urge NPS to allow the Elk to take their place on our public lands and close down the ranches. The ranchers are scraping a living and the cattle are bearing the brunt, its far better that NPS sticks to the original sale agreement and takes possession of the land, and not lease it out so we can move forward with the original plan to retrieve the wilderness for nature.

**Correspondence ID:1212**

Correspondence: Do everything you can to foster the welfare of wildlife. Take down the fences. Don't cull the populations. Keep the hunters in check.

**Correspondence ID:1213**

Correspondence: I urge you to prioritize wildlife over cattle at the Point Reyes National Seashore. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, including rare Tule Elk. Fences have no place in Wilderness - the NPS needs to take down the fence so elk can access food and water, and work to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1214**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:1215**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. Stop the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fencing so elk can access food and water. Prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as was intended decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1216**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Dr. Jody Heriot Dehart

**Correspondence ID:1217**

Correspondence: It is criminal to fence in Tule Elk and prohibit them from getting the food and water that is necessary for them to survive.

Cattle should not be allowed to graze on public lands anyhow.

Such a pittance is charged for the luxury of ranchers to have basically free food .

The environment is damaged by cattle.

These are public lands and yet, we have no say.

The inhumane practices you use should be televised so all citizens can see what is happening.

**Correspondence ID:1218            Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.**

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1219**

Correspondence: I find it disgusting that cattle are being given precedence over native Tule Elk at the Point Reyes National Seashore. This place belongs to all Americans, not to the cattle ranchers who are profiting off of it. The NPS needs to remove the fencing that is causing the elk to die of thirst and starvation.

The NPS needs to realize that Native wildlife take priority over cattle. Commercial ranching needs to be forbidden at the Point Reyes National Seashore, and the native Tule Elk need to have the freedom to roam, eat, drink and survive.

**Correspondence ID:1220**

Correspondence: Let wildlife roam. Keep cattle out. I'm not concerned about ranchers making money. I am concerned about our wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1221**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Please do NOT install fences !!!

Thanks  
Hyun Lee

**Correspondence ID:1222**

Correspondence: this is a request that you would place elk above cattle.

**Correspondence ID:1223**

Correspondence: These lands belong to everyone in our country not just ranchers who make a profit from them! The wildlife needs to become the priority here, not the ranchers cattle. Why is this practice still going on? The endangered Elk need to be allowed to roam and survive. I'm ashamed that our government has such a despicable practice placing profit before wildlife. Give the land back to it's original, natural population Money isn't everything.

**Correspondence ID:1224**

Correspondence: As I understand today approximately 6,000 cattle graze at the National Seashore. It is also my understanding that when Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. Then in a Cliven Bundy-esque decision when some of the ranchers refused to move after the 25-year time period new leases were granted by the

NPS. Today public land at the National Seashore is grazed by domestic livestock despite the original agreement to let the permits expire. Domestic cattle raising is inconsistent with the NP and wilderness designations. Please give notice of termination of the remaining leases, say one year notice as part of the Tomales Point area plan.

**Correspondence ID:1225**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1226**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1227**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1228**

Correspondence: I'm writing as an animal advocate and environmental enthusiast to respectfully ask that you stop confining Tule elk at Point Reyes to support private ranches. This is an inhumane and, frankly, reprehensible practice. It is NPS's responsibility to protect wildlife and national park lands, not to help line private industry's pockets. I can only imagine the reason this has not yet changed is that someone--or possibly several someones--in this organization are also benefiting from this arrangement. If that upsets you, prove me wrong.

Point Reyes is a national park, meaning it belongs to every American, not ranchers who clearly profit from its use. NPS should have put an end to commercial ranching on this property decades ago, yet it is putting the interests of 6,000 cattle and their owners above millions of Americans who pay taxes to help support that land. Instead, NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point, where they are dying from lack of food and water. Shame on all of you. You have choices. The animals don't, especially once you fence them in.

I am calling upon the NPS to live up to its responsibility of protecting the interests of the public and the wildlife, not private ranchers, and end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by immediately taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Anything less than that is not only inhumane, but tantamount to criminal.

Best regards.

**Correspondence ID:1229**

Correspondence: Take down the fences and remove cattle from Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1230**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. Close to 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

The Elk are cut off from needed food and water, and are dying at an alarming rate. The elk population behind the fence has dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020. Another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please consider the health and well being of the rare Tule elk as time is running out for these animals. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns. I appreciate your time and consideration.

**Correspondence ID:1231**

Correspondence: PLEASE REMOVE THE FENCE!!!!

THEY ARE DYING WHAT IS THE PRUPOSE OF THAT?

**Correspondence ID:1232**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

Please take down the fence that is preventing the rare, subspecies of native tule elk from accessing enough water and food to keep on living. It is unconscionable to allow one more tule elk to die because of such poor management.

It is unconscionable that “the NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.” (from the Wilderness Watch newsletter)

End this practice now. How can those of you who are making such decisions sleep at night??

We must protect biodiversity.

Sincerely,

Paola Berthoin

**Correspondence ID:1233**

Correspondence: The idea behind the park system (in the broadest sense) is to protect nature from the ravages of humankind. Then damage we can do has been evident for over a century. In the course of my life, I have seen marked changes in weather patterns. I have also seen that we can clean-up a river to some extent after we have polluted it. We must protect parks, wildernesses, etc. The need should by now be obvious to anyone not intentionally looking away.

To wit:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:1234**

Correspondence: Please prioritize the wilderness and wildlife over the greed and commercialism Of ranchers and end the fence at Point Reyes!

**Correspondence ID:1235**

Correspondence: Remember your mission. Save habitat and wildlife. Stop ALL grazing leases as you were supposed to do in 1987.

**Correspondence ID:1236**

Correspondence: DO THE RIGHT THING!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1237**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1238**

Correspondence: I'm heartsick to hear of the ongoing deaths of Tule Elk at Point Reyes. This is unacceptable. Please take down the fence and stop prioritizing private cattle, which should have no place there to begin with, over our wildlife, which have no other place to go. Please fix this ugly and unnecessary situation.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1239**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1240**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1241**

Correspondence: These lands belong to everyone in our country not just ranchers who make a profit from them! The wildlife needs to become the priority here, not the ranchers cattle. Why is this practice still going on? The endangered Elk need to be allowed to roam and survive. I'm ashamed that our government has such a despicable practice placing profit before wildlife. Give the land back to it's original, natural population Money isn't everything.

**Correspondence ID:1242**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:1243**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1244**

Correspondence: These lands belong to everyone in our country not just ranchers who make a profit from them! The wildlife needs to become the priority here, not the ranchers cattle. Why is this practice still going on? The endangered Elk need to be allowed to roam and survive. I'm ashamed that our government has such a despicable practice placing profit before wildlife. Give the land back to it's original, natural population Money isn't everything.

**Correspondence ID:1245**

Correspondence: These lands belong to everyone in our country not just ranchers who make a profit from them! The wildlife needs to become the priority here, not the ranchers cattle. Why is this practice still going on? The endangered Elk need to be allowed to roam and survive. I'm ashamed that our government has such a despicable practice placing profit before wildlife. Give the land back to it's original, natural population Money isn't everything.

**Correspondence ID:1246**

Correspondence: It is disgraceful that the NPS is allowing Tule elk to starve to death for the benefit of commercial ranchers. The Park Service should be protecting wildlife - not greedy ranchers. I am outraged that a government service that I pay taxes to support would treat the wildlife of this country in this manner. I used to be a big supporter of our national parks, but this has changed my opinion greatly.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1247**

Correspondence: Get rid of ranching at Point Reyes. Fences are endangering wildlife and destroying the habitat of wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1248**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The purpose of the NPS is to protect wildlife, not to endanger it.

**Correspondence ID:1249**

Correspondence: Animal ranchers use our public and park lands at their own risk. They don't pay fees commensurate with what the services they take from American taxpayers.

Prioritizing domesticated animals over nature species is a grave mistake. It also doesn't reflect the will of the American people or curious tourists who visit our gorgeous country to see a open lands. Farmers and ranchers have confused a long outdated luxury with the desire of the American public. We demand native wildlife be granted priority on all public lands.

Thank you,

Patrick Quinn

**Correspondence ID:1250**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1251**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1252**

Correspondence: I am writing to urge you to prioritize wildlife over cattle at the Point Reyes National Seashore. The NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. There is not enough forage for the confined elk and an ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1253**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1254**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1255**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1256**

Correspondence: Commercial ranching and fencing have no place at beautiful Point Reyes. Privilege nature and wildlife--come on NPS!

**Correspondence ID:1257**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence and save the Elk. They must have access to the water.

**Correspondence ID:1258**

Correspondence: Why is it so effen difficult for humans to do the right thing?

Just DO IT!

**Correspondence ID:1259**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1260**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The government should in NO way let commercialism have priority over wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1261**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1262**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1263**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in wilderness areas. The NPS needs to take down fencing so elk can access food and water at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

The needs of native wildlife should be prioritized by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes,

**Correspondence ID:1264**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in wilderness areas. The NPS needs to take down fencing so elk can access food and water at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

The needs of native wildlife should be prioritized by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes,

**Correspondence ID:1265**

Correspondence: Grazing cattle have no place in a national park. National parks belong to nature and the animals that live there. Protect the elk, not the cattle ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:1266**

Correspondence: Dear Sir or Madam,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife!

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

This is a travesty.

Sincerely,  
Meredith Priestley

**Correspondence ID:1267**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1268**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore is a National public land. I have been there once and came upon it inadvertently and was astonished by its beauty and grandeur. NPS must protect this area, not farm it off to cattle ranchers for profit. Prioritizing cattle and cattle ranchers over the majestic Tule Elk and fencing them in is just the opposite of what NPS should be doing. Protect these elk and this majestic national seashore as irreplaceable natural areas. Cattle can graze many, many places. Tule elk cannot thrive in many, many places.

**Correspondence ID:1269**

Correspondence: I urge you to prioritize wildlife over cattle, at Point Reyes National Seashore! Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1270**

Correspondence: Isn't your job to protect & save wild animals - this is cruel & unnecessary!!

**Correspondence ID:1271**

Correspondence: I am sickened by the cruelty and inhumanity that humans are causing these innocent animals. It is despicable that we are more concerned about livestock and ranchers' profits than our beautiful American wildlife. What is happening to these animals should be illegal. It IS immoral. I am beyond furious that ranchers and cattlemen only want to make more money and that it's even considered that public lands to be used to fuel their profits. It is DESPICABLE. Take down the fence and let the animals free!

**Correspondence ID:1272**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please put the planet first.

**Correspondence ID:1273**

Correspondence: Greetings folks,

Over the years, I've seen the damage that cattle ranching has done to the flora and fauna in sensitive environments. Whether arid, semi-arid, coastal etc, you don't put in heavy grazing animals without a heavy cost to wildlife. Even in semi-pristine mountain streams where ranching was heavy, I've seen large intestinal worms/parasites in the clear water. In other areas of lower elevations where Leopard Frogs and small fishes used to flourish, cattle have eaten and trampled down saplings and shore plants. They have muddied up the water and while standing there have eliminated waste. Now, no frogs, shore plants, fishes, only green algae.

I love Springtime, early flowers and wonderful smells...no longer, all flowers eaten and the only smell is of urine and defecate. Not to mention what I've seen cowboys/ranchers do illegally.

It ain't worth it folks, it truly isn't.

**Correspondence ID:1274**

Correspondence: Free markets? Remove the fences. Let the elk compete with the cattle. Money is not the point.

**Correspondence ID:1275**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1276**

Correspondence: The park is for the public and should not be restricted in any way to provide special rights for any special entities!

**Correspondence ID:1277**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1278**

Correspondence: Don't take away the land that these elks need to survive

**Correspondence ID:1279**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1280**

Correspondence: As an American citizen and taxpayer, it's extremely important to me that National Parks and other public land protects all native wildlife over privately owned animals like cattle. At Point Reyes Park, many of the rare Tule Elk are behind a fence designed to keep them off this public land and allow cattle grazing instead. These elk are dying in substantial numbers due to lack of water and lack of food. The fact that NPS has placed their priority on local cattle and a few local ranchers over the health maintenance of our National legacy, in this case, Tule elk and natural landscapes, is inexcusable.

As you consider the future of this National Seashore Area, please do the following: totally remove and never allow cattle on this land and totally remove and never rebuild any fencing. In addition, please void any and all leases to graze on this land and create regulations that include clear, permanent restrictions on any private leasing of this land for any private purposes.

The most crucial requirement for Point Reyes is the preservation of native animals and plants in the most natural environment. The second requirement is that this land be accessible to manageable numbers of human visitors who are encouraged to visit in the most non-invasive yet safe ways.

Thank you for consideration of this important matter.

**Correspondence ID:1281**

Correspondence: The NPS should prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. That is shameful.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1282**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.



Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1283**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1284**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1285**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence.

**Correspondence ID:1286**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1287**

Correspondence: Please do the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:1288**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

The following statements are VERY IMPORTANT to me:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,  
Carol Taggart

**Correspondence ID:1289**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, yet ranchers who profit from its use continue to compromise its ecological health decades after they agreed to remove their cattle and cease grazing. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Cattle and fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the needless deaths of the unique and rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by removing the fence that keeps the elk from accessing forage and water.

Commercial ranching at Point Reyes must be ended. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to ranching as they committed to do decades ago.

Kind Regards,

**Correspondence ID:1290**

Correspondence: What is the reason for your obsession with subsidizing cattle ranchers with free grazing and no competition?

It's time to take down the fence that's keeping many elk from food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1291**

Correspondence: Save the elk!!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:1292**

Correspondence: Cattle must be protected instead of elk? How can this be, and what is the role of the NPS? The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers or domesticated species.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. All wildlife have this right, especially those in Wilderness areas.

It is essential that the NPS promotes the health and well-being of Tule elk. I hope you will act immediately to prioritize the needs of all native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes immediately...and in the future.

**Correspondence ID:1293**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1294**

Correspondence: It is completely unacceptable that the NPS allows fences in the wilderness! The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The rare Tule elk at Point Tomales are on the verge of extinction because of the NPS and its deadly fencing. Why is it taking so long for the NPS to take down the fences and end the tragic, ongoing deaths of the Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. The elk cannot otherwise access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1295**

Correspondence: I love Point Reyes and I would love it much more if it were more wild...no cattle no fences, no commercial use of the whatsoever

**Correspondence ID:1296**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Natural and wild should always take precedent over for profit ranching.

**Correspondence ID:1297**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1298**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1299**

Correspondence: The Tule elk must be protected. National parks include spectacular scenery, but native animals are also a vital element of the park experience.

**Correspondence ID:1300**

Correspondence: The predicament of the Thule elk herd in the Phillip Burton Wilderness is alarming. The National Park Service is supposed to protect Wilderness. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, yet the park service is showing favoritism to ranchers. Thule elk, which are rare, are being held away from forage and fresh water by fences at Point Tomales and they are dying in alarming numbers. The elk population has been more than halved due to starvation and lack of fresh water!

Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The needs of wildlife in Wilderness should have priority over ranchers.

Thank you for considering my comments.

MaryRose Randall

**Correspondence ID:1301**

Correspondence: I'm speaking up for the Tule elk at Pt. Reyes. :)

**Correspondence ID:1302**

Correspondence: \* The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

\* Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

\* The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

\* The NPS must act for the good of all Americans, not just the business interests of vested interest groups like local ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:1303**

Correspondence: National Parks were not intended for raising cattle. There are millions of acres all over the U.S. where people raise cattle. Give the Tule Eik a break! It's their land. Let them use it! Take down fences!

**Correspondence ID:1304**

Correspondence: I was shocked to learn that the Point Reyes national Park allows cattle to graze. This is outrageous!

What a disaster.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1305**

Correspondence: As a tragedy continues at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California, the National Park Service (NPS) is accepting public comments on its planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1306**

Correspondence: Save our precious wildlife before its too late; they roamed freely before our human invasion. Stop personal greed and obnoxious reasons to do wrong.

**Correspondence ID:1307**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

Thank you for all you do to keep our land safe and healthy.

Please protect the seashore and its wildlife at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton.

Fences do not belong in the wild and cause the tragic death of rare Tule elk by preventing their access to food and water.

Please make the needs of native wildlife your first priority this spring, by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1308**

Correspondence: The NPS is a taxpayer funded government agency that works on behalf of the American People not privately owned cattle and livestock industries that were paid decades ago to end commercial ranching and return the lands to back to the American People.

The NPS has been derelict in its duties to protect and preserve the natural landscape and the wildlife especially the Tule Elk herd that are systematically being brutally culled and exterminated on behalf of the cattle industry the very elk that help to keep ecosystems intact and in homeostasis along with healthy waterways that are destroyed by cattle and their toxic waste.

The NPS has also been derelict in carry out its duties on behalf of the American People by irresponsibly paying out taxpayer dollars and land assets to keep a small handful of ranchers with powerful special interest backing. The very people who gladly took the money yet have refused to fulfil their legal obligations of moving.

The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

For over 30 years I have proudly been a huge NPS person visiting and returning annually to many National Parks throughout the west with Point Reyes being one of them.

Returning as often as I can to photograph the landscapes and the wildlife that call them home. Domestic cattle do not belong in these landscapes and if the NPS is diligently doing its duty to Protect & Preserve these natural landscapes for future generations still to come then it MUST do everything in its legal authority and power to remove these dairy and cattle ranches from the native and natural landscape.

The NPS MUST remove all fencing that are imprisoning the Tule Elk the only native large mammal in comparison to cattle to graze this area.

The Tule Elk are dying, they are starving and they are being denied access to fresh clean water all because of an introduced domesticated species.

As a lover of wildlife and of the NPS I find it not only disheartening but also shameful that this agency has allowed this atrocity to happen.

What will it take for the NPS to do its job on behalf of the American Taxpayer? Please do not allow the cattle industry to run rampant over this agency as it has done so with the BLM. Please do not allow the Tule Elk to disappear completely from this their native home ranges. Do not allow them to go extinct all for the price of a domesticated cow - how shameful a blight will that be on this agency??

Please PROTECT & PRESERVE the TULE ELK of Point Reyes NP.

**Correspondence ID:1309**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1310**

Correspondence: Seriously---who thought it a good idea to pen wild animals??? where is your compassion??

**Correspondence ID:1311**

Correspondence: Fences do not belong in the wilderness...there are so many subs that do not allow fences I know I live in one please no fences thnxs for considering my point of view short & to the point

**Correspondence ID:1312**

Correspondence: Screw the wildlife, Screw the tree-huggers who value enjoying nature. If you can't allow cattle owners to rip off the tax payers in their pursuit of greater income than how are you going to curry political power and \$\$\$\$ ? Get real, Get on the Fascist bandwagon. Destroy any natural value and make a corporate buck. Be a real American.

**Correspondence ID:1313**

Correspondence: I live in the SF Bay area and the Point Reyes National Seashore is an important part of the Bay Area, Northern California and all of the US.The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness must be protected and given access to food and water.

Native wildlife is more important than commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1314**

Correspondence: Tear down this fence - it is an outrage to let a private farmer get more control on public land!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1315**

Correspondence: RE: TOMALES POINT AREA PLAN  
Please take down the fences so the Tule Deer can survive!!

**Correspondence ID:1316**

Correspondence: Take down the fence. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. IT IS PUBLIC LAND. NOT THE RANCHERS. TAKE DOWN THE FENCE. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1317**

Correspondence: The National Park Service should be managing parks for the good of the general public and the wildlife that live there. One reason parks were established is to provide places for wildlife to live naturally and for people to have the opportunity to see that for themselves. It's a proven fact that people need to be able to experience green space to thrive. These public spaces should not be leased out for cattle grazing, especially not at the cost of rare animals like the Tule elk at Point Tomales.

These elk are dying unnecessarily and horribly because of fences that protect cattle and grazing areas, fences that have no place in a national park! The Point Reyes National Seashore was not meant to be a profit center for private ranchers. The fencing need to be removed and the area returned to the elk and other wildlife that live there so that they can get to the food and water they need to survive.

That is the actual job of the NPS - to manage the parks for the public and to protect the wildlife and habitat there. They need to refocus on those priorities, which is what we pay their salaries to do! They are supposed to be public servants, not the errand boys for commercial ranching. Please do the right thing and protect this area from ranching and other corporate and private interests that are damaging to the wildlands that are our heritage and our legacy.

Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:1318**

Correspondence: POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE -TAKE DOWN THE FENCES TO END ELK DEATHS

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1319**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.



Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my views.

**Correspondence ID:1320**

Correspondence: I support the native Elk at Pt Reyes. They should have priority over cattle. Cattle ranchers should provide for their cattle, and stop depending on resources that support wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1321**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1322**

Correspondence: WHY are the nearly 6,000 cattle continuing to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and END LIVESTOCK GRAZING.

REMOVE ALL cattle from the National Seashore!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS MUST protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS MUST prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an END to COMMERCIAL RANCHING at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1323**

Correspondence: Please help return The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Keep our wild places wild.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Please prioritize the health of our environment over cattle production. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1324**

Correspondence: Hi, thank you for considering my comment.

The NPS must protect the seashore and its wildlife. Specifically, native wildlife must take priority over commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

Please remove fencing in and near the Phillip Burton Wilderness so that native elk have access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1325**

Correspondence: Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please remove the fencing that prohibits elk from ranging over these federal lands. This is an antiquated arrangement that favors commercial interests over the public trust which exists to safeguard wildlife and natural lands for future generations.

Here are some points to consider:

- 1) The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- 2) Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- 3) The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,  
Mary Hoadley

**Correspondence ID:1326**

Correspondence: Please redouble efforts to save Tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Cattle also have no place in Wilderness. Please get them out. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Thank you for your attention.

**Correspondence ID:1327**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence and put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

**Correspondence ID:1328**

Correspondence: fences need to be removed. please!!

**Correspondence ID:1329**

Correspondence: I have been following the story of the Tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore for awhile and I am very saddened by the inaction of the National Park Service on behalf of the native elk who call this place home. When Point Reyes National Seashore was founded in 1962, the agreement was that the ranchers could continue to operate there for 25 years or until 1987. They are still there today, long after 1987.

The elk are "fenced" in and not allowed to find water and food and the outcome of this is death. This is a public park, not a private entity for a chosen few (ranchers). The native residents (elk) should be allowed to roam free as the park intended back in 1962. Please do the right thing and take down the fence and put an end to commercial ranching in this public park immediately!

In the words of Gandhi "the greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated".

Sincerely, Caroline Bering

**Correspondence ID:1330**

Correspondence: Who was in the park first? Who benefits from fencing off the elk instead of the 6000 cattle? My vote is for the elk--who speaks for them?

**Correspondence ID:1331**

Correspondence: You have to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California.

The NPS have to end the tragic ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Philip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access to water and food.

Please prioritize the need of wildlife by ending the commercial ranching like it was supposed to do, decades ago !

Point Reyes National Seashore doesn't belong only to ranchers whose are making profit of it !

Please : take down the fence !!!

**Correspondence ID:1332**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The indigenous wildlife can't get past the fences to vital food sources so the starve to death. We've seen it happen in Africa.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1333**

Correspondence: Get rid of the cows!!!

**Correspondence ID:1334**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1335**

Correspondence: Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. Prioritize wildlife over cattle and remove the fence.

**Correspondence ID:1336**

Correspondence: Please take down the barbed-wire fence or, at least, create a gateway for the deer.

**Correspondence ID:1337**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1338**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The interests of humans and corporations should not vitiate those of wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1339**

Correspondence: Please, go actually look at what's going on at Point Reyes to the Tule elk. They are suffering and will not survive if not given more priority. Please look!

**Correspondence ID:1340**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence so these animals don't suffer needlessly and die. These elk have a right to live and be free just like all other wild animals.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1341**

Correspondence: I don't understand why "ranchers" get to dictate the use of our public lands. Period. Keep them out of this.

**Correspondence ID:1342**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for revising your thinking into more positive action!

**Correspondence ID:1343**

Correspondence: We Paid For This Property & Allowed The Ranchers Plenty Of Time To Vacate The Property

So We Could Save The Wild Life And Be Able To Go See & Enjoy It. The Ranchers Have Violated The Terms Of That Contract By Refusing To Leave & NPS Has Failed To Enforce Those Terms! It's Long Past Time To Correct This Wrong. Remove The Fences NOW. My Tax Dollars Helped Pay For This Property For Wildlife Not To Give It To The Ranchers As A Bonus!!

**Correspondence ID:1344**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1345**

Correspondence: This is the second time I have submitted a comment concerning the Tule elk at Tomales Point Area. It seems that nothing has changed for the Tule elk. To stand by and watch these elk suffer and die is beyond comprehension. This area is a National Park not an agricultural land. The Park Service has to take the fence down now. If that isn't done, you might as well shoot the elk so they don't suffer any more. The National Park Service has failed in its mission. Shame on you.

Sincerely,  
Jeanie Scott

**Correspondence ID:1346**

Correspondence: Please prioritize Elk over Cattle.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thanks

**Correspondence ID:1347**

Correspondence: Dear Sir/Madam,

Please take down the fence to save native Tule Elk at Point Reyes!.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1348**

Correspondence: Dear Sir/Madam,

Please take down the fence to save native Tule Elk at Point Reyes!.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1349**

Correspondence: The NPS is confining Tule elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government

paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. How can this possibly be?

And you gave new leases to ranchers that refused to move out? Seriously? This is unconscionable and unacceptable. These native and rare elk need to be prioritized over cattle. It is well past time for the ranchers and their cattle to go, plain and simple. Take the fences down and let the elk roam as they are meant to in a wilderness. Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness is not a ranch. It is part of the National Park Service, is public property and belongs to the people, not ranchers.

That you continue to cater to ranchers and let native elk die of hunger and thirst is just shocking and abhorrent. Do your job, National Park Service! And stop catering to private interests!

**Correspondence ID:1350**

Correspondence: The National Park Service properties that are set aside as wildlands should have those wildlands and the wildlife within its boundaries protected first and foremost. End the commercial ranching that only benefits very few, remove the fences and protect what little wildlands and wildlife we have left in this country.

**Correspondence ID:1351**

Correspondence: Take the fence down that is stopping the ELK from living...sick and tired of you people killing our wildlife for BULLSHIT!!!!

**Correspondence ID:1352**

Correspondence: Public lands belong to all Americans and the Point Reyes National Seashore is no exception. Remove the fence at Point Tomales Wilderness to prevent even more tragic deaths because elk can't reach food and water. Public lands should not be managed for private interest and privately owned domestic livestock should not take priority over wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1353**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1354**

Correspondence: I live in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, so I appreciate the challenges of public-private areas.

However, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1355**

Correspondence: I speak as a wildlife biologist. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans and our dwindling wildlife numbers. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in designated wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1356**

Correspondence: Please don't fence elk away from survival.

The wild world is real, breathtaking, and meant to be nurtured. Thinking of elk being starved and destroyed, so that cattle can graze, (and rich ranchers get richer) makes me sad that I am not yet a vegetarian, and committing to move closer toward this goal.

Please, let us value the survival of the elk, and indeed, of the planet, above all else.

**Correspondence ID:1357**

Correspondence: The fence at Point Reyes National Seashore wilderness must come down immediately. The tule elk cannot survive being cut off from food and water. They need to roam in the wild areas as this was meant for. Please act on this now. Take the fence down. Put an end to commercial ranching in wilderness. Thank you for doing the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:1358**

Correspondence: Why is the NPS allowing this to happen?

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

This is outrageous treatment of our wildlife!

**Correspondence ID:1359**

Correspondence: I am appalled to learn that cattle have been allowed to graze at the National Seashore for decades after their permits had expired while Tule elk are dying of starvation. Take down the fences and release the elk to forage. Remove the cattle! They don't belong there.

**Correspondence ID:1360**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



Fences have no place in Wilderness. The National Park Service must end the ongoing, tragic deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so that elk can access food and water.

The National Park Service must prioritize native wildlife needs by ending commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1361**

Correspondence: Someone there at NPS needs to do their job.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Do your job!

**Correspondence ID:1362**

Correspondence: rare elk OVER domestic cattle--of course

hire the ranchers to do supplemental feeding..as needed

**Correspondence ID:1363**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1364**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,

Norman T. Baker

**Correspondence ID:1365**

Correspondence: Please allow the Elk to roam free as they need to and prioritize the needs of native wildlife by rescinding all grazing permits at Point Reyes.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

It's ridiculous that we the people have to make a request such as this. When will Americans finally have trust in our NPS to do what is RIGHT without having to be directed to do so in the first place?? The first dead elk should have been enough to motivate correct action.

**Correspondence ID:1366**

Correspondence: Please do what needs to be done to save the Tule Elk. The Point Reyes national Seashore is first, a protected wilderness area. The elk and other wildlife needs to take priority over the cattle that the fence are built to contain. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. It is shameful that the national Park Service is supporting policies that are causing the destruction of this rare sub-species. There is no time to waste in remedying this tragic situation.

**Correspondence ID:1367**

Correspondence: As a National Seashore, Point Reyes belongs to all Americans and to its native wildlife, not to ranchers who profit from its use. It is the responsibility of NPS to protect the Seashore and its wildlife. All fences should be removed to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness . Please allow elk and other wildlife unencumbered access to food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. It's a National Seashore after all!

**Correspondence ID:1368**

Correspondence: to the National Park Service,

As a US citizen and appreciative user of public lands, I am writing to urge you to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. This is a special place to me as I have spent many happy days there, when I lived in the Bay Area.

The land in question has been bought by the US government for the benefit of all citizens, not just ranchers. Ranchers were paid fair market for the land in 1962, and they agreed to stop ranching there in 25 years. It is not right that NPS should reward those ranchers who refused to honor their agreement, and refused to leave. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1369**

Correspondence: National Parks and National Wildlife Refuges ... get rid of all fences and borders that impede wildlife movement ... these Parks are for them not people!

**Correspondence ID:1370**

Correspondence: I am writing to express my concern about rare Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore. This wilderness seashore belongs to all Americans-cattle ranching should play no part in it especially because all the ranches were 'bought out' years ago. Remove the ranchers from the Wilderness.

Tule Elk are dying because they are fenced off from food and water. Take down the fence preventing them from accessing food and water. Get rid of the cattle to protect the Tule Elk.

Prioritize the needs of native wildlife - that is the NPS's primary responsibility.

**Correspondence ID:1371**

Correspondence: It's time to end ranching at point Reyes. There is no place for fencing or excessive number of cattle in a national park. Cattle leases should have ended by now, as promised. The Tule elk belong to all Americans, as does point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1372**

Correspondence: please spare the tule elk

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1373**

Correspondence: NPS needs to prioritize the wildlife preservation especially endangered elk population at Point Reyes.

The wildlife & nature should also belong to the general public not just for ranchers.

Putting the fence & enclosing the elk & other wildlife is killing them from starvation & thirst due to lack of forage & water.

Please implement an action before it is too late.

**Correspondence ID:1374**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by removing the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1375**

Correspondence: Please stop prioritizing ranchers who pay too little for too much. Do not spoil our wilderness with fences and REALLY - do not fence elk away from food and water!!

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1376**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by removing the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1377**

Correspondence: The National Park Service must protect wildlife; and the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

Fences have absolutely no place in Wilderness. Please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

I ask that you please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1378**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1379**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago!

**Correspondence ID:1380**

Correspondence: It is unbelievably cruel to fence in the Tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore so that they cannot find sufficient for our water and to have this situation exist because cattle farmers who are grazing their livestock on 28,000 acres of public land are being prioritized and in spite of an agreement to stop the grazing by 1987. The elk are dying so these cattle can continue grazing our public lands. This is not right or fair or just.

**Correspondence ID:1381**

Correspondence: Please remember that you are caretaking these lands and their inhabitants for the American people.

You should not be avoiding your responsibilities so a few can profit.

**Correspondence ID:1382**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

How is this wilderness mgmt? Why has this mismanagement of public property gone on so long?

**Correspondence ID:1383**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1384**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1385**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS should end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Native wildlife needs should be prioritized by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1386**

Correspondence: Please take down fences

**Correspondence ID:1387**

Correspondence: Protect the Tule Elk and their habitats!

**Correspondence ID:1388**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1389**

Correspondence: Protect the Tule Elk and their habitats!

**Correspondence ID:1390**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it

**Correspondence ID:1391**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1392**

Correspondence: Take down the fence!!! It is outrageous and unacceptable and unconscionable that native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. I do not support this. Please change your policy and take action now to save the remaining Tule elk.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, DECADES after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. THE LEASE HAS EXPIRED -- GET THE CATTLE OUT. CATTLE DO NOT BELONG AT THE NATIONAL SEASHORE -- IT IS FOR WILDLIFE PROTECTION AND THE ENJOYMENT OF VISITORS.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. CATTLE ARE NOT AT RISK OF EXTINCTION, DO NOT NEED PROTECTION, AND MUST BE REMOVED SO THE ELK CAN USE THE WATER AND GRAZING AREA. PLEASE, DO THE RIGHT THING. OUR

GOVERNMENT MUST BE STRONGER THAN SELFISH, STUBBORN RANCHERS. DO NOT ALLOW THEM TO SET A PRECEDENT OF DISREGARDING POLICY IN FAVOR OF THEIR OWN WISHES.

Please and thank you,  
Debbie McKeivitt

**Correspondence ID:1393**

Correspondence: PROTECT THE ELK-KEEP THEM FROM STARVING!!!!

**Correspondence ID:1394**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1395**

Correspondence: Please save the Tule Elk by allowing to get through the fences so they can feed and find water to drink.

They are becoming extinct and need help to survive!

Please take care of these creatures!

Sincerely, Kitty Dennis

**Correspondence ID:1396**

Correspondence: Please save the Tule Elk by allowing to get through the fences so they can feed and find water to drink.

They are becoming extinct and need help to survive!

Please take care of these creatures!

Sincerely, Kitty Dennis

**Correspondence ID:1397**

Correspondence: Please end the NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes that keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Cattle should not be grazing in a national seashore. These elk are a national resource and are not being protected. Remove the cattle and take down the fences.

**Correspondence ID:1398**

Correspondence: To Whom It Concerns:

The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. To prevent anymore unnecessary and cruel deaths, the fence must be taken down immediately.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

Thank you for your consideration of this very dire matter.

**Correspondence ID:1399**

Correspondence: I am saddened that an organization supposedly managing the land for All Users is neglecting one of the biggest draws to the area. I have made many visits and when I would see these magnificent animals it always lifted my spirits. Seeing Cattle decimating the range? Not so much... That makes me sad.. Please take down the fences and thin the cattle herd instead! They don't belong there anyway ! Killing of this herd for cows sound like what happens to other animals in the wild that cross the paths of the rich cattle ranchers.. yes Everyone knows that money helps grease the wheels of corruption. That is the only reason someone would choose an invasive species like cattle over a rare species like these elk. Take down the fences and remove the excess cattle and then you will have correctly managed the elk and cattle. Thank you for your time.

**Correspondence ID:1400**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore is public land and belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife not domestic cattle. There should be no fences in the wilderness. The Park Service needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. It is shameful that you are allowing this to happen!!! The park service needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1401**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1402**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1403**

Correspondence: I cannot believe that this situation continues to go on. Cattle do not belong on public land!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I have birded and camped on public land in a number of states. Cattle were running on some of those places and the destruction to the environment caused by those animals was appalling.

As I said, cattle do not belong on public land! Remove the fences and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free!

**Correspondence ID:1404**

Correspondence: Please prioritize the needs of the Tule Elk at Point Reyes over those of area cattle ranchers. This is the elk's native habitat - they don't have an alternative range to utilize. Cattle can graze on any number of pieces of private and public land, and do not need to inhabit this land.

**Correspondence ID:1405**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS must put an end to the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please take the necessary action and protect the amazing animals!  
Carolyn Merkel

**Correspondence ID:1406**

Correspondence: I believe the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I would like to see the NPS protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Ideally, the NPS should prioritize native wildlife over commercial ranching and remove the fences that have been leading to the deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:1407**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1408**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1409**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1410**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1411**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1412**

Correspondence: I'm writing today because I am concerned about the wellbeing of the Tule elk at Point Tomales. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1413**

Correspondence: Hello NPS:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Wildlife has just as much right to the land as humans. In fact, they have more since we are encroaching and/or destroying their habitats.

NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by ending commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

No one should use and especially profit from any public land, especially protected areas.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1414**

Correspondence: Please allow our natural wildlife access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1415**

Correspondence: Fences have o no right to be there. Who will protect wildlife if we don't. Please remove the fence. Elk are more important than cattle.

**Correspondence ID:1416**

Correspondence: Dear Park Services,

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. In addition, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1417**

Correspondence: As someone who loves to visit and hike at Point Reyes, I am appalled at the ongoing deaths of Tule elk at Point Tomales. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness, and the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1418**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for considering my comments.

**Correspondence ID:1419**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1420**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1421**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1422**

Correspondence: Wildlife is in decline word wide. Your cattle fences are literally causing the Tule elk to die of thirst and starvation because there is not enough water or food in the area that you have relegated them to. The area that is fenced off from the elk to use for grazing and water was purchased years ago specifically for the elk and their future wellbeing, not for cattle. There are an estimated 6000 cattle grazing on some 28,000 acres of park land that should be used to ensure the future of the Tule elk. You are prioritizing cattle and ranchers over elk and pushing the elk to the brink of extinction. This is wrong and needs to be corrected. No one goes to the wilderness to see domestic cattle; they go to see "wildlife"! Your mission as a park bureau to protect and serve the wildlife that is in your park.

I'm sure that a larger portion of the area being used for cattle could be designated for Elk and there would still be enough for a fair percentage of range cattle to graze. If the elk population is in decline (which it is), then the percentage of available grazing land should favor the elk. Once the elk are gone, they are gone forever. Domestic cattle are not an endangered species.

When fish stocks are in decline, the fishing season and fishing areas are adjusted until the fish population rebounds. The same should hold true for grazing areas that support the elk population.

**Correspondence ID:1423**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public! Not FOR PROFIT cattle ranchers! Fences have no place in wilderness areas. TAKE DOWN THE FENCES!

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NEEDS TO STOP SERVING CATTLE RANCHERS BY MISMANAGING WILDERNESS AREAS. YOU EXIST TO SERVE THE PUBLIC AND NATURE!!!

LET THE TULE ELK RUN FREE!

**Correspondence ID:1424**

Correspondence: There's a tragic situation at the Point Reyes National Seashore. Native Tule elk are having a difficult time surviving from starvation because of the fencing there (at Tomales Point). Drought conditions are also leave the elk with less water. Please help the elk there. End the cattle grazing that was supposed to happen. At the very least, provide food and water to the elk. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1425**

Correspondence: I have been speaking out on behalf of the Tule Elk at Point Reyes for several years. There is no reasonable explanation for cattle grazing to take priority over wildlife at Point Reyes. Greed is the only explanation, and that is simply not a good enough reason to allow Tule Elk to die under your stewardship. The decision to enclose the Tule Elk herd with limited access to fresh water and grass for foraging, while allowing increasing numbers of cattle to graze freely in the Phillip Burton Wilderness, is simply despicable. The Tule Elk herd is one of the magical gifts of our wilderness areas. Nothing compares to seeing them graze on the hillside with the sea behind them as the glistening sun drops to the horizon. I can see cattle anywhere; the Tule Elk herd at Point Reyes is priceless to me and so many others. Allowing ranchers to sign new leases was misguided and corrupt. A new resolve to end ranching at Point Reyes and restore this designated wilderness as refuge for this suffering herd must be the only direction forward for the National Park Service. Please take your stewardship of this public land and Tule Elk herd seriously; the general public is counting on you to do the right thing for all of us, not just a few influential ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:1426**

Correspondence: As you know, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Please use the power of the NPS to protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Many Americans deeply value our wildlife and our rare, remaining wild places.

Fences have no place in Wilderness and wild animals do not belong inside fences. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago. Please, please do the right thing here. We are watching.

**Correspondence ID:1427**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1428**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1429**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THE FENCE!

**Correspondence ID:1430**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1431**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please save wildlife, it is the beauty of America....honor the wild horses by saving them also. they are the icon that help build America

**Correspondence ID:1432**

Correspondence: Prioritize wildlife over cattle. Ranchers should not win. We hire you to protect and manage our lands and the wildlife that live on these lands. Take down the fence. Why does the public

have to consistently tell you how to manage and take care of and care for wildlife? Elk are dying in record numbers because they are cut off from food and water!! What is wrong with this agency? Six thousand cattle are allowed to graze all because you want money. That is wrong! Make the needs of elk a priority. Please do your job!!

**Correspondence ID:1433**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1434**

Correspondence: Wild animals need to be free--no fencing

**Correspondence ID:1435**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Cattle ranching is not compatible with NPS's mission.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1436**

Correspondence: Please reconsider! Public lands are for public wildlife, not for indefinite subsidy of a few wealthy ranchers and farmers. I do NOT support the privatization of public resources through subsidized grazing, subsidized logging, subsidized mineral-gas- or-oil extraction, and in the case of the Point Reyes proposal also subsidized truck gardens and subsidized for-profit tourist lodging and tours, nor fencing wildlife like zoo animals. DOWN WITH THE FENCES!

1. Point Reyes National Seashore was created as a public preserve - to preserve the natural seashore, not to subsidize ranchers and farmers.
2. The ranchers and farmers were paid generously for the land and generously given vast time to remove their livestock.
3. The people of the United States own the land, the wildlife, and the water at Point Reyes as it does other public lands, and you as the government agency manage it in trust for us. Killing our wildlife resources, reducing natural biodiversity, introducing non-native species, all to make room for subsidized,



privately-owned cattle, dairy cows, sheep, goats, pigs, chickens, and row crops, and private for-profit tour lodging and tours, is WRONG, WRONG, WRONG.

4. Intentionally spoiling the natural seashore is contrary to the intent of the national seashore, contrary to the interests of the public, contrary to law.

5. Such efforts to privatize public resources and subsidize the wealthy reflect the political ideology of Ayn Rand and her followers, George H.W. Bush, George W. Bush, Donald J. Trump, not that the current occupant of the White House has read anything by Ayn Rand (or anyone else), but his advisors have, and more importantly they are familiar with the Randian market-based economists who promote transfers of public wealth to the few wealthy. That economy policy has failed everywhere it has been applied, from the perspective of the people at large, despite being highly profitable for the top economic 1%.

6. The proposal and the politics behind it do NOT reflect the public interest, the public good, the public welfare.

7. The USA has many, many amusement parks already, including some managed by the National Park Service. There is NO need to convert this national and natural seashore into an amusement park.

Please protect our public lands, wildlife, and water. Take down the fences. Show the profiteers the exit and push them out; yes, I know pushing is not polite, but they are addicted to feeding at the federal funds trough and need a strong, steady push.

Please protect the Point Reyes National Seashore as a natural seashore.

**Correspondence ID:1437**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1438**

Correspondence: Confining the elk

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire those ranches, is outrageous. The elk are the true owners who f the land. They are the natives, not the cattle. To, in essence, jail them is so wrong that it defies logic

**Correspondence ID:1439**

Correspondence: Confining the elk

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire those ranches, is outrageous. The elk are the true owners who f the land. They are the natives, not the cattle. To, in essence, jail them is so wrong that it defies logic

**Correspondence ID:1440**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

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The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1442**

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Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

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Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1444**

Correspondence: Take the fence down. Let the elks drink. Give them extra water if needed.

**Correspondence ID:1445**

Correspondence: The NPS is confining elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Meanwhile, elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died

by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. Please allow elk to roam and forage freely so that they can access the food and water that they need to survive.

**Correspondence ID:1446**

Correspondence: Many more people come to Pt. Reyes to see the elk herds than are interested in the farms. Do not prioritize private profit over the good of the many. The ranchers who were grandfathered in to Pt. Reyes National Seashore when it was formed have received more than their money's worth. Your job is to preserve the few remaining wilderness places for future generations. Prioritize wildlife, as you are supposed to do.

**Correspondence ID:1447**

Correspondence: Take down the fencing that is stopping our national treasures in Tule Elk to have the ability to eat and drink.

The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

This is wrong. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Thank you,  
Deb Collins

**Correspondence ID:1448**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1449**

Correspondence: please take down the fencing at point reyes so the tule elk can roam freely to grave. no cattle no cowboys, or cattle ranchers. keep it wild

**Correspondence ID:1450**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to

move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. You are the National PARK Service, not the National Rancher Protection Service. Act like it.

**Correspondence ID:1451**

Correspondence: At least 30 years ago, the ranchers and farmers at the Point Reyes National Seashore AGREED to a negotiation whereby the ranchers would remove their cattle from the Seashore. However, some ranchers refused to leave, and somehow got renewed leases, instead of leaving. !! This is terrible!! The elk are dying of thirst and hunger.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Also, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1452**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence and save the wildlife! They have a right to live and survive! Please do the right thing!

**Correspondence ID:1453**

Correspondence: I strongly oppose a fence in this wilderness area. Good grief -- a fence in a wilderness area? Unacceptable. Elk need room to roam. Get ride of the fence.

**Correspondence ID:1454**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Time to get it done!

Thank you for considering my comments.

**Correspondence ID:1455**

Correspondence: Rare Tule elk are dying within fences erected to promote commercial grazing on public land. National Parks exist to preserve natural habitats and wildlife for the enjoyment of all Americans now and in the future. Fences do not belong in the wild. To paraphrase President Reagan, "Mr. Sams, tear down that fence!"

**Correspondence ID:1456**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

There are smarter ways to support nature.

**Correspondence ID:1457**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

I love the National Park Service, and know we can do better for wildlife.

I appreciate your support,

Eric Hensgen

**Correspondence ID:1458**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1459**

Correspondence: I am writing to protest the fences at Point Reyes that are trapping the native elk population. This is inhumane as the elk are starving and have limited water. I have visited this beautiful area and as I have seen in photos from other visitors, there are too many dead elk. There is no place for fences in wilderness areas, and the lives of elk should not be sacrificed for cattle (privately owned). I am asking that the elk be free to roam and have the ability to find food and water to survive. Do not prioritize cattle over wild elk - please take down the fences before we lose this important animal. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1460**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1461**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1462**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1463**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1464**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1465**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Fences have no place in the wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:1466**

Correspondence: NPS needs to prioritize native wildlife. This should be done by ending commercial ranching at Point Reyes. This was supposed to be done decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1467**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1468**

Correspondence: Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. Why would you want that to happen?

You must know fences have no place in Wilderness.

Please, you, the NPS must end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Please do everything you can to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

I'm begging you to do the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:1469**

Correspondence: The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When

Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

I am urging the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore :

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. It is cruel and inhumane not to do so.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thanks you.

**Correspondence ID:1470**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing by the elk, which is also the right thing for we Americans.

**Correspondence ID:1471**

Correspondence: As a frequent visitor to Pt. Reyes I write to SUPPORT TULE ELK!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.



The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.  
Judith Smith

**Correspondence ID:1472**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,  
I don't understand the fences in wilderness when it interferes with wildlife movement and access to food and water. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. I feel that the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago! And finally... the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife now before it's too late! Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1473**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs not just to ranchers who profit from its use, but to everyone. The NPS needs to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1474**

Correspondence: The elk at Point Reyes need to be protected in order for them to survive and not become extinct. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water - and survive!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Please NPS - protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Barb Brunell

**Correspondence ID:1475**

Correspondence: Dear Sir or Madam;

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thanks for your attention.

**Correspondence ID:1476**

Correspondence: The Elk were there first. Stop murdering animals for greed! The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1477**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. Take down the fence. We need to protect our wildlife (elk, wild horses and burros , coyotes etc) not the livestock bred to kill to make money for individuals- taxpayers want wildlife protected, not privately owned animals used by those trying to destroy the natural inhabitants.

**Correspondence ID:1478**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. Take down the fence. We need to protect our wildlife (elk, wild horses and burros , coyotes etc) not the livestock bred to kill to make money for individuals- taxpayers want wildlife protected, not privately owned animals used by those trying to destroy the natural inhabitants.

**Correspondence ID:1479**

Correspondence: Please save the dying tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore. Take down the fence. It has no place in wilderness. The land belongs to all of us. An agreement was made for the ranchers to transition the cattle out during 25 years. That time period ended. Now you are breaking with truth and engaging in unspeakable cruelty to elk dying of hunger and thirst in the enclosed area. End this now. This violates your agreement and the public trust. We have seen terrible die off year after year; cruelty beyond description, suffering from emaciation and dehydration.

Save the elk now. Take down the fence!!!

**Correspondence ID:1480**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1481**

Correspondence: Hello. The fence needs to be removed for the elk.

**Correspondence ID:1482**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1483**

Correspondence: The wild Elk are far more important than cattle. Please take down the fences that restrict them from necessary territory at Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:1484**

Correspondence: There is too much space at Point Reyes devoted to cattle. Give the elk more room.

**Correspondence ID:1485**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence that is preventing the Tule elk from grazing on our public land and having access to our public water. Please have all the commercial cattle removed from our public land. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1486**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1487**

Correspondence: Please take the fence down and allow the elk the freedom, resources & protection they deserve. This is their land, it does not belong to the cattle & the people who profit from them.

Thank you.

M. Bahleda

**Correspondence ID:1488**

Correspondence: Hello,

I am writing to ask you to promote the purpose of Wilderness by ending cattle grazing at the Point Reyes National Seashore. This was intended and facilitated decades ago, and it still has not happened!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Our public lands should not be given over to private interests for their exclusive use and profit. Our wild animals and plants should not be harmed for the sake of private profit.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as was supposed to happen many decades ago. Protect our natural world. Stop protecting selfish, greedy private interests!

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1489**

Correspondence: Take down the fence, set the Elk free!! The ranchers do Not need to graze their cattle on land that was given to the Elk! Those cattle should be grazing on the ranchers property!! If there's too many head of cattle send them to slaughter since that's where their going anyway! Besides the ranchers have invested in wind power and their making more money then cattle ranching! The standing joke is the windmills make us the money and the cattle lay in the shade of the windmills! Stop harming our wildlife for personal gain!! We all know who's getting paid off!! It needs to stop! Take down the fence now!

**Correspondence ID:1490**

Correspondence: Wildlife are indigenous, must try to survive all the various stressors humans put in their paths, and are detrimental to the ecosystems. Cattle and other domestic livestock can claim non of those characteristics.  
Wildlife first!!

**Correspondence ID:1491**

Correspondence: What are you thinking?!!

Your organization is supposed to be protecting our natural resources, of which the Tule Elk herd is a part of.

The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Why cattle? They decimate the native flora and bring nothing to the general public!  
You are pandering to cattle ranchers who are making a profit off of public lands.

Personally, I am FED UP with this blatent disregard of not protecting the native and natural resources for the benefit of today's public and also for future generations.

STOP prioritizing cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife. The ranchers who are not cooperative must be moved out forcibly as any other tenant overstaying their lease would be!

**Correspondence ID:1492**

Correspondence: Please don't allow the atrocities of the lying, fascist, racist, terrorist, traitorous sexual predator, mass murderer and loser Donald Trump and his partners in crime against humanity and the environment, Fox "News" (the propaganda arm of the fascist RethugliKKKan Party) to continue to damage our country and the world.

Why aren't Trump and ALL his racist, rapist, traitorous terrorist supporters, including members of Congress, in Guantanamo RIGHT NOW???? They are every bit as dangerous as anyone who has ever been sent to Guantanamo, and the Patriot Act demands that they be incarcerated IMMEDIATELY for their terrorism and crimes against humanity!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1493**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service Responsible,

I was saddened to hear about the plight of Tule elk on National Park Property at Point Reyes. National Parks belong to all Americans, not just cattle owners. Stop the grazing and take down the fences now! I was born in California not too far from Point Reyes, and am thus doubly saddened.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago when it bought out existing ranches with taxpayer dollars.

In today's world of drought and fire, all animals must range farther to meet their needs. It is imperative that the NPS adapt to this new reality.

Sincerely,  
Lauren Storm

**Correspondence ID:1494**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1495**

Correspondence: It is down right murder of those elk if that fence remains. Remove it and give these elk a chance to survive.

Bill Leikam  
President, Co-founder - Urban Wildlife Research Project  
A 501 C (3) Corporation

**Correspondence ID:1496**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please consider the above points before making your decision. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1497**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1498**

Correspondence: Tule Elk need food and water! Take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:1499**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1500**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1501**

Correspondence: Point Reyes belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers. Even more importantly, it belongs to the wild creatures who evolved there. Preservation is paramount as we skid through this SIXTH EXTINCTION. Preserve, Protect, Defend is your mandate!

**Correspondence ID:1502**

Correspondence: I demand that that fence be removed that cruelly contains the Tule elk in Point Reyes seashore!! STOP BENDING OVER for cattlemen who want and are allowed to let their cattle graze, while the elk starve and die of thirst!! Unconscionable!! How can you look in the mirror while doing this despicable act?? You are animal abusers! The fucking ranchers do NOT OWN THAT LAND!!! It belongs to the American people, and myself, and many others, want the elk to have the dignity and right to water and food, just like you do.

**Correspondence ID:1503**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1504**

Correspondence: Hello:

Please consider the following:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to have done decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1505**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore should be reserved for wildlife. There is no reason to allow commercial livestock or agriculture, and it is criminal to allow fences that restrict the movement of the native Tule elk. The fences at Point Tomales need to be removed, and the NPS should honor the agreement to no longer lease land for cattle ranching after the initial 25-year leases expired.

**Correspondence ID:1506**

Correspondence: Elk are entitled to public land. Cows are not. Elk need to be prioritized and not starved. This is an atrocity. Stop killing our wildlife on our public lands for cows. If ranchers can't afford to feed their own cows they need to opt for a different occupation. Get cows off of public lands. This is a tragedy.

**Correspondence ID:1507**

Correspondence: Please save the Tule Elk!!!

**Correspondence ID:1508**

Correspondence: Hello,

Time has come for NPS to do its job and protect the Elk that you are decimating by your actions. You should not be protecting ranchers but the Elk. Your job is not to enhance the pockets of these ranches but ensure this herd is protected. You MUST stop starving them to death. How can you be part of the NPS and continue to support cattle (major cause of global warming) instead of these native Elk. The cattle are not for all Americans. the NPS Should be protecting the land and especially these unique elk for all americans

Cattle are The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

In 1962 the ranchers even though extensions NEVER should have happened were for 25 years. Time is up. remove ALL cattle now.

thank you

**Correspondence ID:1509**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you for considering my input.

**Correspondence ID:1510**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over domestic livestock at the Point Reyes National Seashore. This public land belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to protect the rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1511**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1512**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1513**

Correspondence: Please take care of the elk. They are the native species. Cows can be moved elsewhere.

**Correspondence ID:1514**

Correspondence: Help Tule Elk.  
Take down that fence!



**Correspondence ID:1515**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1516**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1517**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1518**

Correspondence: The fencing off of Tule Elk on Point Reyes from their natural grazing and watering areas is cruel and unconscionable. The grazing of private herds on National Seashore land is not in the public interest. It benefits private ranchers who should use their own land for such purposes.

**Correspondence ID:1519**

Correspondence: Save the Elk !

No more Fences !

End commercial ranching at Point Reyes !

Thank you !

**Correspondence ID:1520**

Correspondence: I have visited Point Reyes National Seashore and it was a life-changing adventure. I fell in love with the amazing scenery and I am thankful to those who felt the need to protect the land and sea.

I find it insulting and perplexing that people who want to protect this region, have the audacity to continue to allow the pollution of cattle ranches to spoil it. The dependence on cattle is less about food

and more about profit. When profit wins over our wildlife, it beats our respectability and worthiness to be stewards of this earth.

Protect our wildlife, not the cattle ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:1521**

Correspondence: take down the fence. Wildlife should be able to roam not live cramped up. because cattle and other business feel they get in their way.

**Correspondence ID:1522**

Correspondence: Please give elk priority over cattle. This area is meant for wildlife not cattle; also ~~~fences are dangerous for wildlife. Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:1523**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1524**

Correspondence: Please do something to help this horrific situation of Elk being tossed aside while ranchers and cattle seem to have all the rights these days trampling over our national lands and wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water!!!! They are dying by the day! This isn't much to ask for my God.. This is very unfair imprisonment of our wildlife...

Wildlife is important to we Americans and they have as much right to their native habitat as any creature.

I'm sick of Ranchers having every right in this country denying all other creatures THEIR right to live free and wild in this country.

Ranchers have ENOUGH land already...Gaining more and more grazing land and pushing native wildlife out is not the way. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago!!

Please do the Honorable thing for our disappearing wildlife that deserve to walk and live freely on this land and for future generations to come.

Thank you,  
Susan Allen

**Correspondence ID:1525**

Correspondence: we visit Calif mainly for the native wildlife, not to eat hamburgers!!, they were here first and this cruelty is despicable

**Correspondence ID:1526**

Correspondence: PROTECT THE NATIVE WILD LIFE .....

THATS WHAT YOU ARE THERE FOR . ITS YOUR JOB . THE 25 YRS UP THEY KNEW IT ...TIME TO GO.....

**Correspondence ID:1527**

Correspondence: Please take down the fences.

When vacationing or traveling for business in the area, I walk in Point Reyes National Seashore and love the experience. This area belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness and are harmful to the animals.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time,

Maria

**Correspondence ID:1528**

Correspondence: Native wildlife at the Point Reyes National Seashore deserve the utmost and sole attention from the National Park Service. Commercial ranching at its fences have no place at Point Reyes. The NPS needs to honor its decades-old commitment to take down the fences and end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:1529**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

As a long-time San Francisco Bay Area resident, I'm very angry that Point Reyes National Seashore is renewing the leases on the ranches inside this beautiful park instead of protecting the health of the resident Tule Elk. These elk are fenced in, leading to starvation and lack of water. Volunteers should not have to carry water to these animals to save their lives. This is a national seashore, not a for-profit ranching operation! Like many local people, I try to see the Tule Elk when I visit Point Reyes. The ranches were only supposed to exist within the park for a short period of time.

Please validate the importance of Point Reyes National Seashore as a sanctuary for resident species like Tule Elk. The cattle from the ranches are already degrading the habitat. Enough is enough! Thank you for your help.

**Correspondence ID:1530**

Correspondence: The NPS is cruelly driving the Tule elk to extinction by preventing their access to the water and forage they need to survive, and prioritizing the expansion of commercial agriculture and the profits of cattle ranchers who are still occupying the land long after the time specified in the original agreement to end this commercial use.

All Americans are owners of and stakeholders in The Point Reyes National Seashore, not just to those who exploit it for profit. The NPS is obligated to protect the Seashore and its wildlife and manage it sustainably. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife and end commercial ranching at Point Reyes, as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1531**

Correspondence: You are continuing a criminal conspiracy between cattlemen grazing on my tax dollar

**Correspondence ID:1532**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1533**

Correspondence: It is pretty infuriating that the ranchers reneged on the original deal they agreed to. Why on earth is that ok in the face of the predicted decimation of the rare elk herd? This makes zero sense.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1534**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1535**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,  
Andy Willman

**Correspondence ID:1536**

Correspondence: I appreciate your taking comments in support of the threatened Tule Elk population along the Point Reyes National Seashore.

It is time to put an end to the commercial ranching promised many years ago. It would have been lovely if ranching and wildlife could co-exist, but clearly they cannot. The fences have caused enough damage already, and they need to be removed, and the wildlife to have free movement in what is meant to be a protected Wilderness area that enriches all Americans, not a handful of ranchers.

I hope you will act soon to see that the necessary changes are made to safeguard the endangered Elk.

Thank you for all that you do in the service of our public lands and people.

**Correspondence ID:1537**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can freely access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, just like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I have visited Point Reyes and experienced the elk. Please maximize the possibilities of future generations of Americans doing likewise!

**Correspondence ID:1538**

Correspondence: This is unfair and a horrible choice over what animals should live and who should suffer, shame on humans for doing this.

**Correspondence ID:1539**

Correspondence: I strongly protest the way the Tule Elk are being treated in Point Reyes National Seashore by the NPS. Fences in this Wilderness area are preventing the elk from access to food and water, which is just plain animal cruelty. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule Elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so the elk can have access to food and water.

As a tax paying American citizen, I oppose allowing ranchers to profit from the use of public lands and to dictate the abuse of wildlife in the interest of personal profit. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, as was the intent decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1540**

Correspondence: To not allow these very rare and endangered animals access to their native habitat (certainly not native to cattle) is insane and criminal. They are original and unique to this specific area of the entire planet. What are you doing?!?! They are not able to access foraging grounds and water-- we are watching Vladimir Putin do this to the inhabitants of Mariupol and the carnage that has resulted. You are Parks Planning not the BLM in charge of leasing land for cattle grazing. Your responsibility it to protect the land and the species that live and are native to that specific environment. Wake up and do the right thing!

**Correspondence ID:1541**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1542**

Correspondence: What part of this is so hard for you to get? The elk belong; the cattle do not. Wildlife - yes. Livestock - no. See? Simple.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Wildlife = Tule Elk, NOT livestock.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. How hard is that?

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Country over capitalism. Do the RIGHT thing, NOT the most profitable.

**Correspondence ID:1543**

Correspondence: it is a disgrace that you are giving cattle land to graze that is the land of elks. it is wrong that for profit ranchers are exterminating the elks that are a national treasure.. the lack of food an especially water is killing these beautiful animals in a most cruel and painful way. Americans care about our wild animals safe and disagree with you prioritizing cattle ranchers

**Correspondence ID:1544**

Correspondence: The National Seashore needs to be managed with wilderness and wildlife as the priority, not cattle grazing. Cattle grazing was intended to be phased out after the original 25 year lease; do not extend any more leases and phase out cattle grazing ASAP. Take down the fences that are killing the Tule Elk by limiting their forage and fresh water. The elk are a rare subspecies that deserve priority to grow and sustain their population. Even the U.S. Army is trying hard to preserve the natural environment and tthe wildlife on its military bases. Surely you, the National Park Service, can do better than you currently are for the Tule Elk and the wilderness at the National Seashore! We'll be watching to see if your management plan prioritizes public comments defending wilderness and wildlife or if it caters to commercial grazing interests at the expense of other components of the natural ecosystem. Do the right thing!

**Correspondence ID:1545**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

This is important.

**Correspondence ID:1546**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1547**

Correspondence: This is about Tomales Point. It is unbelievable that the elk have been fenced in where they can not get grazing or water they need. All this for cattle grazing which was supposed to be stopped. It is cruel to treat wildlife in this way.+

**Correspondence ID:1548**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement.

You must cease this mismanagement for several reasons including:

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.  
Stop killing wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1549**

Correspondence: Cattle should not be in national parks, please prioritize a healthy ecosystem and wildlife over cattle.

Dr. Ian Waite

**Correspondence ID:1550**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1551**

Correspondence: Please take down the fences at Point Reyes National Seashore. The Seashore and its wildlife must be protected.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

PLEASE!! END THE CRUELTY!!!

**Correspondence ID:1552**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1553**

Correspondence: Take down the fences so the elk have a fair chance to thrive in their native habitat!



The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1554**

Correspondence: The whole world knows what is going on with the Tule elk. Do the right thing and take down the fences and let them have access to food and water. Someone needs to clue you guys in on how cattle ranching hurts the land and you are the National Park Service who is supposed to be a steward of the land. Come on now, anything that happens in a negative way to the Tule elk is on your hands.

**Correspondence ID:1555**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife over commercial profit.

At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1556**

Correspondence: Please free the elks, remove the fences, buy the cattle ranch if you can.

Thank you,  
Susan Young

**Correspondence ID:1557**

Correspondence: Save the elk.

**Correspondence ID:1558**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1559**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle grazing. Please protect wildlife. End fencing.

**Correspondence ID:1560**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1561**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1562**

Correspondence: WHAT IN GOD'S NAME IS WRONG WITH THE PARK SERVICE INDIVIDUALS THAT ARE SUPPOSEDLY "CARING" FOR OUR PARKS AND WILDLIFE?? YOU ARE NOT OPERATING IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF OUR STATE'S LAND, OR THE WILDLIFE THAT OCCUPIES IT! THIS IS NO DIFFERENT THAN THE OCCUPATION OF MALHUER. WHEN CHALLENGED BY HUMANS (RANCHERS AND BUNDY) YOU FOLD!! YOU'VE ALREADY ALLOWED ELK TO DIE! INCOMPETENCE MUST BE A PREREQUISITE FOR EMPLOYMENT! THESE RANCHERS MUST LEAVE IMMEDIATELY! COWS CAN LIVE ANYWHERE, BUT THE ELK ARE A NATIVE SPECIES THAT MUST BE SAVED. THESE ANIMALS MUST BE SAVEDNOW!

**Correspondence ID:1563**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in any Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so the elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1564**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1565**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1566**

Correspondence: Wild Elk must be protected above the domestic cattle that are overabundant. Elk are NOT OVER ABUNDANT!

Take the fence down so that the Elk can reach the food and water they need to survive!! Nobody is breeding more elk. Hundreds of people are breeding cattle. Too many at the expense of the lives of the elk!

Take the fence down immediately!

**Correspondence ID:1567**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service -

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR DOING THE RIGHT THING.

**Correspondence ID:1568**

Correspondence: This is disgraceful. The public lands and the native wildlife on them are being decimated all over the west and southwest to benefit some ranchers. The DOI, the BLM, and the National Park Service should not be operating as a welfare agency just to benefit the cattle and sheep ranching industries. The public lands are meant for everyone, especially the wildlife that call them home. Stop removing or killing them, and letting the invasive species (cows and sheep) destroy the land.

**Correspondence ID:1569**

Correspondence: wildlife must have priority in this case over cattle....

**Correspondence ID:1570**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1571**

Correspondence: It is an outrageous situation at Pt Reyes park where cows that were supposed to be phased out are now taking precedence over Tule Elk when it comes to space and access to water. What kind of MISMANAGEMENT IS THIS. That fence has GOT TO GO. These elk MUST HAVE ACCESS TO THE WATER AND TERRITORY THE NEED TO SURVIVE.

**Correspondence ID:1572**

Correspondence: POINT REYES IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE PLACES ON EARTH. I am appalled that the Park Service puts the wishes of ranchers, whose cattle have no place on public lands in this day and age, ahead of the needs of native elk. TAKE DOWN THE FENCES. GET THOSE CATTLE OUT OF THERE!

**Correspondence ID:1573**

Correspondence: I do not understand your thinking. Please release wild elk trapped and starving into land that is meant for them not domestic livestock. Livestock ruin wild land. Wild public owned lands are for wildlife and wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:1574**

Correspondence: I have spent time at Point Reyes. It is a beautiful place, on the edge of the continent. Farming there, if to be done at all, must be done in a way consistent with the established herd of Tule Elk. At the moment that is not happening.

Elk should not be kept in an enclosed area but should be given enough space that they have adequate forage and sufficient water. If possible they should not be fenced in.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

**Correspondence ID:1575**

Correspondence: Please help!!

**Correspondence ID:1576**

Correspondence: I am writing to urge the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, which it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1577**

Correspondence: PLEASE TAKE DOWN THIS FENCING. PUTTING IT UP WAS SHORT SIGHTED IN THE FIRST PLACE AND ONLY PRIOTIZES THE SURIVAL OF 1 SPECIES, NOT ALL. WE CAN DO BETTER THAN THAT..

**Correspondence ID:1578**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1579**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1580**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Confining and starving our native elk is not acceptable management of a herd. Fences have no place in Wilderness. Remove the fences and free the herd.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1581**

Correspondence: It's time America's (wealthy) ranchers and farmers BEGIN PAYING THEIR OWN WAY LIKE THE REST OF US, and STOP FREELOADING OF AMERICAN CITIZEN TAX DOLLARS WHILE DESTROYING OUR PRIZED PUBLIC LANDS, WATERS and FORESTS. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who continue TO UNCONSCIONABLY PROFIT FROM ITS USE VIA CORRUPT POLITICAL DARK MONEY FUNDED SHILLS IN WHAT'S BECOME A SLEAZE-BASED SELF-GRATIFYING POLITICAL MORASS OF ENTITLED GUTLESS POLITICAL COWARDS. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

FENCES HAVE NO PLACE IN WILDERNESS, as ANYONE with a brain, common sense, and a conscience DAMN WELL KNOWS. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Start acting for all Americans, not just those privileged politically-connected few!

**Correspondence ID:1582**

Correspondence: Please protect Tule Elk from starvation caused by fences cutting them off from food sources

**Correspondence ID:1583**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Cattle need to be removed from all public lands. Similarly, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1584**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1585**

Correspondence: There are enough places that can raise cattle in the USA. This area should be used to let elk thrive.

**Correspondence ID:1586**

Correspondence: We, and particularly, you, are called to be stewards of the earth.

It is time--past time--to take the long view for our future.

The short-sighted actions we have taken so far, and the path we are on, must be changed for the sake of our children, their children, and all the creatures on this planet.

It is your job to protect nature from big companies and special interests who would profit at the expense of wild animals & wilderness.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you, David Lehmann

**Correspondence ID:1587**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1588**

Correspondence: I am writing as a concerned citizen. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness where they fragment environments and prevent wildlife from accessing food, water and essential habitats. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS should prioritize the needs of native wildlife and put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes and other wilderness areas like it was supposed to do decades ago. Remember, the NPS serves all Americans not just those that profit from and harm wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:1589**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1590**

Correspondence: Aren't we trying to be "Sustainable"???

The Elk have been there FAR longer than the cattle, why were the new Leases signed when the Ranchers just BLATANTLY refused to honor the original agreement?

This is PUBLIC PARK land, the Ranchers are just wrong and THEY should be removed. Not ok to defy the agreement, double not ok to keep polluting the planet.

**Correspondence ID:1591**

Correspondence: You absolutely need to prioritize these animals over livestock grazing!.

it is high time for our government to stop catering to the livestock industry and start protecting wildlife  
!!!!

over 70% of ALL WILDLIFE that used to exist on this planet is GONE mostly due to human existence and actions!!!

we are responsible for their disappearance and it is up to us to save the remaining species on this planet!!!

we have an obligation to protect and Safeguard them !!!

**Correspondence ID:1592**

Correspondence: I am writing regarding the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1593**

Correspondence: PLEASE SAVE THE TULE ELK AND THE PHILLIP BARTON WILDERNESS!!!!!! ELK ARE GOD'S CHILDREN TOO!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:1594**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1595**

Correspondence: Take down the fence so elk and other animals can graze. Thanks

**Correspondence ID:1596**

Correspondence: Please, free the first hooved creatures at Point Reyes: the elk. Take down that fence and phase out the interlopers: domestic cattle.

**Correspondence ID:1597**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to greedy ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. After all, you are The National PARK Service, given federal, taxpayer money to support wildlife, NOT the National MEAT Packing Company, a for profit-making business.

**Correspondence ID:1598**

Correspondence: Point Reyes is a beautiful place. I have fond memories of it from the time when my children were small.



It is a terrible thing to contemplate time when the elk and other wildlife cannot wander through a wilderness area.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1599**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1600**

Correspondence: This regards Tule Elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness and Pt. Reyes, which I have visited a number of times, and much appreciate.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1601**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1602**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1603**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1604**

Correspondence: Undue the damage to wildlife by allowing them to do what nature dictates...migrate, find new grazing, mates, strengthen breeding through variety for healthy hearts...how about just being reasonably intelligent for a change?

**Correspondence ID:1605**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all people, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife over greed. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was directed to end access by this for profit industry to this wild area decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1606**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1607**

Correspondence: Prohibit cattle grazing and save the elk.

**Correspondence ID:1608**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1609**

Correspondence: Pool Elks, leave them be...

**Correspondence ID:1610**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk may access food & water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1611**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk should be able roam free at Point Reyes National Seashore. This is a wild area that should be off limits to ranchers and cattle. Please get rid of the fences, ranchers and cattle. Give the land back to the Tule Elk and the people. We need wild open spaces, not greed and payoffs

**Correspondence ID:1612**

Correspondence: Please, remove all the cattle. Prioritize wildlife habitat.

**Correspondence ID:1613**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1614**

Correspondence: Hello - I understand the Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore are in grave danger as their numbers have been in rapid decline in recent years and their survival is on the brink. I visited Point Reyes several years ago and thoroughly enjoyed it, despite noticing the elk were restricted to certain fenced off areas. Given the precarious state of the Tule elk in Point Reyes, it is urgent that the situation between the wilderness conservation of this National Seashore and the continued demands of ranching agreements on the property be re-examined.

While Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962 and permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years, it seems that ultimately cattle ranching has been prioritized over the needs of wildlife as some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS such that, now, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. This situation seems untenable. I ask that the following points be recognized and considered and implemented:

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must fully protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please secure the Point Reyes National Seashore as the wildlife refuge it ought to be and allow the Tule elk to run free so as to have a chance at survival. Our National Parks/Refuges/Seashores are treasures. Please treat them as such and make wildlife the priority.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:1615**

Correspondence: Tule elk are dying because of a fence, starving and unable to get water.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1616**

Correspondence: Please consider the following:

1. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
2. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
3. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:1617**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1618**

Correspondence: I was born in California, my father and grandmother were born there so while I am currently living in Idaho I can honestly say I am a native Californian. My sister and brother still live there.

I think it is abhorrent that the cattle ranchers still are grazing their cattle while endangered elk are fenced off. This is a blatant example of money over ethics and priorities. Why these cattle ranchers are still grazing cattle on public land is a questionable practice and should be stopped. This public land, not

private and as such the wildlife come first, before private industry which is basically what cattle ranching with 6000 cattle is.

**Correspondence ID:1619**

Correspondence: Please save the elk. They should have priority.  
Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1620**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. It is time to stop supporting the grazing of cattle in the National Seashore. They should have been removed decades ago, and ranchers have had more than enough time to make other plans. Confining Tule elk to an inadequate area means they do not have enough forage or water, so we are not only subsidizing cattle ranches, but also harming wildlife.

Pull down the fences, and stop extending cattle ranch leases that should have ended decades ago.

Margaret Anderson

**Correspondence ID:1621**

Correspondence: Dear Sir,

Having grown up on a ranch in Montana I have seen this issue many times. I know all concerns need to be considered. With this in mind we need to get serious about taking care of our home and where we ALL live. For a few to think it's their right to use the land until there is nothing left to destroy is beyond moral and we have to start drawing the line.

This has to be well managed for our wildlife too. They were here before us and we have already done enough damage. We need to take care of them too.

Please make your decision carefully.

Thank you,

Barbara Kiernan

**Correspondence ID:1622**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1623**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1624**

Correspondence: • Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1625**

Correspondence: Elk are wild animals that need to roam free. They can feed themselves without help, but can't feed themselves if they don't have the freedom to roam.

I like cows, but at this time the elk take precedent.

Stephen E Einson

**Correspondence ID:1626**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

At no time should there be grazing on public lands. Cattle are over grazing the national forest where I live this moment. There at no time should there be any domestic animals on public lands. It's time to remove the fences and the cattle. Ranchers have too much influence our government.

Sincerely,  
Paul Sabo

**Correspondence ID:1627**

Correspondence: As a former California resident who spent many, many days at Point Reyes, I urge you to keep to your agreement to protect the wildlife there, especially the Tule elk.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Ann Palmer

**Correspondence ID:1628**

Correspondence: As an animal lover and wild animal advocate, I ask that you do not fence in the Tule Elk, They need adequate forage and water.

**Correspondence ID:1629**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

bring down the fences now!

**Correspondence ID:1630**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Furthermore, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS must end the tragic, ongoing deaths of elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1631**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1632**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1633**

Correspondence: Starved, dehydrated, dead Tule Elk are a screaming result of the broken policy currently in place. Obviously it is not working, especially for the elk. There seems to be a priority problem putting the ranchers at odds with these rare, iconic animals. Since the park service is controlling the current situation, it is suspicious that there are probable perks the CPS is getting from the confrontation. It has similar qualities to those of the ranchers at odds with the endangered Grey Wolf reintroductions in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho states, but there they just gun down the wolves, rather than slowly torture them as is the case with the elk. The confrontations with ranchers looking for cheap grazing for too many cattle have to end. Wild places are for wild creatures and that is what the citizens of your state expect from their tax supported government systems. It's time to stop subsidizing the cattle industry with our national wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:1634**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The NPS should stop catering to special interests

**Correspondence ID:1635**

Correspondence: When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years.

In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Unconscionable, simply unconscionable. This needs to be remedied.

**Correspondence ID:1636**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1637**

Correspondence: How cruel to be preventing rare Tule elk to access food and water, and if it's true that this is to benefit private ranchers, how fitting for this age, when the priorities of corporations, businesses and finance negates the importance of values of protecting the earth and all its animals.

And to think that parks were once considered sanctuaries that lauded and protected nature.

Please reconsider this action. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1638**

Correspondence: Please put an end to the grazing permits in Point Reyes National Seashore. The ranchers and farmers agreed to end the practice of grazing their cattle in PRNS 35 years ago, and yet here we are, still allowing them to do so. It's a WILDERNESS AREA, not a pasture for special interests.



The Tule Elk that are native to the area are being fenced out of an ecosystem that is vital to their health, and visitors to PRNS are being denied a WILDERNESS AREA experience with native animals, not livestock. Wilderness areas are not supposed to allow corporate and/or industrial enterprises of any kind It's corporate welfare at its worst---- how long must we wait for the National Park Service to show some backbone and make the cattle ranchers live up to the promise they made 35 years ago? It's way past time.

**Correspondence ID:1639**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore is a treasure and as a National Seashore, it is a part of ALL American's heritage, far beyond the ranchers who also occupy the area.

We believe strongly that the National Park Service has a responsibility to protect the seashore and its flora and fauna. i.e. wildlife.

In this wilderness for all to enjoy, fences are inappropriate to the wild nature of the area and are indeed hurtful to the natural habitat of the Tule Elk herd.

We believe strongly that The National Park Service needs to stop the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down and removing the fence so elk can access food and water as they were intended by the laws of Nature.

We believe strongly that The National Park Service needs to firmly prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes in the manner that it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1640**

Correspondence: Dear Sir,

Please desist with cattle grazing. Allow fairness and the idea of what is correct to guide you on this topic.

Thank you, for your consideration of my thoughts and request.

Kind Regards, Judith E. Wecker

**Correspondence ID:1641**

Correspondence: Your job is to protect wildlife. Why would you risk this beautiful endangered species for cows? Those elk are a huge draw to tourists from all over.., if it's the money you are concerned about. Save the elk!

**Correspondence ID:1642**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1643**

Correspondence: The National Park Service (NPS) must remove the fences at Point Reyes National Seashore! The NPS must take action to increase habitat for the Tule elk and prioritize the expansion of their feeding area. Domestic livestock must not be allowed where the livestock competes for the food

and water that the elk require. The NPS current management plan is inappropriate and is causing stress and loss of life in the elk herd. Point Tomales and the Phillip Burton Wilderness must be better protected for elk habitat. The commercial ranching at Point Reyes has long been an impairment to the area and must end now.

**Correspondence ID:1644**

Correspondence: To: National Park Service,

I am a frequent visitor to Point Reyes National Seashore and have been concerned about the situation of the Tule Elk.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,

Tony DeRiggi

**Correspondence ID:1645**

Correspondence: Stop supporting the interest of ranching at Point Reyes and return it to it's natural state.To fence in the Tule elk and starve them is wrong.Do what should of been day long ago.

**Correspondence ID:1646**

Correspondence: The National Parks are supposed to preserve lands and the species native to them, not to enrich private ranchers. It's a travesty there is any grazing on public lands, the elk must take priority over cattle.

**Correspondence ID:1647**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1648**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1649**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1650**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1651**

Correspondence: I am writing in support of the Tule Elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness Area. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1652**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1653**

Correspondence: Please stop prioritizing livestock management over wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1654**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1655**

Correspondence: I am disgusted by the NPS sentencing innocent animals to a horrible death all to appease ranchers who make money off their cattle grazing on PUBLIC lands! This practice needs to stop IMMEDIATELY. You are supposed to take care of the wilderness not torture the animals that have called this place home for centuries.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1656**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Quit kowtowing to the cattle industry and protect the natural landscape and animals within it you are supposed to protect.

**Correspondence ID:1657**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern:

It is imperative that we protect our natural areas and wildlife for future generations.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Our natural areas belong to all citizens. It would be tragic to lose these areas just so ranchers can make a bigger profit! It's not right and it's not fair. Please consider the rights of all including future generations!

**Correspondence ID:1658**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I simply cannot believe that the NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. How does a national park service that serves the public put ranchers', i.e., private individuals or corporations, interests over the public interest in a national seashore is beyond comprehension.

Fences have no place in the Wilderness and the NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago, instead of bending to the demands of ranchers who have no place in a National Seashore/Park/Wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:1659**

Correspondence: Save the Elk, not the cattle!

**Correspondence ID:1660**

Correspondence: I don't know how much less profitable it would be to support and sustain herds of rare native tule elk rather than someone's cattle. But I know how much my son and I profited from seeing a herd of these splendid animals on a visit to the Point. Please don't deprive him and his grandchildren from the same enriching experience. Thank you,  
Michael Eichenholtz

**Correspondence ID:1661**

Correspondence: Let the elk have their home back!!! They can get along with cattle, take down the fences!!

**Correspondence ID:1662**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1663**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

I was shocked to see the details of the NPS general Management Plan. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans and native animals who live there, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. There should at least be a better balance struck between cattle grazing and the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to take steps to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

In summary, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1664**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1665**

Correspondence: The USA is looked upon worldwide for leadership in all areas, it saddens me a greatly deal to discover the US government turns a blind eye to protecting nature, wildlife, flora & fauna when business interest are/is involved. Here we go again, protecting cattle ranchers by starving tulk elk. The land belongs to the tulk elk. Cattle ranchers must grow grass on their own acres of land, drill water wells for their cattle on these same acres, not take away natural resources that belong to the tulk elk. What happened to possession is 9/10'ths of the law? The land belong to the tulk elk.

The US environmental agencies seem to be there only to protect business interests & NOT the environment. Good people everywhere have been speaking up regarding the blatant cruelty shown by the National Park Service who are 100% neglecting their responsibility of protecting the tulk elk.

How can these officials turn their backs on these animals? Cattle ranchers should be responsible for providing their own food & water. Period.

**Correspondence ID:1666**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. And fences have no place in wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, like it was supposed to do decades ago. Please stand up for and prioritize the needs of our wildlife and our wild places!

**Correspondence ID:1667**

Correspondence: To Whom it may Concern,

It concerns me, and that is why I am writing, that you are considering murdering the Tule Elk of Point Reyes NATIONAL Seashore so cattle can have all the food and water resources. Instead the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of NATIVE (national) wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Point Reyes is OUR seashore, not the ranchers who just profit from its use. I mean really, putting a FENCE around our native Tule Elk so they can slowly starve....what are you thinking? That is sadistic. I would think the NPS was a humane and enlightened agency...prove it. Please TAKE DOWN THE FENCE.

Thank you,  
Valerie Leonard

**Correspondence ID:1668**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1669**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1670**

Correspondence: Due to climate evolution (and a government that will do nothing substantive about it) we should be nurturing all wilderness and dedicating more acreage to it as wilderness passively combats our current climate debacle. This stewardship should stress no roads or fences in said wilderness.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1671**

Correspondence: I love Point Reyes National Seashore. I enjoy seeing the wildlife in the area. Please take down the fences. The Elk deserve the right to survive. Cattle ranches and wildlife can survive together.

**Correspondence ID:1672**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1673**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1674**

Correspondence: Wildlife should NEVER come second to greed/private enterprise or any special interest group. We must protect and defend the precious and beautiful wild animals that share our planet with us. Tear down these fences! Our only interest is that wild animals be safe and be able to traverse areas so that they can get sustenance/their numbers can increase so that they do not become extinct!!!

Extinction of these irreplaceable animals does not belong in our vocabulary, does NOT belong in this day and age. If animals go extinct due to human stupidity, we are the lesser for it, we will be the losers, as it is diversity that makes our planet so amazingly gorgeous, so very rare in all of the vast universe! Virginia Bottorff

**Correspondence ID:1675**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1676**

Correspondence: We need to preserve what species we can. They should be allowed to live their lives in the wild and behind a fence

**Correspondence ID:1677**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Why does the NPS want to kill Tule elk?

**Correspondence ID:1678**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.



The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1679**

Correspondence: Take down that fence and release the elk. The Park Service should be concerned about the welfare of animals, in this case the Tule Elk. Stop pandering to ranchers!!!!

**Correspondence ID:1680**

Correspondence: I have visited this area many times. It's very beautiful many tax dollars were invested to bring back the elk and now this travesty of favoring private interest cattle The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.. I am originally from Michigan in the Leelanau area. The sleeping bear sandune shoreline is protected for ever with out the presence of man. I want MY wildlife on MY national forests to be used for wildlife -I want the elk to have forage and water. These ranchers do not superceed the will of American s who treasure our public lands and forests. Allow these wonderful elk water and forage.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1681**

Correspondence: I have visited this area many times. It's very beautiful many tax dollars were invested to bring back the elk and now this travesty of favoring private interest cattle The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.. I am originally from Michigan in the Leelanau area. The sleeping bear sandune shoreline is protected for ever with out the presence of man. I want MY wildlife on MY national forests to be used for wildlife -I want the elk to have forage and water. These ranchers do not superceed the will of American s who treasure our public lands and forests. Allow these wonderful elk water and forage.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1682**

Correspondence: Please consider the welfare needs of the Tule Elk herd on my public lands at the Point Reyes National Seashore. The park was intended to showcase and preserve the wild beauty of the floral and fauna, not for commercial grazing of domestic livestock. The ranching leases should have been allowed to expire as originally agreed. Manage the park as an asset of the people which it is!! Or I will never donate to the National Parks Foundation again.

**Correspondence ID:1683**

Correspondence: Please consider the welfare needs of the Tule Elk herd on my public lands at the Point Reyes National Seashore. The park was intended to showcase and preserve the wild beauty of the floral and fauna, not for commercial grazing of domestic livestock. The ranching leases should have been allowed to expire as originally agreed. Manage the park as an asset of the people which it is!! Or I will never donate to the National Parks Foundation again.

**Correspondence ID:1684**

Correspondence: Dear NPS

Please remove the fence at Point Reyes National Seashore, California so that the Tule Elk have room to roam. Also please monitor the area so that drones are not used. I have been there before and drones were being used. And they scared the elk.

Thank you  
W. Lane

**Correspondence ID:1685**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1686**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1687**

Correspondence: Take the wall fence down. Let the Wild Animals live!

**Correspondence ID:1688**

Correspondence: How can ranchers have so much power that they convince the NPS to put fences up that cut Elk off from food and water???

The Point Reyes National Seashore is a place that belongs to ALL Americans not just ranchers who have these leases for 20 years. The wilderness areas are for people to enjoy and not for fences to be put up that keep out wildlife such as the Elk who are living in their natural environment where they belong. What the NPS has done is so wrong and is causing the suffering and death of so many Elk it's horrifying.

In closing I beg the NPS to tear down the fences and let the wildlife have their home, food and water needed to survive back. Please show the American people that they are more important than ranchers

who are only looking out for their own profits. And take care of our beautiful Elk who deserve to live in the wilderness that belongs to the people not a profit making business.

Thank you for your time.

**Correspondence ID:1689**

Correspondence: To Whom It Concerns, .. The Tule Elk rights and needs should come before rancher and cattle! Please do what is right for their safety, migration, and needs for food and water accessibility.

**Correspondence ID:1690**

Correspondence: Are we REALLY STILL ASKING FOR THIS?!

**Correspondence ID:1691**

Correspondence: Ranchers are the scourge of our wildlife and public lands. And with the help of a government that displays such disdain for our will flora and fauna. As you continue to let ranchers rule the roost, we are losing our most precious American icons; and all for greed.

**Correspondence ID:1692**

Correspondence: I love my cheeseburgers and ice cream but the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans and the National Park Service is obligated to protect the Seashore and its wildlife, not cows. Cattle ranching was supposed to be grandfathered in for just 25 years and then sunsetted, returning the land to public use and to native wildlife. When is that going to happen?

Feeding cattle the forage on our public lands while native Tule Elk are dying seems like the exact opposite of the conservation ethic we expect from our national parks and seashores. Elk are dying needlessly in the Phillip Burton Wilderness because of fences designed to protect cattle operations. Enough is enough.

Ranching families took our public money buyouts and agreed to end livestock grazing. Then they went back on their word and got extensions. Now you're proposing to extend it another 20 years? When does it end? Please bite the bullet and restore native wildlife.

Thank you for considering my views, please keep me informed as to your decision on this matter.

**Correspondence ID:1693**

Correspondence: There must be removal of fences now keeping native Tule Elk from their customary roaming land. There is no place for fences in dedicated wilderness. Too many native elk deaths have already occurred thanks to this unwelcome interception. NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife here by ending commercial ranching at Pt. Reyes -- as it should have done decades ago~!

**Correspondence ID:1694**

Correspondence: We are writing with concern about the fencing supporting for-profit ranching which inhibits wildlife at the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for listening.

**Correspondence ID:1695**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1696**

Correspondence: Free the Point Reyes Tule Elk herd now! Please save our treasured and disappearing wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Thanks for taking immediate action to save the tule elk herd!

**Correspondence ID:1697**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1698**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1699**

Correspondence: Tule elk, are nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore because of NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes needlessly keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. The NPS plan is wrong because:

1. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
2. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
3. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1700**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1701**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Please, be on the right side of history and do what is right to ensure America's wildlife are protected.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:1702**

Correspondence: Favoring farmers over saving the Tule elk is a sad, cruel, disgusting, senseless, and totally unnecessary preventable outcome for the elk. There is common ground to preserve the last surviving elk while also placating greedy farmers. This must be done now before more death is wrought.

**Correspondence ID:1703**

Correspondence: Favoring farmers over saving the Tule elk is a sad, cruel, disgusting, senseless, and totally unnecessary preventable outcome for the elk. There is common ground to preserve the last surviving elk while also placating greedy farmers. This must be done now before more death is wrought.

**Correspondence ID:1704**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1705**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you very much.

**Correspondence ID:1706**

Correspondence: Please PROTECT all things WILD & WONDERFUL!

**Correspondence ID:1707**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, The NPS needs to protect the Seashore and its wildlife, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to end the tragic deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Fences have no place in Wilderness. Furthermore, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1708**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Not written by me but says exactly what I think.

**Correspondence ID:1709**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1710**

Correspondence: I strongly support increasing the land available to our wildlife and decreasing the land available to ranchers/cattlemen. I understand the ranchers/cattlemen have lobbyists and money to influence the powers in Washington, DC, but I would point out that the wildlife have voting citizens on their side. It may take longer, but voting can remove those who would sacrifice wildlife for monetary rewards. I offer the following comments in support of the wildlife:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1711**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

WOULD YOU PLEASE WORK WITH THE LAWS OF NATURE INSTEAD OF AGAINST IT.. PLEASE STOP PRIORITIZING INVASIVE SPECIES, LIKE CATTLE WHO ARE INNOCENTLY USED BY HUMANS TO FURTHER MYOPIC PROFITS AT THE COST OF MAJESTIC TULE ELK, WHO ARE PART OF THE NATURAL ECOSYSTEM..

**Correspondence ID:1712**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk are a wonderful addition to the National Seashore at Point Reyes. They are magnificent animals and need more sources of water to survive. Please take down the fences which are causing many deaths. When I visit Point Reyes National Seashore, I am always hoping to spot Tule Elk. I understand that the dairy cattle there have rights, but so do the Elk. Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1713**

Correspondence: The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water when nearly 6,000 cattle continue to graze at the National Seashore. This happening decades after the

government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there.. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. And they constructed fences to prevent wildlife access to the public properties; fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife for everyone, not just ranchers who no longer belong there, it is land for all.

**Correspondence ID:1714**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you!

Matthew Midgett

**Correspondence ID:1715**

Correspondence: Having lived in California all of my 69 years in the forests of Northern California, I have been blessed to have herds of Roosevelt Elk as my neighbors. In Cresnet there is a large herd of about 60 right around the corner from my summer home. Even with the Elk Valley Rancheria building a new casino on their trust land, the tribes hopes the elk will continue to thrive. Here they have an electric fence, but that does not contain them if they decide to wander beyond. nOften the elk are strolling down the middle of the residential streets looking for an apple tree to prune or something else which they consider delicious. If you live here you accept them as they have learned to accept us. Only on US 101 do people hit an elk usually at night. They have the right of way as we have moved into their ancestral lands. In Mendocino County the Shamrock Ranch put a herd of elk of their pasture lands to acquire a conservation easement in exchange for reduced property taxes to keep the ranch intact. Neighbors know the elk are in the neighborhood and may come to pay them a visit. If you don't want them staying then get a good dog. Then the problem is solved. With wildfire threats mounting having a herd of elk to keep the brush under control is far better than a herd of goats. We should be encouraging deer and elk to flourish through out our forests, but as their habitat becomes more confined their population cannot keep out wwith the mountain lions who seem to be multiplying rapidly. With the lack of prey to feed them they turn to domestic cats and dogs to subsist moving closer and closer in human populated neighborhoods. Remember we are all connect in the web of life.



**Correspondence ID:1716**

Correspondence: Take down the fences animals need to be able to move freely

**Correspondence ID:1717**

Correspondence: These are unique animals in a unique place. Why would anyone disturb that? These animals deserve special protection and those saying otherwise would feel differently if they themselves were denied their right to exist! Please save these animals.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1718**

Correspondence: Please do your job and prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore!!

Below is my comment on the NPS planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. My concern is with the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. I am aware that the NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please accept your responsibility to protect the wildlife on these public lands. Your responsibility is to protect nature and wildlife for the enjoyment of all Americans--not to act as enablers to commercial ranchers who have no right to be at the Point Reyes National Seashore in the first place.

**Correspondence ID:1719**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1720**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Parks Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1721**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence at Point Reyes National Seashore for the Tule Elk

**Correspondence ID:1722**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1723**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1724**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1725**

Correspondence: I appreciate the fine work done by the NPS, and I realize that satisfying every member of the public it serves is an often difficult job.

While the nation benefits from American cattle production, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, above other considerations.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I thank you for your attention to this, and the remarkable work the NPS does for our nation.

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Bergeron

**Correspondence ID:1726**

Correspondence: Hey,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,

John Fox

**Correspondence ID:1727**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1728**

Correspondence: Prioritizing cattle over elk is plain wrong. And placing individual profit over natural life and welfare is also just plain wrong.

Point Reyes is a national park that belongs to the electorate. It should not be a site of profit for individuals. The National Park Service is charged with protecting the environment and the plants and animals that live within the park area.

The current fences only serve the purpose to keep elk away from land that is being exploited for profit. These fences should be removed immediately and the Park Service should start “serving” the welfare of the Tule Elk and the interests of the electorate.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1729**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1730**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1731**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1732**

Correspondence: I support removing or moving the fence out to allow more land and water for the elk to survive.

**Correspondence ID:1733**

Correspondence: Point Reyes is a national treasure with a unique population of Tule Elk. The current situation of the Tule Elk population threaten by lack of free range access to most of the Point Reyes national Park is a tragic national scandal.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1734**

Correspondence: Please remove the fences right away to save the Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness from needless suffering and death! This is cruel and inhumane! The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just ranchers looking to make a profit. It is your job to protect and prioritize the wilderness, not the interests of cattle ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:1735**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1736**

Correspondence: I can't believe we even have to respond to such a sad and mean situation in a publicly owned National Seashore. Putting ranchers before animals that live in a wilderness area is ridiculous and mean and not what wilderness areas are about. Designated wilderness areas are to protect wildlife and the natural world that sustains. Take the fences down, kick the cows out, and end private leases. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1737**

Correspondence: Protect our precious Tule Elk!

I implore the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Jeanette Desmond

**Correspondence ID:1738**

Correspondence: Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife, not ranchers, at Point Reyes National Seashore. This area belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1739**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Many thanks,  
gunnar

**Correspondence ID:1740**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1741**

Correspondence: My understanding of the situation is that we the taxpayers bought back this land from the cattle ranchers for a wildlife preserve for these elk specifically so why are we leasing land back to the ranchers after paying them a lot of money for the land and are now probably leasing to them at pennies? I am a taxpayer who has paid and paid and paid for so many things I do not want to pay for, it is time to get what I and other paid to have - I want the land we purchased through the US Government for the elk as a habitat for them that also serves biodiversity. The cattle ranchers have destroyed too much. Most of the land they use isn't even theirs. It is PUBLIC land and we all pay for and subsidize cattle ranchers with the excuse of providing beef for food. It is no longer working to do this and never has been right - just like timber companies logging public land where they pay the taxpayer a dollar per tree and reap the profits while destroying our life support systems. I believe methane is one of the major contributors to the climate problem and cattle are a major source of methane. We cannot afford this kind of behavior anymore. It is killing ALL of us! Even the cattle ranchers won't be alive if we destroy the planet so it is actually in their benefit to reduce their herds. The elk need to have a nice place to life and thrive and the imported cattle that are not native to the area can go away. The cattle ranchers have made a lot of money from the US taxpayer and can invest it wisely and retire.

**Correspondence ID:1742**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1743**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore

**Correspondence ID:1744**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1745**

Correspondence: I used to live in the Bay area and on the weekends go up to Tomales Point. It is such a special wild place. We need to keep the natural patterns of the wild Elk so they will be sustained. Please consider taking down the fences.

**Correspondence ID:1746**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore!

**Correspondence ID:1747**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1748**

Correspondence: Please protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife. Point Reyes belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers in the area. In particular, please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Take down the fence so these elk can access food and water.

I urge the NPS to prioritize the needs of native wildlife. Put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as concerned citizens asked it to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1749**

Correspondence: Please protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife. Point Reyes belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers in the area. In particular, please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Take down the fence so these elk can access food and water.

I urge the NPS to prioritize the needs of native wildlife. Put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as concerned citizens asked it to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1750**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1751**

Correspondence: I object to the restrictions imposed on the Tule Elk, IN FAVOR OF RANCHERS WHO MAKE A PROFIT from using WILDERNESS LAND. I support RESTRICTIONS ON CATTLE GRAZING at Tomales Point. The Tule Elk are dying from starvation and the lack of sufficient fresh water and are on their way to EXTINCTION.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WILDERNESS AND WILD ANIMALS. Please REMOVE the fences.

Thank you for considering the obvious.

**Correspondence ID:1752**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1753**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Kind Regards

**Correspondence ID:1754**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.



The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Please do your job as it was meant to be done and as we are paying you for.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1755**

Correspondence: Prioritizing the monetary benefits of cattle ranching over natural species dependence on natural resources should never be allowed or accepted.

**Correspondence ID:1756**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1757**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1758**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife. Please put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1759**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its nearly free and unbridled use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The best way to do that is to REMOVE the grazing, and let the wildlife roam farther, and attain greater genetic diversity.

Fences are antithetical to Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Otherwise we won't have ANY Tule elk.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1760**

Correspondence: All believe all of the following should be adhered to:

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Take down the fence so elk can access food and water. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1761**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the seashore and native wildlife. Please end commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1762**

Correspondence: Please prioritize protection the Seashore and its wildlife. This seashore belongs to all, not only the for profit ranchers. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Please bring down the fence so the Tule Elk can access water and food. It is time to end ranching and prioritize the needs of native wildlife - that is your charge.

**Correspondence ID:1763**

Correspondence: Wildlife and their habitat should be the number one priority. Wilderness areas and livestock are and have always been incompatible. Get them out and keep them out. The entire world is a feedlot or cultivated ground to grow their grain. Ranchers are special interest groups that shouldn't be catered to. Can humanity leave just 1% of the world in a natural state and not harass it's inhabitants?

**Correspondence ID:1764**

Correspondence: Allowing these animals to die of thirst and starvation is NOT "managing wildlife." It's killing innocent souls in a barbaric, cowardly, and inhumane way. It's sickening that this is allowed to continue when this species is truly on the verge of extinction, and all for the damned dollar. Grow a spine and stand up to these ranchers whose cattle are destroying the very land you somehow believe you are managing and saving. It's despicable that you would fence animals in KNOWING they will die from the lack of basic necessities - food and water. Other people go to jail for abuse while you just blatantly commit the same acts with no consequences. Who's out of place on this land? Certainly not the elk who have been there for decades. Yet you allow the ranchers to bring in their cattle on land they shouldn't even be on in the first place while murdering the animals that belong in the habitat. Truly sickening, infuriating, disgusting and shameful that you cannot do the right thing. You are the epitome of the darker side of humanity for allowing this to continue.

**Correspondence ID:1765**

Correspondence: Tule Elk are a unique species that many visitors enjoy when they come to Pt Reyes. As a National seashore these animals should be protected for all visitors not the cattle. This is a money driven enterprise thst be decreased to preserve the elk and there habitat. After all I suspect the elk were here first. Save the Elk!!

**Correspondence ID:1766**

Correspondence: Tule Elk are a unique species that many visitors enjoy when they come to Pt Reyes. As a National seashore these animals should be protected for all visitors not the cattle. This is a money driven enterprise thst be decreased to preserve the elk and there habitat. After all I suspect the elk were here first. Save the Elk!!

**Correspondence ID:1767**

Correspondence: Hello friends,

I am concerned about the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

In addition, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

As the ecological crisis deepens, the NPS needs to concentrate on protecting wild life and forgo the compensation that comes from exploiting park resources.

Sincerely, Susan Lemont

**Correspondence ID:1768**

Correspondence: Il urge you to protect the Point Reyes National Seashore by not allowing fences in the wilderness. Wilderness by definition must remain wile.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1769**

Correspondence: Elk and other wildlife do not understand or recognize the partitioning of open land with barbed-wire fences! Take them down, please.

**Correspondence ID:1770**

Correspondence: Important things to keep in mind:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please prioritize wildlife over cattle!

Thanks.

**Correspondence ID:1771**

Correspondence: Please allow the native wildlife to use this protected space. The ranchers who continue to use the land to run their privately owned livestock on property that is no longer theirs to use must be forced to vacate and the extended leases that should never have been issued need to be rescinded immediately. Allowing this herd of Tule elk starve and die for lack of food and water is a disgrace to the National Park Service.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1772**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1773**

Correspondence: Cattle grazing does not belong at Pr Reyes . This area should be managed for wildlife and the enjoyment of the public, not a few ranchers. Take out the fences. Manage for wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1774**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1775**

Correspondence: Please do what is best for the tule elk at Point Reyes. I understand that the local dairies have held leases for the past century or less, but that land was originally unkempt and grazed by tule elk. Please restore this land for the natural wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1776**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1777**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1778**

Correspondence: Please take down fences that hinder wildlife from roaming public land at Point Reyes. This land belongs to Americans first, not cattle ranchers. Put wildlife before the cattle ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:1779**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1780**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:1781**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:1782**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:1783**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1784**

Correspondence: Urge the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore

**Correspondence ID:1785**

Correspondence: Point Reyes is home to Tule Elk should have priority to grazing rights, the cattle are not part of our National Park and never have. The natural habitat needs to reflect on that.

Ranchers can take their cattle to their own property, they should never have been there in the 1st place, they had a 25-year grazing contract and they failed to move their cattle, it's time now to fine daily, I suggest around \$1000 a head to get them moving, the cattle have destroyed our national parks, in many states, Ranchers think they can do anything they want including overruling, set stampedes, and sit-ins with gunfire; it's now time to enact a huge fines, jail them, and make them pay for the destruction.

Elk and other animals are dying in huge amounts, they are not replaceable, and neither is a clean park; I urge you to take the fencing down and eliminate the cattle; so, all may enjoy the nature we came to see.

**Correspondence ID:1786**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence & save Tule Elk now - do NOT proritize cattle over our precious wildlife!!!

**Correspondence ID:1787**

Correspondence: I may be missing something, but this question does not seem difficult: the endangered species deserves stronger protection than the commercial animals, and the fences jeopardizing the native tule elk should come down! Please act!

**Correspondence ID:1788**

Correspondence: Take down the fence!

**Correspondence ID:1789**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please allow these creatures more habitat and freedom.

Thank you, for the creatures

**Correspondence ID:1790**

Correspondence: Greetings! I am a farmer and business owner who cares about protecting wildlife. I ask you to please protect the magnificent Tule Elk of our Point Reyes area.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Take care, Mark

**Correspondence ID:1791**

Correspondence: Greetings,

I am a young person who cherishes our wildlife ecosystems and want to safeguard elk and other native species.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I appreciate your time!  
Rebecca

**Correspondence ID:1792**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1793**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1794**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who use it for their own profit. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in any Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Respectfully,  
Dawn Taylor

**Correspondence ID:1795**

Correspondence: The Park Service disgusts me!!!!

**Correspondence ID:1796**

Correspondence: National parks should be for native wildlife and the public. Since the original lease for cattle ranchers has expired, they should not be using public land. Please enforce the law!

**Correspondence ID:1797**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Please save the Tule Elk!

**Correspondence ID:1798**

Correspondence: The National Park Service should prevent the ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk. The National Park Service should remove the fence at the Point Reyes National Seashore, so that Tule elk can access food and water.

Causing the Tule elk to die by thirst and starvation is inhumane towards them.

Tule elk are an endangered species, which are nearly extinct. Causing them to die is harmful towards the environment.

The National Park Service was supposed to end commercial ranching at the Point Reyes National Seashore decades ago. The National Park Service should end commercial ranching at Point Reyes now.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL Americans, not just to commercial ranchers..

**Correspondence ID:1799**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for seriously considering these requests which I believe represent the majority of United States citizens & not the views of a small number of ranchers who use our land for their own profit while not paying the going rate for grazing cattle on our land!

Best Regards,

Philip E. McMorrow

**Correspondence ID:1800**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the

Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely yours,  
Marija Minic

**Correspondence ID:1801**

Correspondence: Protect the Tule Elk over domestic cattle. Domestic cattle should be kept out of the National Seashore and let the Elk roam free.

**Correspondence ID:1802**

Correspondence: Forgive me if I am misinformed, and I understand that the Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, with an agreement that permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. However, when some of the ranchers refused to move after the 25-year time period, they were granted new leases by the NPS. Why? If I refused to pay my taxes, would the federal government forego prosecution?

At stake in this situation is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, that are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. WHY? Fence in the cattle, or remove them NOW.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Please stop these unnecessary ongoing deaths of elk at Point Tomales. Allow these increasingly rare animals free access to food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1803**

Correspondence: This country needs to stop allowing private cattlemen to use public lands for their herds and killing wildlife and destroying delicate environments. If they want to have herds of cattle then they need to use their own land to raise them and we need to stop giving them wide open spaces that belong to all Americans and all US environments.

**Correspondence ID:1804**

Correspondence: Fence IN the cows..until you get rid of them as you should on publicly owned land since we have already paid for them to leave ! Let the elk roam free as endangered NATIVE animals deserve to be. As is normal everywhere else - fence cows. Wildlife...not so much.

**Correspondence ID:1805**

Correspondence: Please stop allowing cattle to graze in public lands. It is wrong. Cattle are not wild. Tule Elk deserve to live.  
You know this is true.

**Correspondence ID:1806**

Correspondence: Please, please take down the fence. The elk need our help, not our destructive actions.

**Correspondence ID:1807**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1808**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1809**

Correspondence: Dear Sir,

Cattle grazing is ruining public lands and crowding out biodiversity of native animals!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1810**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1811**

Correspondence: Please stop putting livestock before wildlife!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1812**

Correspondence: I love the Point Reyes area and am very grateful for The Point Reyes National Seashore. This area belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. This is a place where wildlife must have priority. Please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1813**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1814**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1815**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1816**

Correspondence: Regarding Tule Elk and the damage done to them by NPS allowing ranchers to set fences:

As an Environmental Educator, past member of Public Lands Committees of the Sierra Club and the Audubon Society, and regular patron of Point Reyes National Seashore, I am appalled at the NPS practice of preferring ranch and dairy businesses over wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. It is antithetical to the expressed mission of Point Reyes National Seashore to allow Tule Elk to die from lack of access to sufficient water and browse food because of the fences. The expressed purpose of Point Reyes is to preserve wildlife and their habitats. Please pay attention and do the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:1817**

Correspondence: Hello,

I don't think it is a controversial idea to say that national parks should promote the wildlife of the area. I am pretty sure preserving nature was one of the guiding principles of the establishment of the national park system.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans for rest, relaxation and enjoyment, not just so ranchers can profit from its use. Since it is a "national" park, when is the public going to get it's share of money created from the use of the public's land? The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,

Robert

**Correspondence ID:1818**

Correspondence: I'm writing regarding National Park Service request for public comment on its planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. I am very concerned regarding confinement of Tule Elk to The Point Reyes National Seashore and NPS proposal to expand commercial agricultural use and cattle grazing leases for up to 20 years. I oppose these provisions.

I was appalled to learn NPS fences elk out of suitable grazing lands on public lands and then preferentially permits private ranching operations on these lands and even in designated Wilderness that results in the deaths of native Tule Elk. It is hard to believe that this is even legal. Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

Public lands and wildlife belong to all Americans and it is unconscionable to sanction private commercial ranching interests to harm public resources for private profit. The NPS must protect Point Reyes Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness, grazing has no place in a National

Seashore. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down fences so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1819**

Correspondence: National Park Service you must better protect the Wilderness and elk that live here in the Point Reyes area. The fact that you have captured and are starving the elk herd at the National Seashore you are now fencing into an enclosure at Tomales Point without adequate forage for the confined elk and scant freshwater is unacceptable and deplorable. NPS has left the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The Point Reyes seashore must also accommodate our sub-species of this very special elk. NPS must take down the fences and allow the elk to graze on land and drink water also side of the nearly 6,000 cattle who are allowed to continue to graze and access water.

**Correspondence ID:1820**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1821**

Correspondence: Prioritize Wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore:

Let's be very clear, Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to All United States citizens and not just to the cattlemen that make profit off of it and we remaining citizens pay out in taxes and again, only cattlemen profit. One dumb a### policy!

You, NPS, fence in the Tule elk and allow cattle free range access to food and water. And yet the elk have to forage over overgrazed fenced in land with far less access to water.

The cattle ranchers would be raising hell if they had to do this with their animals....cause, you know...profit reigns above all else.

This is an American People National Seashore, yet You, NPS, operate it as cattle ranch with pesky, inconvenient Tule elk on it.

Fences and ranchers profit interest do not belong in Wilderness....Get Your, NPS prioritizes straight!

**Correspondence ID:1822**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence, so these animals can graze and not die!

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1823**

Correspondence: Dear Madam/Sir,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

For the only planet we have.

Colleen Wysser - Martin

**Correspondence ID:1824**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just ranchers. Fences don't belong in wilderness where they harm the natural wildlife. The NPS must put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes immediately.

**Correspondence ID:1825**

Correspondence: Life means more to the elk than someone else's profit. People can profit more effectively in ways other than slaughtering wild animals. Apparently there is no limit on elk.

**Correspondence ID:1826**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1827**

Correspondence: Take the damn fence down . Should not have been there to start with. Elk are starving to death .....Does anyone care anymore about anything but themselves? Take the DAMN fence DOWN.

**Correspondence ID:1828**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1829**

Correspondence: it is apparent the current method of maintaining the elk is not working. Not sure why "public" lands are handed out to "ranchers" for a nominal fee when the negative impact is so apparent. Do the right thing and ensure these animals have access to adequate WATER and FORAGE. Take down the fence.

Sincerely,  
Maryanne Tirinnanzi

**Correspondence ID:1830**

Correspondence: Allow for protected migration crossings. Provide safety barriers only in congested areas. True Wilderness requires free travel.

**Correspondence ID:1831**

Correspondence: O Point Reyes National Seashore pertence a todos os americanos, não apenas aos fazendeiros que lucram com seu uso. O NPS deve proteger o Seashore e sua vida selvagem. As cercas não têm lugar na Terra Selvagem. O NPS precisa acabar com as mortes trágicas e contínuas dos raros alces de Tule em Point Tomales, na região selvagem de Phillip Burton, derrubando a cerca para que os alces possam acessar comida e água. O NPS precisa priorizar as necessidades da vida selvagem nativa, pondo fim à pecuária comercial em Point Reyes, como deveria fazer décadas atrás.

**Correspondence ID:1832**

Correspondence: I think you guys could figure out how to do better, please.

**Correspondence ID:1833**

Correspondence: O Point Reyes National Seashore pertence a todos os americanos, não apenas aos fazendeiros que lucram com seu uso. O NPS deve proteger o Seashore e sua vida selvagem. As cercas não têm lugar na Terra Selvagem. O NPS precisa acabar com as mortes trágicas e contínuas dos raros alces de Tule em Point Tomales, na região selvagem de Phillip Burton, derrubando a cerca para que os alces possam acessar comida e água. O NPS precisa priorizar as necessidades da vida selvagem nativa, pondo fim à pecuária comercial em Point Reyes, como deveria fazer décadas atrás.

**Correspondence ID:1834**

Correspondence: Please take down the fences at The Point Reyes National Seashore which belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I have worked in different parks when I was younger. I have watched animals get excluded from one area after the other. People put up fences to keep out everything. They were here first and at the rate we are developing the land and taking away their homes parks like this are needed more then ever. For them to be able to live freely and move about without barbwire fences preventing them. BTW another everyone eats meat. I have not eaten any four legged animal since I was a teenager and am 64 now.

Thank you, Kathy Dabanian

**Correspondence ID:1835**



Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1836**

Correspondence: Large herds of cattle have the ability to compact soil with their hooves, break down riverbanks, and deplete native vegetation. T

This is especially serious, given that most public lands in the U.S. are not naturally adapted to pasture use. They are riparian areas where woodlands sit alongside natural watersheds or non-irrigated range lands composed of shrubs, herbs and native grasses.

(CBD) Center for Biological Diversity- revealed that the use of public lands for this purpose has cost U.S. taxpayers \$1 billion over the past decade.

The only ones who seem to benefit are the Ranchers who don't even pay fair market value. Public Lands were never intended to be utilized in this way.

**Correspondence ID:1837**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1838**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1839**

Correspondence: To Whom It may concern:

When the law is not enforced things add up and a worse disaster has now developed. IF in fact ranchers were given a fair shake way back and paid not to graze cattle in this area, then those animals there now need to be removed or cut back in terms of numbers. Or, you could do what another govt. agency did in the Gila Wilderness...the US FS shot cattle from helicopters. hmmm does not sound so good does it? But they did and it was gruesome, and wasteful when so many are starving all over the world.

Starving wildlife (elk) is yet another management issue that has gotten out of hand. Maybe shoot them too?

Well, it looks like the Feds have screwed up again. ..

If it is truly wilderness then fences don't belong there and large herds of any animal do not either. Let's get some balance and fairness back into the situation for both the animals, the public and the land. That is what we pay you for, so do your jobs.

Lynda A. Sanchez  
author/historian, retired educator, former NPS Employee  
and rancher

**Correspondence ID:1840**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I urge you to protect the rare subspecies of native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

As a tax payer, I also believe that fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1841**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Claudio Simoes

**Correspondence ID:1842**

Correspondence: Hello,

I'm a farmer/rancher in addition to being an elementary PE teacher. I believe the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers. The NPS must protect the Seashore and the animals that live there. Taking down the fence so elk can access food and water is a common sense solution.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1843**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

There should be good in humanity!

**Correspondence ID:1844**

Correspondence: To Whom it May Concern.,

Please note that the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, please

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for read these comments.

Michelle

**Correspondence ID:1845**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1846**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1847**

Correspondence: Ranchers are harvesting their farms to raise meet . But, they don't think of the Elk.

They need to roam and be safe in the area that is meant for them. The elk should not be confined when the farmers want the extra land for themselves. Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans and it is not okay to starve the elks who live there. They need food and water. Please take down the fence and save the Native Tule Elk at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:1848**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1849**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1850**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1851**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Let wildlife be free and roam unimpeded through the wilderness

**Correspondence ID:1852**

Correspondence: The whole point of preserves is to save and protect the environment, which includes the wildlife. Why would anything detrimental to them be introduced? Do the right thing for wildlife, not for a bunch of wealthy bullies (cattlemen).

**Correspondence ID:1853**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1854**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1855**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1856**

Correspondence: Do the right thing and give back the land to the animals that were born and roam there. There is no common sense reason to keep livestock on that land and make wild animals compete for foraging opportunities, from behind fencing for that matter. Please consider the logical choice and the agreed upon choice that is documented in protecting this vulnerable species.

**Correspondence ID:1857**

Correspondence: Being the the great grandson of a rancher born in the Tamales Point area and now being a grandfather myself I am extremely attached to the outcome there.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1858**

Correspondence: It's past time to get this issue straightened out.The Elk were here first and the land required to provide them with a place to feed has been paid for.Livestock interests notwithstanding,the feeding elk must not be restrained or otherwise interfered with.Livestock owners must go elsewhere to feed their animals.No compromise will do!

**Correspondence ID:1859**

Correspondence: No fences

**Correspondence ID:1860**

Correspondence: Please do not allow the exploitation of animals to continue. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all life, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. These fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

We ask that The NPS prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Greg Rosas

**Correspondence ID:1861**

Correspondence: It really is time to stop supporting ranchers over all other wildlife - this is being done across the US and most Americans do not want this to continue.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1862**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:1863**

Correspondence: Wilderness should not have fences. The fact that these fences are causing the death of Elk is a terrible tragedy.

**Correspondence ID:1864**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I believe the NPS should protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. I urge the NPS to end the ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS should to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1865**

Correspondence: What has happened to the National Park Service that I used to admire? It is very difficult for me to believe that you have so lost your way as demonstrated by your treatment of the Tule Elk herd at Point Tomales. Have you forgotten that our Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans?? It is not the private property of ranchers who want to use it for their livestock. Have you not read the Wilderness Act of which the Philip Burton Wilderness is a part??? If you read the law, you will know that fences have no place in Wilderness Areas. These fences are keeping the Tule Elk from accessing adequate food and water. What the heck, NPS??!! Get rid of the fences and if they are necessary for the livestock, then get rid of the livestock. They should not be given priority in a Wilderness Area, especially if the presence of the livestock is detrimental to the native elk, which is the case at Point Tomales.

So NPS, my comment is that you get rid of the livestock and tear down the fences so the Tule Elk, a native species, can access the food and water they need and continue to inhabit this land. Shame on you for not having done this already!!

**Correspondence ID:1866**

Correspondence: I would like to comment on the Tomales Point area plan. The Point Reyes National Seashore does not belong to the ranchers. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:1867**

Correspondence: We The People are watching and sharing on social media. Not only are these atrocities cruel & inhumane they are illegal corrupt actions.

**Correspondence ID:1868**

Correspondence: Any fencing plan should prioritize wildlife over domestic animals.

**Correspondence ID:1869**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

I am very upset to learn about the use of fence to corral Tule Elk, so that they are unable to access adequate food and water. And it is especially frustrating that the reason for this appears to be due to the NPS prioritizing cattle crazing/ranchers' use of public lands rather than protecting rare native elk species. This privatized use of public lands should be ended and the fence removed as soon as possible to protect the elk, in keeping with the goals of the NPS to protect wildlife and preserve lands for public use.

-A concerned taxpayer and user of National Parks.

**Correspondence ID:1870**

Correspondence: Dear Sirs and Madams:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1871**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence to help preserve this rare species. Ranchers need to share the land!

**Correspondence ID:1872**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1873**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service:

Thank you for all your (underfunded) hard work.

Please take down the fence at Point Reyes to allow Tule elk to live. All any American wants to see is wildlife, and fences have no place in a wilderness area. And the cow leases should be over: citizens don't



need to subsidize ranchers and any responsible human does not eat red meat any more because of the ecological damage?

Thank you.

Best wishes,

jen

**Correspondence ID:1874**

Correspondence: Point Reyes is a preserve, not a cattle field lot. What are people thinking ? we are losing biodiversity and face incredible threats to the well being of the planet and NPS still treating the area as a field lot for the grazing cattle.

It is hard to believe that people who work for an organization that is supposed to protect and take care of wild land areas can behave like this. Elk should be given absolute priority and their well being ensured BEFORE any cattle is allowed in the place.

I have been following this case for along time now and find difficult to believe that elk are still confined and suffering in Point Reyes that is supposed to be land protected for nature.As a botanist I travel along the West and have seen the impoverishment of our lands because of cattle grazing, that is nothing else than a for profit business. The Park Service has a lot to answer to all of us for the present situation in Point Reyes. It is time to bring down the fence and protect the elk. Better still if cattle are banished from this area for good. I eat meat, but I am prepared to pay for it and want to eat while not contributing to the demise fo wildlife, as it is with the elk there.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1875**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1876**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I strongly object to the NPS' inhumane treatment of the Tule elks, which are a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. I strongly object to tax dollars supporting NPS mismanagement. Numerous reports in recent times have been sounding alarms about climate change, habitat loss, species extinction. It is unconscionable that NPS mismanagement is contributing further to species and habitat harm.

**Correspondence ID:1877**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1878**

Correspondence: I think it is time the service takes action to protect public land and its wildlife! Especially the Tule elk which are being deprived access to food and water because of a fence that does not belong on public land. Cattle ranchers were supposed to be off the land.

**Correspondence ID:1879**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1880**

Correspondence: No fences

**Correspondence ID:1881**

Correspondence: I am saddened to learn that you think it is more important to help the farmers with their cattle, other than caring for the Tule Elk. I've always thought highly of anyone associated with our National parks, but now I'm beginning to wonder where their loyalty lies.

**Correspondence ID:1882**

Correspondence: Phil Burton would have wanted to preserve the natural flora and fauna of the Point Reyes ares!

**Correspondence ID:1883**

Correspondence: Protecting native wildlife (Tule Elk) should be the number one priority NPS - not commercial cattle.

The grazing leases expired in 1962 but the NPS violated its own policy to allow some law-breaking ranchers more permits. Remove the legally questionable cattle and allow the elk their rightful place on the land.

**Correspondence ID:1884**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

It's incredible to cut off the elk from food and water and letting them die.

Please take down the fence immediately.

**Correspondence ID:1885**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore is Public property. All cattle on Public property belong to the public and may be harvested by any American, just as any other wild animal.

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The National Park Service needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The National Park Service needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1886**

Correspondence: I am writing to voice my strong objection to the National Park Service (NPS) confining the elk at Tomales Point to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. They should be protecting the elk instead of catering to special interest groups.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1887**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1888**

Correspondence: REMOVE THE FENCES AND THE CATTLE FROM THIS WILDERNESS AREA PLEASE!! ONLY THE ELK TRULY BELONG THERE!! THANK YOU!!

**Correspondence ID:1889**

Correspondence: I am horrified that the Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore are being sacrificed for cattle. I urge NPS to enlarge the elks' habitat and access to food and water. The suggested increase in agricultural use of this beautiful area is obscene. Do you really think we need more slaughterhouses while an iconic species like Tule Elk is left to perish? I urge you to preserve wildlife instead of giving ranchers the final say in this critical decision.

**Correspondence ID:1890**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1891**

Correspondence: Greetings,

It is eminently clear that there are problems at Pt. Reyes Natl. Seashore, in particular with regards to its rare Tule elk population at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

I urge the NPS to consider the following points and implement a plan that incorporates them:

1. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife and not kowtow to its profiteers.
2. Fences have no place in Wilderness, ever. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
3. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native (ESPECIALLY rare) wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please stick to the NPS mission and purpose, which is protecting and promoting America's natural treasures for its people for all times. This is not possible when the NPS caters to private/corporate interests.

**Correspondence ID:1892**

Correspondence: Man is supposed to Protect NOT Harm animals! The Tule Elk need your immediate assistance! Remove the fencing NOW!

**Correspondence ID:1893**

Correspondence: Hello,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:1894**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1895**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1896**

Correspondence: I'm really alarmed reading about the elk that are fenced in and dying due to food shortages and very little water due to drought so that around 6,000 cattle can graze on this land. This is UNACCEPTABLE and the Tule Elk are native wildlife in this area and somebody is mismanaging this land if the elk are dying so that cattle can graze. This makes very little sense and I find it to be extremely cruel to choose cattle over a native wildlife species!! These animals should be protected, not fenced to the point of no access to proper food and/or water. Please look into this and make changes so that no more of these animals are dying from this. It is inexcusable and someone is failing miserably. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1897**

Correspondence: The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So,

some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1898**

Correspondence: It's pretty damn clear that many years ago the NPS screwed up and allowed ranchers to remain where they legally were not supposed to remain. These sorts of sympathetic but WRONG decisions come back to bite us, and right now NPS needs to step up and do their job by AT LEAST charging the ranchers enough new usage fees to pay to feed and water, and perhaps soon relocate the Tule elk, to solve, not postpone a true solution.

**Correspondence ID:1899**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1900**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1901**

Correspondence: I disagree with containing wildlife for the sake of cattle I dusty profits.

**Correspondence ID:1902**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1903**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Correspondence ID:1904**

Correspondence: I have come to really hate the cattle industry, having over the years read how grazing ruins the land and cattle contribute to the methane gas that accelerates the climate crisis, NOT TO MENTION how wildlife like bison and wolves are killed for the sake of ranchers, who for some unfathomable reason are given golden deals for grazing rights on public lands which they may or may not pay with no repercussions (Ammon Bundy,e.g.). So now you are letting the native elk perish at Tomales Point , to shower more public largesse on ranchers at Point Reyes National Seashore?? NO!!

Public lands are for the use of the public and wildlife, present and future, not to subsidize ranchers. Public pain for private gain is corporate welfare, unjust, and not how I want my taxes spent.

**Correspondence ID:1905**

Correspondence: Increasingly-rare wildlife REALLY need your help....PLEASE....

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes ESPECIALLY since it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1906**

Correspondence: More elk less cattle

**Correspondence ID:1907**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1908**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1909**

Correspondence: From the NPS website the purposes of National Parks - Explore nature, discover history, recreation, and preservation.

I am wondering how Cattle ranching at Point Reyes fits into these purposes. Exploring nature? no. Discovering history? not really. Recreation? don't think so. Preservation? possibly, but what are we are preserving here? Cattle for ranchers making a profit? Seems like a curious purpose for a National Park.

Maybe a more appropriate purpose would be protecting seashore and wildlife? The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. I want to see the fences removed so elk can access food and water. I want to see an end to the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. I want to see elk! I think that qualifies as protecting wildlife!

**Correspondence ID:1910**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,  
Mary Guard

**Correspondence ID:1911**

Correspondence: For the sake of ranchers you are condemning elk to a slow death. The elk are on public land and as a taxpayer I demand you get rid of the fence, prioritize our wildlife over commercial destructive enterprise and keep our wildlife free

**Correspondence ID:1912**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1913**

Correspondence: Park Service Staff,



Please take down the fences and remove cattle from Point Reyes National Seashore. These places belong to everyone not just ranchers.

Thank you,

Ralph Fischer

**Correspondence ID:1914**

Correspondence: Please protect the rare Tule Elk in the park by removing fences making passages for these animals to access water.

**Correspondence ID:1915**

Correspondence: he Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1916**

Correspondence: My family and I camped at the National and State Parks all throughout our childhood. It is unconscionable that the grazing rights of cattle are being given priority over the survival of the elk. The point of the parks is to protect these wildlife species and it must remain that way. The fence that was put up to protect the survival of the cattle must be immediately taken down. This is absolutely shameful! The rights of human beings to eat meat and besmirch our environment should NEVER be a priority. The ranchers simply want to make money though clearly the National Parks are not there for that purpose! We already know that cattle are a major threat to our environment and there should be no question that the survival of the elk is what should come first.

**Correspondence ID:1917**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1918**

Correspondence: The NPS must end commercial ranching at Point Reyes, like it was supposed to do decades ago. Wildlife and native flora should be prioritized, and this means taking down fences that restrict the ability of Tule elk to forage.

**Correspondence ID:1919**

Correspondence: Take down the fence! A National Wilderness is just that - belonging to the people of this nation and I am a citizen!

**Correspondence ID:1920**

Correspondence: Evict the land squatters and sell off their mammals to compensate for damages and land use they have stolen from the taxpayers. Stop using public land for squatters profit, let them pay to lease where land is available for that purpose or find a new job like anyone else. We always been here squatting is not a valid excuse for it to continue. This isn't a private rancher grab but a public park- follow the law, take down the fences and get the domestic commodities off the public property. They should be sued for backpay and forced into bankruptcy to repay for stolen occupation of public land.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1921**

Correspondence: Ranching should not be allowed in Point Reyes National Seashore. Allowing recalcitrant there's who were unwilling to move there operations off by Federal land to continue ranching fuels all these crazy anti government people. I urge the national park service to stand up to these bullies and cease ranching operations to protect be Tule Elk. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1922**

Correspondence: I am writing you concerning the management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore. Why are the native Tule Elk being confined by fencing when other areas of the National Seashore are open to cattle ranching? The National Park Service agreed to end this commercial use of the land for cattle. So why are ranchers still being allowed to graze cattle on this land? Your top priority is to protect wild resources and native wildlife, not special interest groups (such as ranchers, etc.). By allowing cattle grazing to continue you are leading to the dehydration and starvation of a native elk species. I find this appalling. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1923**

Correspondence: Please do the right thing now

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1924**

Correspondence: The original agreement stated the ranchers could stay for 25 years, or until death. That time is long gone, and they got a couple of decades more. Time to do the right thing.

I see ranchers signs all the time when I visit Pt. Reyes, "Time to protect both elk and cow. Build the fence now." I have no idea how fencing the elk off from water and food sources is "protecting" them. They should re-word their incorrect signs... "Time to protect ranchers profits. Build the fence now. Tough for the elk (and the habitat/watersheds in general)."

**Correspondence ID:1925**

Correspondence: I support Wilderness Watch in protecting and saving Point Reyes National Seashore's Tule elk for the following reasons:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1926**

Correspondence: The fences are killing the Elk. Please fix it now. Nature deserves protection. What other animals are being damaged by the fences.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1927**

Correspondence: Let's get this right for a change. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. They were here before us and, as things look right now, they may be here after us. Let's ensure wildlife have access to food to water and farm animals don't encroach on their wild lands.

**Correspondence ID:1928**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Current course of action negligent, especially considering that the Tule elk are a flagship and endemic species in California. The NPS is entrusted and funded by citizens, and should consider our opinions in addition to those of the ranchers.

Thank you for your time

**Correspondence ID:1929**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk have a right to freedom and a right to access water. This is their land, as well as purs. This is public land and I fully support allowing the elk to graze, find water and feed on this land. The BLM allows way too much of our public land to be used for private cattle grazing. As a taxpayer, I do not support this. I support the elk. Please take down the fence!!

**Correspondence ID:1930**

Correspondence: Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1931**

Correspondence: Please stop leasing public land to ranchers at the expense of wildlife! The extension of grazing leases to ranchers at Point Reyes is a taking of public lands by selfish individuals with the help of NPS. The land belongs to the public and there should be NO fences that exclude wildlife. Taxpayers paid fair value for this land and NPS betrayed our trust by giving it away to ranchers. Shame!

**Correspondence ID:1932**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1933**

Correspondence: Please consider the following for the Tomales Point Area Plan:

\*. It belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

\*. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

\* The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

All of these needs should be considered in determining the fate of the endangered Tule elk and the wilderness management at Tomales point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness..

**Correspondence ID:1934**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1935**

Correspondence: Stop fencing the elk. It's killing them off. It goes against everything Wilderness Areas are intended for.

**Correspondence ID:1936**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1937**

Correspondence: End commercial ranching at Point Reyes National Seashore. Prioritize the needs of the native Tule elk and other wildlife. Take down the fence so they can access food and water. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1938**

Correspondence: This is a wilderness corridor. It belongs to nature, the animals that inhabit this region. It is cattle that are the usurpers, because of the ranch owners.

**Correspondence ID:1939**

Correspondence: Public lands are just that, public and are not meant to have fences and be turned into private grazing grounds that limit the range of wildlife in need of water and food to maintain their

sustainability. NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife and end private, commercial ranching at Point Reyes National Park. Thank you.

Live 4 Love  
Shawn Kakuk

**Correspondence ID:1940**

Correspondence: I cannot believe we are having to beg our National Park Service - an entity created to provide safe haven for our environment and our wildlife - to protect native Tule elk! How is it possible, in the 21st Century, that we are having to wake you guys up to the fact that we, the public, are tired of cattle and dairy businesses getting priority on OUR lands? My taxes pay to keep National Parks wild, not provide feed for cows. I actually love cows and think they deserve a whole lot better than the fate that awaits them, but I don't think they belong in our National Parks, National Monuments or National Seashores! The corruption that allows this unnatural state of affairs is truly stunning and disheartening, Just follow the money that flows from Big Ag/Big Dairy straight into Congress and weep. None of you are interested in what we have to say, what the public wants - although you beg me for donations on a regular basis. It is heartbreaking beyond belief.

**Correspondence ID:1941**

Correspondence: I am speaking up for Tule Elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I respectfully ask that you prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, as the National Park Service was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Kristen A. Toone

**Correspondence ID:1942**

Correspondence: Save the elks, it's not that hard to take the fence down, there trapped and can't help themselves...

**Correspondence ID:1943**

Correspondence: The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:1944**

Correspondence: Please TAKE DOWN THE FENCES and SAVE THE ELK!!! This is a HORRENDOUS and needless situation that is killing these native elk!! They don't deserve to die of starvation and from dehydration because they have no access to water! The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife!! The NPS is not doing its public duty of protecting wildlife, but is instead helping to cause these majestic elk to die!

Fences have no place in Wilderness! The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, like it was supposed to do decades ago. The NPS is accountable to the public and needs to stop putting profit and favors over what it's true purpose is. The entire country is watching what's going on there in California with these elk. Help SAVE THESE ELK!!

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:1945**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1946**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1947**

Correspondence: Greetings,

I visited Point Reyes National Seashore last November and was shocked by the extensive private inholding ranches.

Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration.

Richard Stanley

**Correspondence ID:1948**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to remove the fencing at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Protecting commercial ranching is not the task of the NPS. The fencing should have been removed in 1987 and the cattle moved off the Wilderness. Instead, ever more rare Tule elk continue to suffer and die from hunger and thirst as they attempt to reach the food and water they are fenced away from.

The NPS must protect the Pt. Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife.

Put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like was mandated decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1949**

Correspondence: The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated. We have the utmost responsibility to protect our majestic wildlife for future generations and healthy ecosystems. To allow the senseless destruction of the Point Reyes Tule Elk for the benefit of greedy corporations and special interest groups at the tax payers expense is not only shameful, it is a national disgrace! The American people are watching! What you choose to save is what you say about yourself. Choose well for our country's iconic Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:1950**

Correspondence: The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated. We have the utmost responsibility to protect our majestic wildlife for future generations and healthy ecosystems. To allow the senseless destruction of the Point Reyes Tule Elk for the benefit of greedy corporations and special interest groups at the tax payers expense is not only shameful, it is a national disgrace! The American people are watching! What you choose to save is what you say about yourself. Choose well for our country's iconic Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:1951**

Correspondence: The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated. We have the utmost responsibility to protect our majestic wildlife for future generations and healthy ecosystems. To allow the senseless destruction of the Point Reyes Tule Elk for the benefit of greedy corporations and special interest groups at the tax payers expense is not only shameful, it is a national disgrace! The American people are watching! What you choose to save is what you say about yourself. Choose well for our country's iconic Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:1952**

Correspondence: PLEASE prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore

The issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for



Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Please start being responsible for Tule Elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness site:

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1953**

Correspondence: Prioritize wildlife OVER grazing cattle!!!!

**Correspondence ID:1954**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1955**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, NOT just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must Completely protect the Seashore and its very precious wildlife \*\*\*\*

Fences have no place whatsoever in Wilderness areas as they restrict Wildlife from being able to freely move around as they need to and to be able to access food and water which they need to survive

\*\*\*\*\*

The NPS NEEDS to end the very tragic, ongoing deaths of Rare Tule Elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by removing the fence so Elk can access food and water they NEED to survive \*\*\*\*

The NPS NEEDS to prioritize all the NEEDS of native wildlife by completely putting an immediate end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago\*\*\*\*

**Correspondence ID:1956**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1957**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The wildlife must be higher than the greed of the ranchers.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. WHY has there been a delay??

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk. PLEASE BEGIN PROTECTING THE TULE ELK.

**Correspondence ID:1958**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1959**

Correspondence: To The Decisionmakers,

I am a native Californian who moved out of state 6 years ago. I am intimately familiar with Point Reyes as both of my children went on the 5th grade field trip there. It is past time to start protecting the wild tule elk population that inhabits the coastal area. Allowing them to be trapped by fencing and allowing cattle grazing instead is inhumane and wrong. Please take the necessary actions to save the herd from further degradation and suffering.

Thank you,

Janet Wyatt

**Correspondence ID:1960**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1961**

Correspondence: Save elk

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1962**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

MariLynn Herman

Mandan, ND 58554

**Correspondence ID:1963**

Correspondence: I am a physician, please protect the tule elk at point reyes.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1964**

Correspondence: I am a physician, please protect the tule elk at point reyes.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1965**

Correspondence: Please protect Point Reyes National Seashore. It is a treasure belonging to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS is obliged to protect this Seashore & its wildlife. We live in a time of many extinctions. So our grandchildren can enjoy the beauty of wild creatures, we must do all possible to ensure their survival.

Wild habitats do not have fences. Fences impede wild species. Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness are dying because fencing prohibits their access to food and water. TAKE DOWN THESE FENCES.

To do whatever necessary to ensure that we will have wildlife in the future, NPS make the needs of native wildlife a primary priority. They do not thrive in an environment of commercial ranching. Commercial ranching at Point Reyes was supposed to end decades ago. Why is it still ongoing & endangering our precious wildlife? Stop it now. There are other places for ranching; there are no other homes for our wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:1966**

Correspondence: Please prioritize the well-being of Tule Elk over the profits from cattle grazing. A park should benefit native animals and visitors, not businesses.

**Correspondence ID:1967**

Correspondence: Guess I'll just have to change my vacation plans from the area until this thing gets resolved!

**Correspondence ID:1968**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:1969**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1970**

Correspondence: These Tule elk BELONG on this PUBLIC land, NOT greedy ranchers. These ranchers are being rewarded for refusing to vacate the land. These rare elk are dying because they are being fenced off from the only food and water they have. This is disgusting and WRONG. This land belongs to the American people, not ranchers that are BREAKING THE LAW by refusing to leave.

**Correspondence ID:1971**

Correspondence: wild animals rule  
cattle should not be on public lands

they are privately owned  
wildlife needs the open spaces to survive

cruel you for cutting off their living space  
how would you like it if you were forced to move and live in a basement  
or a garage?

think about it  
miriam

**Correspondence ID:1972**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the wilderness from commercial ranching and farming. The wilderness is no place for fences that prevent elk from food and water

**Correspondence ID:1973**

Correspondence: I am writing to urge you to protect the Tule Elk at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

The NPS General (mis)Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. As this "plan" continues at Point Reyes National Seashore, the native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced in without enough forage for the confined elk, and ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

It is abhorrent that the NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. The Phillip Burton Wilderness should be a protection for the needs of native wildlife, not for the commercial ranching that was supposed to end decades ago.

Wilderness should not have fences -- ever. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food, water, and wilderness.

Sincerely,  
Laura Lyons

**Correspondence ID:1974**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades Thanks

**Correspondence ID:1975**

Correspondence: Hello. It is time to take down the fences and enable Tule Elk at Pt. Reyes/Tomales Bay to access food and water. Cattle should be low priority in wilderness that belongs to all people. Please protect the elk and the wild.

Thank you,  
Oceanah

**Correspondence ID:1976**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1977**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1978**

Correspondence: I am urging the National Park Service to remove the fencing that is keeping native Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness from accessing enough food and water to sustain them. Also NPS needs to stop allowing commercial cattle ranchers to use the land at the National Seashore to graze their cattle.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not the ranchers who ruin it and profit off of it.

The National Park Service has it's priorities messed up. The NPS job needs to be to put native wildlife first and stop the cattle ranchers from using the land at Point Reyes, this was supposed to happen along time ago!

Please stop allowing the Tule elk to starve to death, that is very wrong!!!

**Correspondence ID:1979**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,

PhilipVerellen

**Correspondence ID:1980**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1981**

Correspondence: Let's remove the fence and let the elk roam. They deserve their land more than the cattle. Too many elk are dying on their restricted range.

**Correspondence ID:1982**

Correspondence: I am turning 77 yrs. old but I remember so vividly visiting Pt. Reyes area when I was in my 20's. Incredible & so beautiful. I want it to be preserved for wildlife & the seashore. NPS needs to end the commercial farming (which they were supposed to do decades ago). I want the Tule Elk to be protected by taking down the fencing. They are dying because they cannot reach foraging areas & water.

The United States needs to protect our natural heritage for the people that come after we die. Please.

Melinda Ross

**Correspondence ID:1983**

Correspondence: The National Park Service must prioritize the health and well-being of the tule elk over commercial ranching. As guardians of our native lands and species, the park system must do better. It is heartless that these magnificent animals are fenced in an enclosure with inadequate grazing material and water. This policy must be vacated immediately.

**Correspondence ID:1984**

Correspondence: National Park Service:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The National Park Service needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The National Park Service needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank You for your time and consideration to these points.

**Correspondence ID:1985**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I hope you will follow these suggestions.

**Correspondence ID:1986**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1987**

Correspondence: Tule elk must be protected. The fencing is very harmful to them and has caused many to die because they can't access food and water. They are more important than the cattle ranches that are using the elk habitat for corporate profit. This isn't right on public land.

Dairy farmers have a choice. The elk don't. Please rethink your policies regarding this matter.

Thank you,  
Janice Jones



**Correspondence ID:1988**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,  
I would like to provide the following comments:

- 1) The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I urge the NPS to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- 2) Fences have no place in Wilderness. I urge the NPS to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- 3) I urge the NPS to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like was supposed to have been done decades ago.

Many thanks for allowing me to comment.  
Kim

**Correspondence ID:1989**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1990**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please have compassion for all animals and help the rare Tule elk.

Thank you for reading.

Linda Reilly

**Correspondence ID:1991**

Correspondence: I am very distressed to learn of the mismanagement by the NPS of the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:1992**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1993**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife by outlawing ranching and eliminating fences.

**Correspondence ID:1994**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1995**

Correspondence: I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW YOU ARE KILLING OFF WILDLIFE THAT YOU SHOULD BE PROTECTING!!!!  
The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. WHY ISN'T THE NPS protecting the Seashore and its wildlife?  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
YOU MUST PUT AN END TO COMMERCIAL RANCHING LIKE YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO DO DECADES AGO!  
WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOUR MORAL COMPASS?

**Correspondence ID:1996**

Correspondence: Evict the land squatters and sell off their mammals to compensate for damages and land use they have stolen from the taxpayers. Stop using public land for squatters profit, let them pay to lease where land is available for that purpose or find a new job like anyone else. We always been here squatting is not a valid excuse for it to continue. This isn't a private rancher grab but a public park-follow the law, take down the fences and get the domestic commodities off the public property. They

should be sued for backpay and forced into bankruptcy to repay as a consequence for the stolen occupation of public land which in no way benefits the taxpayers public.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1997**

Correspondence: Please consider these points when making your decision.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing and end the commercial ranching!

**Correspondence ID:1998**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:1999**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2000**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2001**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2002**

Correspondence: The NPS's obligation is to the Tule elk, not farmers and their cows.

**Correspondence ID:2003**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Alea Chevalier

**Correspondence ID:2004**

Correspondence: Just a few -- commercial ranching should not be allowed on Park lands, and neither should fencing. Do all you can to aid Tule elk recovery.

**Correspondence ID:2005**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2006**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2007**

Correspondence: Our natural environments need to be kept pristine which includes protection of native wildlife. The ecosystems are supported by the native wildlife and for these ecosystems to flourish non native animals have to be limited or even banned. The ecosystems are paramount to controlling climate change.

**Correspondence ID:2008**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2009**

Correspondence: Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am shocked and saddened at the current and projected conditions for the Tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The national seashore designation is federally designated by Congress as being of natural and recreational significance as a preserved area. It is NOT designated for ranching and farming. As consideration for existing users at the time the land was designated a national seashore, leases were granted. They have subsequently been extended and now the demands of those leaseholders are being given priority over the flora and fauna that is supposed to be protected. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Further, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. And let the Tule elk live free as they are supposed to.

**Correspondence ID:2010**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water

**Correspondence ID:2011**

Correspondence: I have visited the Point Reyes National Seashore in years past, particularly to view its wildlife, like the magnificent and rapidly declining Tule Elk. I understand the elk are dying of hunger and thirst because the Park Service has fenced them into a small area to provide more area for cattle to

graze. I am angered and saddened by this news. I have stopped buying beef and leather products because of the gross abuse of public lands by domestic livestock, and the suffering of native wildlife because of their presence. The Tule Elk in Point Reyes National Seashore are poster children for this abuse of our public lands under the “watchful” eye of public officials. I spent most of my career as an environmental attorney for the US Environmental Protection Agency. I am now in private practice and volunteer for several nonprofits that advocate for wildlife and their habitat. Based on this experience, I strongly urge you to remove the fences from Point Reyes and allow to elk to forage naturally. All livestock should be removed from the park, and it should be restored to public use, not private abuse. Shame on you for doing otherwise..

**Correspondence ID:2012**

Correspondence: Take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:2013**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2014**

Correspondence: Dear NPS:

Please do your job and protect wildlife instead of the bank accounts of wealthy ranchers.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2015**

Correspondence: Could the times when the cattle are on the Reserve, be shortened? Different kinds of fences if they are needed. It is a shame that the Elk are being destroyed.

**Correspondence ID:2016**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. This area is the elks natural habitat and introduced species like cows should not in any way supplant the elk's place in this habitat.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,

Shannon

**Correspondence ID:2017**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2018**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:2019**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2020**

Correspondence: Tear down the fences!

**Correspondence ID:2021**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2022**

Correspondence: NPS should end the tragic, ongoing deaths of Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so that elk can access food and water. NPS should prioritize the needs of native wildlife over commercial ranching at Point Reyes -- as it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife for everyone.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2023**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. Rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness are dying because of the fences which deprive the elk of food and water. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The job of the National Park Service is to protect the Seashore and its wildlife. That should be the job of the NPS. That IS the job of the NPS. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2024**

Correspondence: Cattle don't belong in a park, where the animals should be restricted to native species. Cattle are detrimental to the environment in habitat destruction as well as contributing methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. It is time to end the leases. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2025**

Correspondence: I was just at the park last October. I was appalled by the condition of the elk. I am a citizen and my expectations are as important as the ranchers. I support the freedom of the elk. Why are cattle still grazing in the park? Why is wildlife being sacrificed for domestic cattle. It is not what I expect from a national park.

**Correspondence ID:2026**

Correspondence: As someone who usually appreciates all that the National Park Service does, I am writing to strongly oppose the NPS' treatment of Tule Elk at the Point Reyes National Seashore. National seashores belong to all Americans. Ranchers who profit from its use should not have priority over wildlife. In fact, ranching has no place on national seashores, period. The NPS must protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife, not ranchers.

Fences have no place in Wilderness, particularly to fence in wildlife. The NPS must end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS really needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2027**

Correspondence: The sooner the fences causing Tule Elk to die of thirst and starvation are taken down the better.



**Correspondence ID:2028**

Correspondence: Please consider the following points:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL humans and animals, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

FENCES have no place in Wilderness!! The NPS needs to end the death by starvation of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

Take down the fence so elk can access food and water!!

The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife.

Put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as the NPS was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for restoring the wilderness to its rightful purpose and allowing the elk to survive!

**Correspondence ID:2029**

Correspondence: WHY has the NPS put up a fence in a wilderness area causing an elk herd to die from starvation and starvation and hunger? POSSIBLY you could relocate the elk herd rather than letting them die from starvation and lack of water. ,

**Correspondence ID:2030**

Correspondence: PLESAE HELP.

**Correspondence ID:2031**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2032**

Correspondence: Please enforce the contracts you made with the ranchers who continue to flout them. As well, please reveal the rationale for enabling them and contributing to the decline of species in peril.

**Correspondence ID:2033**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,  
Wendy Stock

**Correspondence ID:2034**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

YOU NEED TO PROTECT OUR ANIMALS AND OUR WORLD-NOW!

**Correspondence ID:2035**

Correspondence: I'm a frequent visitor to Pt. Reyes National Seashore and run on the many trails throughout the park. The one aspect of the park that disturbs me is the fence that keeps the one tule elk herd from roaming other areas of the park. The only reason for this can be to keep park land exclusively for livestock ranchers, which were supposed to be phased out many years ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service must protect the park and its wildlife, and fences have no place in wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Please listen to the thousands of people who want to preserve the park and its wildlife for the future.

**Correspondence ID:2036**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there.

**Correspondence ID:2037**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2038**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

the National Park Services needs to quit allowing ranchers to use public lands. It is an illegal subsidy to one industry. Ranchers should have to pay private landowners competitive fees to use private land.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago as well as all national areas!!!.

**Correspondence ID:2039**

Correspondence: Ranchers who profit from using the Point Reyes National Seashore do not own it. It belongs to all Americans. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

In Wilderness, fences have no place.. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule Elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Plas think about the future and plan for it.

**Correspondence ID:2040**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2041**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2042**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The Elk are a native species and I want my future generations of my Family to enjoy them.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

This is not the 1800s when the native Buffalo suffered extermination at the hands of Government and Ranchers for profit. We are an advanced society and the NPS must find an immediate solution to save the Elk from starvation and drought.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2043**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2044**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The Elk are a native species and I want my future generations of my Family to enjoy them.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

This is not the 1800s when the native Buffalo suffered extermination at the hands of Government and Ranchers for profit. We are an advanced society and the NPS must find an immediate solution to save the Elk from starvation and drought.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2045**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I find great joy in seeing these beautiful animals running free in their natural habitats.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. It would be criminal if these wonderful Tule elk were to become extinct because of fences!

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. This land was meant to be wild.

**Correspondence ID:2046**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2047**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The Elk are a native species and I want future generations of my Family to enjoy them.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

This is not the 1800s when the native Buffalo suffered extermination at the hands of Government and Ranchers for profit. We are an advanced society and the NPS must find an immediate solution to save the Elk from starvation and drought.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2048**

Correspondence: I am sickened by the National Park Service's choice to fence off the Tule elk in Point Tomales. Please take down these inhumane fences that serve only to protect cattle rather than these beautiful, and now suffering, wild creatures. It is insane that the interests of ranchers would take precedence over that of the elk, who are part of the park and should be protected and safeguarded.

I ask that put an end to these commercial ranches, REMOVE the fences, and maintain the park and the elk in the way your charter calls for you to do.

**Correspondence ID:2049**

Correspondence: I am concerned that the elk are native to this place yet cattle can graze in many other places. I urge you to make survival of these elk in this place a priority. Encourage the cattle rancher(s) to move their stock to another pasture.

Thank you for considering my views.

**Correspondence ID:2050**

Correspondence: Save the Tule Elk. Isn't that your job? Are you just ranchers' puppets? Take down the fence!

**Correspondence ID:2051**

Correspondence: I remain so disheartened by National Parks Service's acquiescence and/or complicity in condoning ongoing neglect of your mandate in deference to regional ranchers' misappropriation of the Point Reyes National Seashore reserve. This disregard and it's negative consequences must be addressed and reigned in with all due expediency.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2052**

Correspondence: I remain so disheartened by National Parks Service's acquiescence and/or complicity in condoning ongoing neglect of your mandate in deference to regional ranchers' misappropriation of the Point Reyes National Seashore reserve. This disregard and it's negative consequences must be addressed and reigned in with all due expediency.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2053**

Correspondence: Please prioritise the elk and not the cattle, and especially allow the elk access to grazing and water. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2054**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2055**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2056**

Correspondence: I am writing as physician and health care advocate because I have serious concerns about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service's troubled programs for protecting animals and plants, including the Tule Elk, under the Endangered Species Act. I am very disturbed because of the fact that this program is plagued by long delays, increasing the risk of extinction and making recovery more difficult and expensive.

On average it has taken the Service 12 years to protect species; many clearly endangered species have been denied protection only to have those denials overturned in court. This unacceptable situation is the result of excessive layers of bureaucracy because at least 20 Service or more staff are often involved in every listing decision.

It is very important to understand that at this time, more than 400 species are awaiting decisions, and these are only the species conservation groups have petitioned to protect. The true backlog is even larger. Precious species which include the western pond turtle, the Tule Elk and golden-winged warbler have already waited for endangered species protection for far too long.

I am very concerned because the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I strongly urge the NPS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to please mandate and direct federal protection for the Seashore and its wildlife which includes the Tule Elk.

I am writing to make you aware that the erection of fences have no place in Wilderness. It is crucial for the NPS to please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare endangered Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by completely removing the fences. Please realize that the initiation of this wildlife protective action will ensure that the elk can access life -saving supplies of food and water.

To ensure full protection for and the survival of endangered wildlife, including the Tule Elk, I strongly urge the NPS to please prioritize the needs of native wildlife, including the Tule elk by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. I am alerting the NPS to the fact that the National Park Service had agreed decades ago, to end federal approval for commercial cattle ranching.

At this time, I thank you for your consideration of my letter and request. I strongly urge the National Park Service and the National Fish and Wildlife Service to please initiate all needed legislative directives that will result in the reformation and improvement of the Service's listing program.

Please realize that these legislative changes will reduce bureaucratic review of listing decisions to let the agency's biologists do their job and provide endangered species, including the Tule Elk, with urgently needed help. As we are all aware, our global animal extinction crisis is accelerating, and our world must take all needed time to ensure that our country and our planet does not allow rare and vanishing species, including the Tule Elk, to languish without a lifeline to ensure their survival.

Sincerely,

Jean Marie Naples, MD-Ph.D.

**Correspondence ID:2057**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness, they are completely mutually contradictory.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tamales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence, so elk can access basic necessities for survival like food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2058**

Correspondence: Please help the Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence currently preventing the elk from accessing food and water. Please evict cattle ranchers that have overstayed their original 25 year agreements. Please cattle off the wilderness lands so that the elk will have sufficient land to forage.

Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:2059**

Correspondence: Saving animals for a future world is important

**Correspondence ID:2060**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2061**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2062**

Correspondence: SHAME! Your JOB is to protect wilderness and wildlife - NOT destroy wildlife so greedy polluting ranchers can profit! You work for the Public - NOT business.

STOP forcing rare native Tule Elk to starve to death on their own land, fenced away from THEIR food and water - watching cattle steal from them.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

I cannot believe this is still happening - TAKE DOWN THAT FENCE and let the Tule Elk LIVE!

**Correspondence ID:2063**



Correspondence: Please remove the fences used at Point Reyes for cattle production. The wildlife and ecology of the area are unique, and it is clear that cattle production is detrimental - even deadly - to native species, including the Tule Elk. The NPS has an obligation to remove the commercial cattle fencing, and I urge you to keep your commitment to preserving native landscapes for all.

**Correspondence ID:2064**

Correspondence: Wildlife over dairy cows and beef cattle. Tomales Point needs to protect wildlifet in a coast that needs to protect its natural history.

**Correspondence ID:2065**

Correspondence: Ranchers have OTHER options!

Wildlife does not.

Thank you for considering these salient points:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2066**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2067**

Correspondence: I have been signing petitions about this for a long time. When is something going to happen?

**Correspondence ID:2068**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2069**

Correspondence: The Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness must be protected and saved. Take down the fence which is only there to protect private interests over the publics' interests.

Save the wild animals!!!

**Correspondence ID:2070**

Correspondence: I've been heartbreaking about no wisdom in the National Reyes Rangers for allowing cows grazing outside the farms & stealing Elks' food & water. The word, cows belong to the farmer's land inside the fence. What happened to the wisdom of the Rangers for allowing the farmers' cows grazing in the property of the National Reyes Park? Elks have no way to graze while cows steal Elks' food & water, too. What happened to obtuse National Rangers? National Rangers need to be terminated as soon as possible badly. I'm truly deep disappointed/heartbreaking in the obtuse National Park Rangers who really need to be terminated as soon as possible badly. I saw a photo of cow diarrhea in the "river" or in the large water. What happened to obtuse Rangers? They should be terminated as soon as possible badly. The farmer/s bought the land that should be for their cows, but no. You allowed the cows out of the farmers' property into the National Reyes Park. What the hell wrong with you, the obtuse Rangers? Biggest disappointed in the obtuse Rangers for being imbecile!! You crushed my heart into pieces & disgusted in your obtuse for allowing the farmers' cows into the National Reyes that makes the Elks starved & dying for drinking the water that cows peed & diarrhea in the river. What the hell wrong with you, obtuse Rangers who should be terminated as soon as possible BADLY. My heart goes out for all starved & dying of lack of drinking the water because cows graze the "grass"? or whatever it's called plus can't drink the water because cows peed & diarrhea in the river. What the hell wrong with the obtuse rangers!! Cows should stay inside the farm & never let out of the farm once. May our Heavenly Father curse the Rangers for choosing to do nothing about the farmers allowing their cows out of the farms & into National Reyes Park plus the river is ruined by cows' diarrhea & urine. Don't be cruel to starved Elks & wildlife animals & dying of lack of the water, too! Damn to those people who are not concerned about Elks!!

**Correspondence ID:2071**

Correspondence: FOR A KIND, SAFE, HEALTHY and J U S T WORLD&gt;&gt;&gt;;  
EACH and EVERY ONE OF US...is RESPONSIBLE&gt;&gt;&gt;;

The WAY WE TEACH...the WAY WE LEARN...will NOT MAKE THIS POSSIBLE...BUT, THERE IS A BETTER WAY&gt;&gt;&gt;;

The most DESTRUCTIVE force of nature is...HUMAN NATURE...because it can choose&gt;&gt;&gt;;  
Without REVERENCE for ALL LIFE and ALL THAT GIVES LIFE there can be no PEACE...only pain, suffering, misery, fear and death&gt;&gt;&gt;;  
OUR M O R A L progress depends on and will always be judged by how WE treat ALL LIFE and ALL THAT GIVES LIFE...TRAGICALLY...WE HAVEN'T PROGRESSED...yet&gt;&gt;&gt;;

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2072**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I trust you will consider and weigh the importance of wildlife, nature environment, and our opinion over the profits of ranchers only.

**Correspondence ID:2073**

Correspondence: I'm BEGGING YOU to please not allow big AG cow industry profiteers to rearrange wilderness. DO NOT ALLOW cows to drive out natural wildlife. Humans must stop pretending to be God and changing this to suit whims and destroying nature in the process. Please don't allow the destruction that cows will do!!

**Correspondence ID:2074**

Correspondence: Take the fence down IMMEDIATELY. The land is for ALL species, not just ranchers. THIS IS PUBLIC LAND

**Correspondence ID:2075**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2076**

Correspondence: The NPS has intentionally mismanaged Point Reyes National Seashore for decades, for the benefit of private ranchers & farmers who after having been paid fair market value for their properties 60 years ago continued to stay and take advantage of dirt-cheap grazing on this national park, at the expense of taxpayers and the native tule elk that continue to die of thirst & hunger while confined behind a tall fence.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water that belong to them, before they all die off.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of Congress-reintroduced native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

These ranchers should move out of the national park or pay back the sale proceeds at current market value if they want to stay on the properties they had sold to the government 60 years ago!

**Correspondence ID:2077**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences caused the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Take down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS should prioritize the needs of native wildlife and put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2078**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2079**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2080**

Correspondence: Please remove the fencing at Pt. Tomales at the Pt. Reyes Ntl Seashore. These fences are keeping tule elk from accessing food & water. I believe NPS is supposed to protect native species & natural habitats & not be guided by the wishes of commercial ranchers. There is plenty of land for ranchers that is not on a national park. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2081**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2082**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk do not deserve the arrangement forced on them by your agency contract. They are to have precedence. It's like some want to extinct species for temporal interests.

**Correspondence ID:2083**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2084**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Putting a fence up to stop wildlife roaming freely is cruel and not in the interests of the animals - only people gain from such cruelty - HUMAN BEINGS ARE THE CRUELLEST ANIMAL ON EARTH.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. TAKE THE FENCE DOWN - THERE IS NO NEED FOR IT - SO TOTALLY UNNECESSARY.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. NATIVE WILDLIFE IS FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANYTHING A HUMAN BEING DOES, PUT THE WILDLIFE FIRST, NOT MONEY!

**Correspondence ID:2085**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2086**

Correspondence: Dear Sir/Madam,

Tragically, H. sapiens by now have exterminated most fellow species. Thus, National Park Service is to be responsible for wildlife.

To my disbelief, the NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes is to keep the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Any commercial agricultural use, and especially cattle ranch leases in the area must be immediately terminated and the responsible individuals dismissed.

Because the Planet belongs to the next generations of all animals, including H. sapiens, with the exception of those who keep the environmental devastation going.

And with best wishes and kind regards

I remain faithfully yours

**Correspondence ID:2087**

Correspondence: \* The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

\* Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

\* The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2088**

Correspondence: The National Parks were established, at great effort and moral conviction, for the purpose of preserving our precious natural heritage. They are not rental properties for agricultural interests. Ranching within a National Seashore is an extraordinary privilege granted in a gesture of generosity to a legacy use, not a right, and must absolutely be forbidden from undermining the purposes of the Seashore. The ranchers must conform and confine their operations to that compatible with the full carrying capacity of Tule Elk, not commandeer the Elk's habitat for their own use.

The notion of 'diversifying' their operations is wildly inappropriate, being premised upon continued agriculture for an indefinite future. The Park Service should be planning to phase out agriculture entirely when the individuals retire of their own volition, not making agriculture more economically viable or attractive. The Park Service should only allow these individuals to continue limited ranching for a period that respects existing rights, while not encroaching upon the natural values of Point Reyes for any space or time beyond those limited rights.

**Correspondence ID:2089**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2090**

Correspondence: Please protect our wildlife to protect the planet.

**Correspondence ID:2091**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2092**

Correspondence: Please save the elk!

**Correspondence ID:2093**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2094**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2095**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2096**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for considering my comment.

**Correspondence ID:2097**

Correspondence: Please save the elk from dying.

**Correspondence ID:2098**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:2099**

Correspondence: Land use for cattle should be reduced, not expanded. Meat trains future serial killers.

**Correspondence ID:2100**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

We need to end these mega Agriculture businesses break them up into small family farms. These cows are polluting our environment and the Tule Elk are being starved to death with your horrific fence.

People need to stop eating animals we can't sustain this nor can the environment. The Tule Elk belong there the cattle do not. Take Down the FENCE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Very concerned,

Gail Szafir- Vegetarian

**Correspondence ID:2101**

Correspondence: Protect the wildlife!

**Correspondence ID:2102**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2103**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2104**

Correspondence: Please take seriously the ongoing damage to the endangered Tule elk!



The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2105**

Correspondence: The earth is ours to share with all other living things.

**Correspondence ID:2106**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2107**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

• The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2108**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2109**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore is owned by all Americans.

It should be properly managed to support wildlife there, in particular, the Tule Elk.

Instead ranchers cattle have the priority. Much of the seashore is fenced off to Tule Elk so they cannot access adequate food and water..

This is gross mismanagement. This land needs to be managed to support these elk as a priority so they can live rather than diminish and die.. which they are as a result. Change your priority.

This land is appropriate for wildlife and wild flora,  
not for supporting ranchers and their cattle.

**Correspondence ID:2110**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore is owned by all Americans. It should be properly managed to support wildlife there, in particular, the Tule Elk. Instead ranchers cattle have the priority. Much of the seashore is fenced off to Tule Elk so they cannot access adequate food and water..

This is gross mismanagement. This land needs to be managed to support these elk as a priority so they can live rather than diminish and die.. which they are as a result. Change your priority.

This land is appropriate for wildlife and wild flora,  
not for supporting ranchers and their cattle.

**Correspondence ID:2111**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2112**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2113**

Correspondence: This is unacceptable! Take down the fences! Wildlife has a hard enough time surviving...we're making it so much worse. Knowing the elk at Point Reyes is suffering and dying is sickening.

Sincerely, Joanne McMillan

**Correspondence ID:2114**

Correspondence: This is unacceptable! Take down the fences! Wildlife has a hard enough time surviving...we're making it so much worse. Knowing the elk at Point Reyes is suffering and dying is sickening.

Sincerely, Joanne McMillan

**Correspondence ID:2115**

Correspondence: It makes perfect sense to me to take down the fences so that the Elks can wander and get enough food and drink. Far too many cattle are being raised that pollute the air and water and make people sick.

Yes, I am a vegetarian.

**Correspondence ID:2116**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for reading.

Kind regards,

Yvonne

**Correspondence ID:2117**

Correspondence: Sirs,

I am writing to submit my comments regarding the issue of fences vs/ Tule Elks.

Here they are:

= The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS MUST protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

= Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

= The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

PLEASE make the right decision and save the animals!  
Thank you for your attention.

**Correspondence ID:2118**

Correspondence: This land belongs to the American people, not the rangers, your emphasis should be on the native wildlife. Letting cattle graze land that should be used for elk is unexcusable- get the cattle out and let nature have this land!!

**Correspondence ID:2119**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2120**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all USA citizens, not just to the ranchers who financially benefit from its use. The National Park Service (NPS) must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences serve no real place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by removing the fence so elk can properly access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. This should have been done decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2121**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2122**

Correspondence: Dear Sirs:

I am shocked that the NPS continues to place commercial grazing over your obligation to care and preserve the environment. There is no moral or historical justification for what you are doing. I support and recommend the following:

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,  
Robert Havrilla

**Correspondence ID:2123**

Correspondence: I urge the NPS to tprotect the Seashore and its wildlife to prevent the deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so they can access food and water.

Thank you for consideration of my comments

**Correspondence ID:2124**

Correspondence: While I understand the motivation to protect the livelihood of ranchers at Point Reyes, surely the primary directive of a national park is to protect and preserve the area. In any conflict between ranchers and wildlife such as the Tule elk, threatened, native species must take priority. Fundamentally, a national park is no place for industry. My understanding is that ranching was supposed to end years ago. I love the NPS, and I hope the priority will always be the protection of our wild spaces.

**Correspondence ID:2125**

Correspondence: Tomales Point belongs to all Americans, not just local ranchers. It's a national park for all of us. You are the National Park Service. We want our National Park and its wildlife protected, not local ranchers' cattle. They don't pay anywhere near enough to get to despoil our lands. Local ranchers have their own land to put cattle on.

**Correspondence ID:2126**

Correspondence: Please stop this utmost cruelty, letting sentient beings suffer to dead by starvation and by prohibiting them to reach their watering holes.This is truly a shame, outrageous!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all not just to ranchers who profit from its use to have their cows slaughtered afterwards when the land has been fully grazed and destroyed.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2127**

Correspondence: We cannot sacrifice our wildlife in order to subsidize ranchers feeding cattle. Federal lands belong to all, not just a select group using them for profit!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2128**

Correspondence: At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement.  
STOP CUTTING THEM OFF FROM FOOD SOURCES AND STARVING THEM IN FAVOR OF EARTH POLLUTING CATTLE!

**Correspondence ID:2129**

Correspondence: You can't be the regulator of Nature's domain.

**Correspondence ID:2130**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2131**

Correspondence: Preserve t;he; tule elk. Commercial interests should not be prioritized over nature.

**Correspondence ID:2132**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2133**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2134**

Correspondence: The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:2135**

Correspondence: Please do not keep the elk trapped behind the fence , that's so cruel and inhumane!

**Correspondence ID:2136**

Correspondence: The N.P.S. should be there to protect the wilderness that belongs to all creatures both human and animal,not just ranchers,at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Tule Elk are fenced into an enclosure at Tomales point,which does not have enough forage and because of the drought,enough freshwater.

There is no place in the wilderness for fences. They must be removed to allow the Tule Elk to access food and water.

The N.P.S. needs to end commercial ranching at point Reyes like i was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2137**

Correspondence: It is time that Nature be given the same rights as people, (who coincidentally are part of Nature).

**Correspondence ID:2138**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence that is keeping the poor defenseless Elk from their water and food, they have been here long before the ranchers. The fence at the Point Reyes Seashore area please remove it for these majestic living beings.

Thank you,

Jeaneen

**Correspondence ID:2139**

Correspondence: I am writing you to ask that you remove the fences which confine the herd of endangered Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore, California, as per 42 U.S.C. 4321, The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended; and 43 CFR Part 46, Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. This trend is towards the extinction of this subspecies, for the benefit of ranchers who are not even supposed to be grazing their cattle on this public land.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. ONLY 25 YEARS!! In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who FLATLY refused to move after the 25-year time period were ILLEGALLY granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

**Correspondence ID:2140**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2141**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2142**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.



**Correspondence ID:2143**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ditra Walsh

**Correspondence ID:2144**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to the ranchers who use it. The NPS must protect this national seashore and its wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching there, as it was supposed to have done decades ago.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of the rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fences so elk can access food and water. Fences do not belong in wilderness.

We need to preserve and protect more wilderness, and leave it to Nature.

**Correspondence ID:2145**

Correspondence: Please you have to do the right thing to save wildlife, we already make their lives so hard, do this, take down the fence!!!

**Correspondence ID:2146**

Correspondence: These elk want to live and have a right to live. Please, do the right thing, the compassionate thing.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2147**

Correspondence: Please, let these poor creatures get to life saving food and water, this is cruelty!!

**Correspondence ID:2148**

Correspondence: Protect lives and not greed

**Correspondence ID:2149**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2150**

Correspondence: It's ridiculous to have ranching on publicly owned land at to the detriment of the public itself. Are you kidding? Why did we purchase the land?! I would like to have a healthy elk population at Point Tomales. Cattle ranching throughout Point Reyes isn't benefiting me or the public at large. It was supposed to end over THIRTY YEARS ago. There is enough to at least suspect some corruption between the NPS and the ranchers since the NPS isn't representing the public's interest far beyond a possible reasonable explanation End or at least vastly restrict the cattle ranching or let's get an investigation into the NPS's relation to the ranchers going.

Sincerely,  
Rene Suarez

**Correspondence ID:2151**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2152**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2153**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2154**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2155**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2156**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please protect what little nature we have left to preserve our wild places for our children and future generations, as well as the wildlife that are left with so little. Ranchers are destroying everything.

**Correspondence ID:2157**

Correspondence: As a taxpayer and an American citizen, I am angry with the NPS treatment of the elk at the Point Reyes Seashore. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

I am sick and tired of the welfare ranching industry causing the death of so many native species while they raise cattle for their personal profit. Why are cattle ranchers “sacred cows”? I do not eat meat. I have no vested interest as a tax payer in having cattle ranchers use my public lands to raise their cattle to sell for their own benefit. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Tear down the damn fences and let those elk eat and drink!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2158**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2159**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Quit wasting my tax money on wealthy ranchers. Get rid of the fence & the cattle.

**Correspondence ID:2160**

Correspondence: Allowing these rare Tule elk to die by restricting their food and water is criminal. As a national park there is no question that you should be prioritizing wildlife over cattle. Do better!

**Correspondence ID:2161**

Correspondence: Point Reyes is one of my favorite places to visit when I'm in the San Francisco area. I'm there to see Tule Elk not cattle. Starving elk to death so that cattle can have more forage is unconscionable.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

karen krause

**Correspondence ID:2162**

Correspondence: End commercial ranching on taxpayer lands and protect wildlife!

**Correspondence ID:2163**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife - protecting wildlife is necessary because of the grave decline in native biodiversity which is important for human healthy and survival too.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please act on this ethical change immediately and carefully with minimal detrimental impact to the environment - we have little time to waste.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2164**

Correspondence: Remove the fence.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Protect the wildlife, not the ranchers

Sincerely,

Demea Loyd

**Correspondence ID:2165**

Correspondence: Remove the fence.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Protect the wildlife, not the ranchers

Sincerely,

Demea Loyd

**Correspondence ID:2166**

Correspondence: This endangered species needs to be protected and not made extinct, because of the demands of commercial cattle farming. The NPS needs to step up and do something urgently. This is not only about the profit of some individual cattle farmers. NPS grow some backbone-it is not all about profit!

**Correspondence ID:2167**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

This is a perfect example of why Americans are becoming more and more distrustful of government agencies and their overreach.

Sincerely,

Fran Hoef-Bouchard

**Correspondence ID:2168**

Correspondence: It's not the time to privilege polluters over wildlife. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2169**

Correspondence: With the state of wildlife and the planet as it is already, I cannot believe the NPS would prioritize commercial ranching over native wildlife - this is simply unacceptable and needs to stop! I have visited the Point Reyes National Seashore and am disgusted to hear of it's mismanagement in this issue. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use! The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife!

The fences have no place in Wilderness and the NPS needs to stop the unnecessary ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness so the elk can access food and water! It is time to end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes and protect our wildlife!

**Correspondence ID:2170**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in the wilderness

**Correspondence ID:2171**

Correspondence: Please protect Tule Elk & the Phillip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:2172**

Correspondence: Remove all domestic herbivores from public property!

**Correspondence ID:2173**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

You need to quickly change your priorities and your definition of what your role in terms of parks, wildlife, and ranching. You need to immediately allow the elk who live at Tomales Point, enough access to water and foraging foods, so that they can thrive, rather than starve. Your federal responsibilities are not towards ranchers but toward the wildlife of the national park and its native inhabitants.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of

public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:2174**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I urge NPS to be a responsible guardian of our precious wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2175**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2176**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2177**

Correspondence: STOP NOW. Commercial cattle interests must NEVER take precedence over the health of wildlife at Point Reyes.

Your office is an agent of the residents of California not cattle ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:2178**

Correspondence: Please I IMPLOR YOU TO REMOVE THE FENCE FOR THE SAKE OF WILDLIFE, OUR WILDLIFE. Show the world that your COMPASSION goes beyond your profit. BE AN EXAMPLE TO OURS. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2179**

Correspondence: Please prioritize elk and eliminate fencing for cattle. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2180**

Correspondence: Please help the Tule elk herd. Do not let them die because they cannot get to proper food or water. These animals deserve to be taken care of better than we are doing. They belong here and they need to be protected and cared about. Have a heart and care about these animals!!

**Correspondence ID:2181**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2182**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle.

**Correspondence ID:2183**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence! It's cruel and sadistic to keep it up knowing these elk are starving to death! What kind of a sane, moral person is okay with that? Please take the high road and do what is right. Get rid of the fence!

**Correspondence ID:2184**

Correspondence: Animals need access to food.

**Correspondence ID:2185**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2186**

Correspondence: Hello! I am writing today to ask you to take down the fence at Point Reyes for the following reasons:

1)The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

2) Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

3)The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and consideration! Please don't continue to let these beautiful wild elk die horrible tragic deaths due to starvation and dehydration!

**Correspondence ID:2187**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2188**

Correspondence: Elk should not be fenced in for the benefit of domestic animals. This is not a zoo or farmland.

**Correspondence ID:2189**

Correspondence: I believe it is vital to the well being of our citizens and the broader health of our environment to maintain wilderness areas and support the native species that inhabit these areas. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2190**

Correspondence: This is OUR national park - it does not belong to cattle or "veal" or ranchers - the wildlife, the land, and the people's access to such should be your priority as it is ours. This is ridiculous - put your priorities straight.

**Correspondence ID:2191**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence! Don't prioritize business concerns over the welfare of wildlife. Fences don't belong in wilderness!!

Thank you,

-Meredith

**Correspondence ID:2192**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Anna Tangi

**Correspondence ID:2193**

Correspondence: Please! That fence is detrimental to the elk, it needs to be removed.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:2194**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2195**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

• The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2196**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2197**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2198**

Correspondence: This makes NO sense! Cattle cannot be allowed to rule the wild areas just because ranchers say so! The Tule elk are indigenous and wild. They deserve to stay wild and NOT be fenced in. Cattle degrade water areas and do other damage so they need to graze in much different areas. They do NOT belong in this area where the Tule elk lives!!

Please rethink this and let the elk roam free and be on their homelands!

Thank you for reading my comment.

M. Lou Orr

**Correspondence ID:2199**

Correspondence: Take down the fence to save native tule Elk at Point Reyes

**Correspondence ID:2200**

Correspondence: Take down the fencing in wildlife area. They need food and water just like all living things.

Sincerely, Terry J Wilson

**Correspondence ID:2201**

Correspondence: Please protect the native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California!

**Correspondence ID:2202**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

Please remove the fence and all the habitat destroying cattle from that place and let the Tule elk return, so it can be in it's natural state as it should be and should have been all along. Thank you very much.

Copley H. Smoak, Naturalist

**Correspondence ID:2203**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Your job is to save wildlife and the habitat they reside in not provide for commercial cattle.

**Correspondence ID:2204**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2205**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2206**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The Tule Elk are fenced in, and captives. Either the NPS Must give them sufficient water and food in this 'Zoo', or Must take down the Fences, and close down the profiting Ranchers so elk can access food and water.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2207**

Correspondence: HI,  
Cattle should not be allowed in a National Park.  
Kerry

**Correspondence ID:2208**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2209**

Correspondence: It horrifies me to think of the unnecessary death of fenced off animals of any kind. The park is for the wild animals and should be their priority. Fences have no place in the Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton

Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. A visit to the park brings delight to all who experience the variety and diversity of wildlife we share this planet with. You are responsible for the outcome of their survival. Thank you for doing the best for all Wild creatures.

**Correspondence ID:2210**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:2211**

Correspondence: Just do the right thing for the Elk and don't lose your membership cards to the human race. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2212**

Correspondence: These are public lands. I am a member of the public. I am tired of seeing our government services kill millions of animals each year on public lands to make way for private grazing rights. I was able to see the Tule Elk myself on a recent visit to the beach, and it breaks my heart knowing that we're killing them in favor of private cattle stocks. These are public lands and the tule elk belong here. Private cattle profits don't.

**Correspondence ID:2213**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2214**

Correspondence: The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years, critically endangering the native species of Tule elk that is nearly extinct across California.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020. Today 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2215**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use, but this is not the current status. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please help so that no more native Tule elk have to die!

Thank you,  
Nancy

**Correspondence ID:2216**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans and not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, and fences have no place in Wilderness. Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.  
Thank you for considering my views.

**Correspondence ID:2217**

Correspondence: Protect the wildlife. The balance of wildlife is important to the environment

**Correspondence ID:2218**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2219**

Correspondence: The NPS should do everything it can to protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Please take down the fence

I support an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:2220**

Correspondence: Take down the fence!!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2221**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2222**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2223**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Stop putting archers and cattle above our natural wildlife.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2224**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.



The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2225**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing here!

**Correspondence ID:2226**

Correspondence: Take down the fence. Environment before profit.

**Correspondence ID:2227**

Correspondence: I strongly urge the NPS to consider the Tule elk and other wildlife ahead of ranchers in the planning and environmental impact process. Right now, a fence is keeping the Tule elk from leaving a section of the park, leading to the elks' deaths from lack of water and food. The fence should be taken down to allow the elk to forage and find water sources, instead of the NPS or volunteers bringing water in for the elk. This is all so the ranchers can have unbridled access to areas of the Point Reyes National Seashore, a leasing agreement that was due to end but is still ongoing due to the ranchers pushing for it. Wilderness and national parks are for all citizens, not just ranchers. The point of wilderness is to keep it wild and allow native animals to live there. The NPS should be protecting national parks, not fencing sections off for special interest groups.

Jamila Viandier

**Correspondence ID:2228**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2229**

Correspondence: Well, hell! Public land! Land I, as a taxpayer, have a right to decide on its use. I wholeheartedly vote in favor of elk. Ranchers are profiting from my land to the detriment of a native species. Time to stop all this insanity. Small, regional farms will more than feed people without destroying everything in their vicinity. Big ag is killing us! When will humans get a clue? Looks like never. Pretty disgusting.

**Correspondence ID:2230**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2231**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2232**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2233**

Correspondence: Protecting wildlife is one of the cheapest and most efficient ways of fighting climate change and greedy meat lobbies, all in one go.

Please, NPS, fence yourselves against lobbies and defend a no- fence Point Reyes, a move focused on saving Tule elks and Us, the people.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:2234**

Correspondence: The National Park Service must prioritize the protection of the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife rather than catering to the interests of ranchers who profit from its use. This national park belongs to all Americans. It is past time to end commercial ranching at Point Reyes--this was supposed to happen decades ago. Currently the rare Tule elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness are dying needlessly because they are fenced in, without access to food and water. This is unacceptable. Please take down the fences and restore the Point Reyes National Seashore to its proper wilderness state.

**Correspondence ID:2235**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing and take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:2236**

Correspondence: I am so tired of cattle ranchers disturbing our natural wild life. Use Invisible Fence so the animals can commingle. You can afford it. Elk have the right to life as well. Ranchers can afford it.

**Correspondence ID:2237**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2238**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2239**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2240**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2241**

Correspondence: The tule elk we're here first. Cattle can graze anywhere. Where will the tule elk go? What kind of person do you want to be remembered as?

**Correspondence ID:2242**

Correspondence: Please protect the wild life.

**Correspondence ID:2243**

Correspondence: I am writing to urge you to prioritize wildlife, particularly the native Tule elk, over cattle at the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

\*The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

\*Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

\*The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2244**

Correspondence: Take the fence down & allow animals to cross freely. This is dangerous & wrong!

**Correspondence ID:2245**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2246**

Correspondence: The elk deserve to be preserved! The ranchers with their cattle do not deserve to remain with their destructive effects to the land for year after year after having sold their land!

**Correspondence ID:2247**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2248**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:2249**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decade

Wild areas only remain wild once!

Protect our wilderness!

**Correspondence ID:2250**

Correspondence: Hello,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,  
Trish Satifka

**Correspondence ID:2251**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk were here before the cattle and they deserve grazing space more than the cows. Please take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:2252**

Correspondence: As a long time volunteer for the USFS , It is both the forest service's duty and the park service's duty to PROTECT not help destroy nature .. The growing death of elk at pt. reyes is not acceptable . Take down that fence and stop killing wildlife . To allow cattle grazing in lieu of wildlife destruction is not what why we are here . Stop !! this nonsense immediately and let cattle ranchers find another way .. Its the citizen's property not the c attle ranchers .

**Correspondence ID:2253**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. This is the NPS, not the forest service. the mission of the NPS is not the same as the forest service and The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2254**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2255**

Correspondence: As a stakeholder, I urge the National Park Service to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore! The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2256**

Correspondence: These Elk should not be fenced in and wildlife especially those who have unique behaviors and characteristics should be prioritized over cattle grazing which can be done almost anywhere. In an area designated as wilderness, there should be no fences keeping wildlife in.

**Correspondence ID:2257**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2258**

Correspondence: My key points and concerns:

1. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
2. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
3. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2259**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2260**

Correspondence: Fencing this area is leading to the suffering and agonizing death of of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. These fences should be taken down so elk can access food and water. The NPS should have the the best interests of wildlife at heart.

**Correspondence ID:2261**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2262**

Correspondence: At Point Reyes National Seashore, Tule elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015. Then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent have died since then.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2263**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2264**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2265**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2266**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THE FENCE

**Correspondence ID:2267**

Correspondence: The elk belong there with no fences.

**Correspondence ID:2268**



Correspondence: For years we have watched government organizations prioritize livestock over wildlife. This is not consistent with the purpose of designating lands as public. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2269**

Correspondence: What is happening to the Tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California is murder plain and simple. What the heck is the National Park Service doing? Their job is to protect and care for wildlife not kill them slowly through starvation and a lack of water. This is cruelty to animals and the Park Service should be held accountable. Take the fences down immediately. Cattle are definitely not a priority over wildlife. The ranchers need to go elsewhere and right now. The ranchers cannot refuse to move. They were given permission many years ago to graze their cattle there but now the wildlife need it much more than their cattle do. The ranchers need to take their cattle to their own land. If necessary force them to move on by any means necessary. Cattle are a dime a dozen. Wildlife and especially these elk are not.

**Correspondence ID:2270**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2271**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2272**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2273**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2274**

Correspondence: Please remove the fences at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness, which are causing deaths of the rare Tule elk. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. Tule elk cannot access food and water, due to the fences in place.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2275**

Correspondence: WE ALL KNOW IF THE ECOSYSTEM COLLAPSES, DOMESTICATED ANIMALS WILL DIE AS WELL --

USE COMMON SENSE, SHARE THE ROAD, AS IT WERE, OR THE CRASH WILL KILL US ALL,

WE ARE ALL ONE INTERCONNECTED WORLD.

ALLOW WILDLIFE EQUAL PROTECTIONS -- AS A VOTER WHO PAYS ATTENTION, AND CARES

I WANT WILD LIFE - PLANT AND ANIMAL TO BE FIRST PRIORITY -- NOT RANCHERS OR FARMERS.

**Correspondence ID:2276**

Correspondence: When we bought our property in Teton Valley, ID, one of the first things we did was remove the old barbed wire fence that was there. We knew it had to go because it's detrimental to the wildlife in the area, such as moose and deer.

Same thing applies here: Instead of "TEAR DOWN THAT WALL", it's "TEAR DOWN THAT FENCE."

**Correspondence ID:2277**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Please take the humane actions.

**Correspondence ID:2278**

Correspondence: Please consider allowing Tule Elk past the Pt. Reyes/Tomales Point fenced area. This allows for a healthier herd- giving them access to forage and water. Too many elk have died from thirst and malnutrition.

Cattle are currently given precedence over the elk on government owned land. We should be stewards first of wild animals, rather than livestock.

Thank you for listening.

**Correspondence ID:2279**

Correspondence: I urge you to remove the fences in Tomales Point and see that the Tule elk, an endangered species, have enough food and water. They are dying in great numbers and this must be stopped. To favor cattle and the ranchers who own them at their cost is an outrage. We don't need more burgers now--we need wildlife and nature!

**Correspondence ID:2280**

Correspondence: Today is the day to take action!

**Correspondence ID:2281**

Correspondence: I'm 72 and understand balance. If you look at the big picture, meaning the whole world, you'll see there is an unbalanced climate. We can disagree all you want but Humanity has changed Eco systems everywhere.

The Eco system that is Point Reyes needs balance to allow the Elk to survive. People can move about to make a living. The Elk need space to survive but are restricted, making it harder to sustain a life.

I have enjoyed the area hiking and horseback riding. It is always exciting to see these Elk grazing out on the beach trail.

I'm hoping you will consider voting on the Elk over cattle.

Sincerely

Adella Albiani

**Correspondence ID:2282**

Correspondence: Please protect the remaining wildlife in this area, rather than emphasizing private profits. and held in trust for future generations. Wild areas that still exist as ecosystems should be preserved. Thank You

**Correspondence ID:2283**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I live in Del Norte County, CA and we have elk herds. They are magnificent creatures who deserve to live their lives where they were born the same as myself and other living beings. I am heartbroken to learn the Point Reyes Tule Elk herd is being forced into an area so small to the point of starvation due to inadequate food and water for the sake of cattle ranching! Please remedy this immediately.

**Correspondence ID:2284**

Correspondence: Because of the National Park Service's flawed plan for Tomales Point, native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, are needlessly dying in great numbers at the National Seashore. Instead of protecting our national wildlife, the NPS is sacrificing them to protect ranchers' cattle leases. Cattle are not a native species and have no business being in a so-called wilderness area. In a true wilderness area, the park service's priority should and must be to a native species, that should NOT be trapped behind fences to prevent them from competing for water and forage.

It's an absolute disgrace that the NPS is permitting some ranchers to illegally occupy lands that were purchased from them 50 years ago. Instead of extending these 25-year leases, the NPS should be taking legal action against these ranchers and confiscating their livestock if they refuse to move them. These lands were doubt purchased with taxpayer dollars for the benefit of everyone, not just the few who are making money from them.

In a time of record droughts and dwindling resources, our native wildlife species must take priority, and have unimpeded access to food and water. It is morally wrong to cause them to die because of a reluctance to evict the ranchers who are, for all intents and purposes, trespassing on government-owned land. Ranchers have other options; Tule elk don't. Please grow a backbone and do what is right for our native wildlife.

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**Correspondence ID:2285**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2286**

Correspondence: Please save the elk! The U.S. already has more cattle than it needs --they are not good for the environment.

**Correspondence ID:2287**

Correspondence: Like the rest of us, they too, have a right to live. Please have some compassion.

**Correspondence ID:2288**

Correspondence: I respectfully ask that the fence be removed at Point Reyes in order to save the Tule Elk.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for listening

**Correspondence ID:2289**

Correspondence: Why does your agency continue to support the cattle ranchers , our wildlife is being decimated because of these greedy cattle Ranchers. I believe it's your mission to save and restore the park . I also believe that these cattlemens organizations contribute to alot of the politicians who intern subsidize your organization . So we need to take the fences down first and give us back the land that all taxpayers in this country pay for. Those greedy cattle Ranchers need to learn how to CoExist with our wildlife or get off our land.

**Correspondence ID:2290**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2291**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2292**

- Correspondence:
- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
  - Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
  - The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2293**

Correspondence: Please take the fences down! The NPS should be prioritizing the needs of native wildlife and end commercial ranching at Point Reyes. Thank You.

**Correspondence ID:2294**

Correspondence: The National Park Service (NPS) must stop pandering to ranchers who were bought out with public funds many years ago but refuse to leave. This is an outrageous situation.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans and must be protected in the public interest. Commercial livestock grazing is having many ongoing and cumulative adverse impacts on seashore natural and cultural resources.

Fences are unnatural structures. They have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The Biden administration's professed commitment to the America the Beautiful 30 by 30 campaign is a complete sham and fraud when it comes to the current plan at Point Reyes National Seashore. This must change. Remove the fence and ranchers, and restore the Tule elk and other native species.

Thanks for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2295**

Correspondence: Wild life are in danger every where. Please help the Elk survive.

**Correspondence ID:2296**

Correspondence: This takeover of public lands by ranchers needs to stop. These are national treasures and we should not allow them to be destroyed for financial interests.

There are rare elk dying for human greed.

This is outrageous and so, so sad.

Humans need to stop encroaching on what little wild spaces we have left.

And already existing encroachment needs to be pulled back.

What do we want? Beautiful, public and protected spaces or all the places trampled by greed?

**Correspondence ID:2297**

Correspondence: Let's be good stewards here, and respect the freedom of other species.

**Correspondence ID:2298**

Correspondence: We want to support whatever is best to support the healthiest most honoring

For considering 7 generations and what is best for All wildlife to be restored and

protected; protecting any and all remaining

undeveloped spaces, The oceans , the forests ,the four leggeds ,

the winged ones, all birds, fish and beneficial wildlife including restoring the microbiomes

Soul, soul and fungal life!

As many of us know; and

we all know "The time is NOW!"

We gave crossed the threshold!

Although I write from upstate NY where it was 28' degrees and snowy 6 days ago

Followed by 80 degree temps this weekend ;

We have enjoyed beautiful days in the Pt Reyes area and Northern California !

Throughout the 1990's-2017!

Due to several long gaps away and then returning

I have seen the excessive expansions ;overwhelming

degradation and developments that have  
Taken place place in Northern California !  
I have heard from land keepers; gardeners , people tending the earth  
At Green Gulch Farm and other areas N of SF that once thrived , benefited from and  
relied on the moisture that was a natural part of that region that has dramatically  
Declined and is effecting the ability to farm and grow as they once did!  
Although I am NOT a scientist ; it is my belief that the practices of  
hydraulic fracturing used for "hydro fracking"  
Which Involves utilizing large amounts of water  
( millions millions of gallons in order to frack ONE well!) that water must  
Be coming from  
Some place in the area  
and then once used for drilling purposes that water  
becomes impotable , millions of fallow of toxic water  
And rendered unusable ;  
HOW can this practice not have an impact on  
The environment ? The atmosphere;  
We have seen an increase in fires, earthquakes,  
Hurricanes etc; I am told even tho New York State  
Banned Hydro fracking I am told  
these practices have been continuing  
Over the years across the USA  
Colorado, the Dakotas, California ; I recognize  
And understand that millions of people rely on  
NG to heat their homes but WE as a nation  
Must Recognizant that these practices are Having a huge  
Impact; We must correct these problems  
And restore what has been broken(damaged) abused  
Exploitation and any profit that compromises  
The beauty and blessings this extraordinary  
Eco system need to be corrected!  
May we restore California to its natural beauty  
Allow the animals to roam and Protect  
Forests, oceans rivers First  
sequoias and clean water first !  
This is a wake up call to Any and All  
Millionaires, billionaires who profit from  
These destructive compromising practices;  
It is long past Time for a change!

**Correspondence ID:2299**

Correspondence: We want to support whatever is best to support the healthiest most honoring  
For considering 7 generations and what is best for All wildlife to be restored and  
protected; protecting any and all remaining  
undeveloped spaces, The oceans , the forests ,the four leggeds ,  
the winged ones, all birds, fish and beneficial wildlife including restoring the microbiomes  
Soul, soul and fungal life!  
As many of us know; and

we all know "The time is NOW!"  
We have crossed the threshold!  
Although I write from upstate NY where it was 28' degrees and snowy 6 days ago  
Followed by 80 degree temps this weekend ;  
We have enjoyed beautiful days in the Pt Reyes area and Northern California !  
Throughout the 1990's-2017!  
Due to several long gaps away and then returning  
I have seen the excessive expansions ;overwhelming  
degradation and developments that have  
Taken place in Northern California !  
I have heard from land keepers; gardeners , people tending the earth  
At Green Gulch Farm and other areas N of SF that once thrived , benefited from and  
relied on the moisture that was a natural part of that region that has dramatically  
Declined and is effecting the ability to farm and grow as they once did!  
Although I am NOT a scientist ; it is my belief that the practices of  
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**Correspondence ID:2300**

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### **Correspondence ID:2302**

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**Correspondence ID:2303**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2304**

Correspondence: How can you justify having a fence in a wilderness area?????????

How can you justify letting elk thirst to death or starve to death just so cattle can have more to drink and eat?

End leases for cattle now.

**Correspondence ID:2305**

Correspondence: Please protect the elk at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:2306**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Time to get the ranchers out.

**Correspondence ID:2307**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2308**

Correspondence: Remove the fence.

**Correspondence ID:2309**

Correspondence: Wealthy ranchers don't deserve a free ride at taxpayer expense. Do your jobs and protect wildlife for all Americans.

**Correspondence ID:2310**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Stop destroying open space for wildlife!

**Correspondence ID:2311**

Correspondence: As a long-time former resident of the Point Reyes area, I consider it one of the most beautiful areas on the California coast. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans. While this includes ranchers who profit from its use, the National Park Service must protect also protect the native wildlife that has lived there for thousands of years.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The irony of the needs of the NPS to prioritize ranchers over the needs of native wildlife is as disturbing as it is unnatural. The NPS needs to put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago!!

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2312**

Correspondence: preserve nature

**Correspondence ID:2313**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2314**

Correspondence: Please first priority should be preservation of wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2315**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Get cattle and sheep off public lands.

**Correspondence ID:2316**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

• The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

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The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

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The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

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Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

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The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2321**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

It would more humane to shot the elk rather than have them die of starvation and dehydration.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:2322**

Correspondence: STOP being a front for the cattle industry !

**Correspondence ID:2323**

Correspondence: It would be so nice to prioritize the wildlife over ranch cows. Agribusiness is ruining our world. We need to balance out what we are doing. Money can't be let to ge the most important thing in the world.

**Correspondence ID:2324**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2325**

Correspondence: Stop pandering to greedy private ranching interests!

As a government agency you are to represent and act on the public's behalf.

You are failing to protect The Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife by installing fences.

The ridiculous decision to erect fences in this area needs to be reversed -

Not only is it a misappropriation of public funds it is injuring and killing wildlife.- Including the rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness as they are impeded access food and water.

NPS finally do your job - prioritize public over private interests - remove the fence and END commercial ranching at Point Reyes as recognized decades ago!

**Correspondence ID:2326**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans for non-commercial enjoyment. Ranchers are private businessmen who should have no legal right to use tax-payer funded resources for their own profit.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. That was and is still the stated intent of the National Seashore.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. It seems you are striving to kill the entire herd so there will nothing left to preserve.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2327**

Correspondence: Dear Point Reyes National Seashore Staff,

Comments regarding Tomales Point Area Plan:

Point Reyes National Seashore is public land. This is my land, your land, our land. Private use such as cattle ranch has not place within the Seashore. Leases that allow cattle ranching must be terminated. Domestic livestock, all fencing, and other related structures must be removed from the Seashore. The National Park Service must prioritize management for native wildlife, plants, and habitats.

Designated Wilderness within Point Reyes National Seashore must have no fencing. Fencing that restricts the movement of Tule elk within the Seashore must be removed immediately. The National Park Service must prioritize management for native wildlife by terminating commercial ranching leases at Point Reyes. Termination of cattle ranching within Point Reyes National Seashore is congressionally mandated by the 1978 establishment of the Seashore.



**Correspondence ID:2328**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

I have contacted you in the past and encouraged you to consider that the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use, and to protect the rare Tule elk.

It is your job to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

I visit this area often and commend the people who prevented a highway to be built through Marin County to the ocean.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. You need to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

You need to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to happen decades ago.

Thank you for listening to the public.

**Correspondence ID:2329**

Correspondence: I feel strongly that the Tule Elk need to be able to have their own habitat so they can thrive.

It seems terribly inhumane to allow ranchers to restrict the elk's habitat to such a small area. They are dying, due to lack of food.

The people of Marin County feel strongly that the elk need more space and the ranchers who have been using public land should be forced to relinquish that acreage. It's time for all of us to stand up and speak out for the elk. I am ashamed that the powers that be are currently ignoring their plight. Do the right thing please. The ranchers have plenty of public space already!

**Correspondence ID:2330**

Correspondence: Please honor your commitment from years ago to prioritize the needs of native wildlife, like elk, and take down the fence. No one but your organization is tasked with protecting wildlife, and this is important to all Americans, and is a part of our heritage. Honor the original agreement and take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:2331**

Correspondence: Hello,

Point Reyes National Seashore is a national treasure that deserves protection to ensure that present and future generations of Americans have the opportunity to experience it. Because the NPS is responsible for protecting the Seashore and its wildlife, I offer the following comments:

1. Fences do not belong in the Philip Burton Wilderness. I urge the NPS to stop the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Please take down the fence so elk can access food and water.

2. The NPS should prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. This should have been done many years ago. Now is the time to see it through.

Thank you for considering my comments.

**Correspondence ID:2332**

Correspondence: Commissioners:

Why are the Tule elk still confined? If the cattle ranchers can't make enough money without stealing water and land from the elk and the government, they need to find another business. Their lease is up, and it needs enforcement. I understand that they have been there a long time, but I keep hearing that we have rules and laws in our country; we don't unless we enforce them. The dairy ranchers in my neck of the woods took their cattle to another place when things changed here. Cattlemen all over the country have had to adjust to changing times. We all have. The elk can't adjust any more, now the people must. We have spoken.

Thank you for the work you do, and please fix this problem.

Sincerely,

Susan Fuller

**Correspondence ID:2333**

Correspondence: There are too many cows everywhere....Tule Elks only at Pt. Reyes. PROTECT THEM NOW!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2334**

Correspondence: Thanks for considering my comments.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,

Alan Schenck

**Correspondence ID:2335**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Please remove the fence so Tule Elk can have access to the resources they need and have the inherent right to!

**Correspondence ID:2336**

Correspondence: Dear Sir or Madam:

I have visited the Point Reyes National Seashore in years past, particularly to view its wildlife, like the magnificent and rapidly declining Tule Elk. I understand the elk are dying of hunger and thirst because the Park Service has fenced them into a small area at Tomales Point to provide more area for cattle to

graze. I am angered and saddened by this news. We have plenty of cows but not enough elk. I have stopped buying beef and leather products because of the gross abuse of public lands by domestic livestock, and the suffering of native wildlife because of their presence. The Tule Elk in Point Reyes National Seashore are poster children for this abuse of our public lands under the “watchful” eye of public officials. I spent most of my career as a senior manager for the US Environmental Protection Agency where I focused on the protection of human health and the environment, most especially wildlife. I am now involved as a volunteer with several nonprofits that advocate for wildlife and their habitat. Based on this experience, I strongly urge you to remove the fences from Point Reyes and allow elk to forage naturally. All livestock should be removed from the park, and it should be restored to public use, not private abuse. Shame on you for doing otherwise. Are you so afraid of cattle producers that you allow this abuse of wildlife on public lands?

Sincerely,  
Christine Psyk

**Correspondence ID:2337**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2338**

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The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2339**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

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The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2340**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2341**

Correspondence: The way the wildlife, specifically the Tule Elk, are being treated on the Point Reyes National Seashore is criminal. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The ranchers need to take a back seat to the preservation of the wildlife, not the other way around.

The fences need to come down immediately. Fences have no place in the Wilderness. Because of the fences, the Tule Elk are dying by the hundreds because they cannot access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The leases should not have been extended when they expired. Some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed upon despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, and restore the ability of the Tule Elk to reach food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2342**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Future generations are counting on you to do what is for the highest and best good of the earth and her creatures.

**Correspondence ID:2343**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2344**

Correspondence: Please remove the fences so these beautiful Tule Elk can reach food and water and the Phillip Burton Wilderness are free from all fencing. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences do not belong in the wilderness, The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2345**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The needs of native wildlife must be prioritized by the NPS by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Why hasn't it done this already?

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife without further delay.

**Correspondence ID:2346**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2347**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2348**

Correspondence: Please consider the well-being of the Tule elk!!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2349**

Correspondence: Take down the fence at Point Reyes preventing the native elk access to food and water.

It is unspeakably cruel.

**Correspondence ID:2350**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2351**

Correspondence: I am writing this letter to ask the National Park Service to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. National Parks were not designed for the purpose of supporting for-profit commercial farming at the expense of loss of wildlife and resources.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the National Park Service. As a result, approximately 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

The National Park Service is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the National Park Service has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst. The National Park Service needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Cathy Seber

**Correspondence ID:2352**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THE FENCE!

**Correspondence ID:2353**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2354**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife right away.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. This doesn't even go together. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water now!

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2355**

Correspondence: I am very concerned about the native Tule Elk at Point Reyes, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but the ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Please consider the following reasons for taking down the fence.

-The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

-Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

-The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Cattle and private ranchers should not get preference over wildlife, especially on public land.

**Correspondence ID:2356**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore iconic. The NPS is charged with protecting the Seashore and its wildlife and must do so despite antagonistic interests.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

In addition to being antithetical to Wilderness. they are complicit in ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Taking down the fencing would enable elk to access needed food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago, just as it did when it finally did not extend the lease of the oyster farm at Point Reyes. I personally liked the oysters there, but the commercial operation was inappropriate there as ranching still is.

Please make the right decision again and hold firm against any interest to the contrary.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2357**

Correspondence: I am extremely concerned about the welfare of the Tule Elk at the Point Reyes National Seashore, which belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife as a matter of both justice and compassion.

Furthermore, fences have no place in Wilderness. Specifically, the NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of these rare and increasingly threatened Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Overall, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2358**

Correspondence: I urge the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Additionally, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of



public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Please immediately remove the fences and prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:2359**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2360**

Correspondence: take out and keep out fences in wilderness land. let the wildlife roam so they can eat and not starve to death. Public land was established so we could enjoy nature, not for a few to make money off of. no farming, oil wells and other money grabbing things on what nature we have.

**Correspondence ID:2361**

Correspondence: Thank you for considering my comments:  
Since the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS should protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. I ask the NPS to please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank You.

**Correspondence ID:2362**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2363**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2364**

Correspondence: Wild animals should be able to move around their natural territories as instinct guides them. Stop impeding wildlife -- they should have rights too.

**Correspondence ID:2365**

Correspondence: TWIMC:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service (NPS) must protect the seashore and its wildlife.

Fences are not appropriate in Wildernesses. The NPS needs to end the tragic, on-going deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

We request the NPS to put a priority on the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. Grazing was supposed to stop at Point Reyes decades ago.

We need more protected natural land in the U.S. and the world. It's essential for the survival of humans.

**Correspondence ID:2366**

Correspondence: Stop renting land intended for wildlife to cattlemen!!!

**Correspondence ID:2367**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Across the West, Wilderness has been set aside for the primary use of the wildlife that live there.

Grazing rights have no place in NPS Wilderness! You can't graze cattle in Lava Beds National Monument, or at Mt. St. Helens, and you shouldn't be able to graze cattle at Point Reyes. Let the elk go free!

**Correspondence ID:2368**

Correspondence: Allowing ranchers to profit while contributing to climate change on public land is Unconscionable.

Decades of mismanagement is unacceptable. People responsible will be held accountable.

It is NPS job to prioritize natural wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2369**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time!

**Correspondence ID:2370**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing to protect these beautiful innocent animals.

Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:2371**

Correspondence: As both a Californian and American, I am dumbfounded to learn Tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore are restricted to essentially a pen rather than allowing them to forage broadly, all in service to cattle operations within nationally protected lands. National Seashores belong to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2372**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you very much for your serious consideration of this issue.

**Correspondence ID:2373**

Correspondence: National Parks belong to "the people"! Not to ranchers! Protect the wildlife!

**Correspondence ID:2374**

Correspondence: At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore thanks to National Park Service (NPS) mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:2375**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,

Krissa Cumpston

**Correspondence ID:2376**

Correspondence: To: NPS

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Clearly, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2377**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore, which belongs to all Americans and not just to ranchers who profit from its use MUST prioritize wildlife over cattle!

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2378**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2379**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore, like all lands within the National system (i.e., National Parks, National Lakeshores, National Forests) is a part of our natural heritage. It doesn't belong to any one group of visitors or inhabitants. The very creation of this national system was to help preserve our natural heritage for all and for generations to come. The flora and fauna are also a part of that land. Our role is of stewards, not capitalist managers. Our natural heritage is not something to be bought and sold on the marketplace. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. It is long past the time for the NPS to prioritize the needs of native wildlife (to protect this natural heritage for generations to come) by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:2380**

Correspondence: Please stop antagonizing the elk population!

**Correspondence ID:2381**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence and the cattle ranches as soon as possible. Tule elk are an ecologically critical part of the landscape of Point Reyes, while cattle-grazing permits in the national park are a privilege for a few livestock owners. Ranch leaseholders shouldn't be able to dictate Park Service policy that hurts or kills park wildlife. The Park Service is required to manage Point Reyes National Seashore without impairing its natural values and for the maximum protection, restoration and preservation of the local natural environment.

**Correspondence ID:2382**

Correspondence: I am very concerned about the fate of the Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, which is well documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. But ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

We need to take down the fences that are stopping elk from accessing food and water, and stop prioritizing commercial use of public lands over the wildlife we hope to protect.

**Correspondence ID:2383**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2384**

Correspondence: The elk deserve equal rights for grazing and water access. There is enough grazing for limited cattle. Money always wins.

**Correspondence ID:2385**

Correspondence: We must protect nature and wildlife before they disappear forever...

**Correspondence ID:2386**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2387**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2388**

Correspondence: Be fair to the wildlife do what is right

**Correspondence ID:2389**

Correspondence: National Parks, including Point Reyes National Seashore, are you preserve and protect the land and it's native creatures. It's time to end, not to expand, the ranking and farming at Point Reyes. The Tule Elk should have priority over cattle and row crops. Take down the fences and allow our native Tule Elk access to water and grazing. Please!

**Correspondence ID:2390**

Correspondence: The problem is, the people of this country have been so dumbed down, the voters, keep voting against their best interests. That is why this country has a fascist autocratic nation building government, where only money and power are important.

The Cattle Industry has deep pockets and bribe our politicians to allow them to graze their Cattle on Public land. Actually the labeled public land is in name only, because our corrupt politicians steal our land and tax money to use for their money and power grabbing interest. The government is a fascist autocratic nation building entity, that has destroyed democracy and the Constitutional laws the founding fathers want this country to live by.

The only way the people will have a say again in the way the country runs is to educate the people, so they stop voting against their best interests. The voters need to vote into office politicians who are not taking money from Corporations and billionaires, but only vote for politicians who take money from the people, that way they will only work for the people. The public owns public lands, not the criminals who run our government, or the Cattle Industry or any others who the government allows to use our land for their best interests, which is putting money in their pockets and Campaigns.

**Correspondence ID:2391**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in wilderness. The NPS needs to end the ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS should prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2392**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2393**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2394**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

The thing I find most problematic about the plan is the fence that prevents the Tule elk from accessing the entire wilderness area. The NPS needs to take down the fence so elk can access food and water throughout the area. Moreover, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by eliminating commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:2395**

Correspondence: It's very unfortunate that NPS management at Point Reyes is tarnishing the service's reputation by such poor management. The management of cows and elk on the unit seem like a throwback to a very unenlightened era. I urge you to remove both the fence and the cows from PRNS. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2396**

Correspondence: Please think "outside the fence," and find ways for wildlife to have appropriate territory (appropriate size and resources) AND for ranchers to continue to make their living. Humans are endlessly resourceful, it is HOW WE SURVIVE. People have been grazing their domesticated animals alongside wildlife for millennia. We can figure this out. There is a win/win to be had, but EVERYONE involved may need to defeat their preconceptions and think of NEW ways to engage with the available natural resources. May God bless all involved in these decisions with wisdom, patience, fortitude, and resourcefulness.

**Correspondence ID:2397**

Correspondence: Please do all you can to allow these animals to have full access to their natural habitat!

**Correspondence ID:2398**

Correspondence: protect our elk! remove the fence! remove the livestock!

**Correspondence ID:2399**

Correspondence: I support taking down fences so the elk can roam and be a free ranging herd. Cows do not belong in a National Park. The Park should prioritize wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2400**



Correspondence: Nature needs to keep a balance of species. Cattle are harmful to human health contributing to early death. They pollute the air and water and soil in the confined concentrations they are forced to live in. People want to see natural nature. It's much healthier.

**Correspondence ID:2401**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2402**

Correspondence: Nature over Profit.....Allow the Elk to Enter!!!

**Correspondence ID:2403**

Correspondence: Please do not allow cattle to take priority over wildlife for grazing of Point Reyes National Seashore in the Philip Burton Wilderness Area. Commercial ranching with its fencing has no right to a wilderness area of a national wilderness area. Ranchers are only adding to the problem of methane production which impacts climate change as well as the starvation and limit of wildlife. Thank you for considering my request.

**Correspondence ID:2404**

Correspondence: I am writing to request that the NPS change its policy regarding Point Reyes National Seashore and end commercial grazing that is negatively impacting the Tule elk.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The agreement reached in 1962 allowed 25 years of continued grazing and we are well past that time limit. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2405**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2406**

Correspondence: Wild spaces should be prioritized over ranchers and profit.

**Correspondence ID:2407**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2408**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to everyone, not just ranchers who profit from its use. We need to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences do not belong in Wilderness. Take down the fence so endangered elk can access food and water.

We need to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, as should have happened decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2409**

Correspondence: Fencing and wild life seem to be words that do not go together. There was a song in the 70s that had a line that seems apropos:

Hey! What gives you the right  
To put up a fence to keep me out  
But to keep Mother Nature in?  
If God was here, he'd tell you to your face  
'Man, you're some kind of sinner'"

How can you enclosed the elk, a WILD animal? Favoring cattle over the elk is not what I expect from your organization. Caving to pressure from the cattle industry is shameful. Save these wild creatures, the Tule Elk. Preserve the Philip Barton Wilderness. Put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it should have been done DECADES ago.

Thanking you in advance for getting it right for the wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:2410**

Correspondence: Gentlemen,

Take down the fence to save native Tule Elk at Point Reyes!

I am against any NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes that keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. This has got to stop.

Sincerely,

Robert Fehsinger

**Correspondence ID:2411**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2412**

Correspondence: I am submitting the following comments because the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Also, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Finally, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

This issue is important to me as well as to millions of our fellow Americans across our country. Therefore I trust that my comments regarding this critically important matter will be addressed and thoughtfully considered. Thank you for your time.

**Correspondence ID:2413**

Correspondence: Hi,

As someone who visits Point Reyes almost every week, I am encouraged to hear about the plans to work with the native peoples to bring in their experience and expertise. In short I would like to see the whole of Point Reyes re-wilded and the farm leases terminated.

In terms of Tomales point I would like to see the following:

- Listen to the Coastal Miwok and other native peoples who have a longer historical knowledge of how this land was managed. Let them lead this effort.
- Elk fences removed all together.
- Restoring the native trees and vegetation, that can help provide shade and retain groundwater ( Silvopasture helps cows too! It controls runoff and it captures Methane/CO2 as well ).
- Water for the elk, but just as important vegetation for them to eat so they don't poison themselves by eating hemlock.
- No culling or population limits that relate to them being constrained by dairy operations.

Thanks so much!!

Point Reyes is a really special place and means a lot to my family and the community of Petaluma.

Theodore

**Correspondence ID:2414**

Correspondence: This park belongs to all of us, not dairy farmers. What is happening to the Tule Elk is a national disgrace. The world is watching. Shame on you.

**Correspondence ID:2415**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk reserve is 2900 acres. Normal elk habitat for any elk species is well over that - most herds migrate in area many times that size. It has been irresponsible to have a herd grow and not manage it within those small confines. Even in the best environmental conditions the end result would be starvation and spread of disease. A controlled and managed hunting quota would keep the herd at a size that the ecosystem would support. Anything other than that is absolutely going to create suffering and unhealthy conditions. Even doubling the size of the area would still need controlled hunting to manage the herd. Certainly all staff biologist have provided what a manageable size is, under different conditions. When I grew up in Marin in the 70's there were no Elk there. Any is a great improvement and benefit to the community. But being irresponsible and not managing the herd almost makes this a failed experiment in pain and suffering.

The service is fully staffed with biologist, scientist, land managers, and many others who are qualified to make the right decisions. Public comments from people who have no education on a topic, who have

social agenda for destruction, or are simply ignorant and easily influenced should not be the basis for logical, science based decisions.

This entire area used to be hunting territory for people from San Francisco and northern California. It is well suited for that. Controlled hunting has brought back the Elk, Bison, Black Bear, Turkey, Pronghorn Antelope, White Rhino, and many other species worldwide. It should be part of the controlled and well managed program for this entire area, which could also include turkey hunting.

Please use science and biology to manage lands. I realize being a public resource there are political reasons and requirements to include in the public decision making process. But invalid, destructive, or ignorant comments should be easily identifiable and logically excluded.

**Correspondence ID:2416**

Correspondence: We must protect the Elk herd , they were here way before cattle. This is a national park and there should not be cattle ranching which is so damaging to the environment. The Elk are part of the eco system and what draws millions of visitors to point Reyes. Please make the right decision and remove the cattle ranching remove the fencing and allow water access for the Elk to let the Elk live freely in the park.

Daniel levin.

**Correspondence ID:2417**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences of any kind have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to stop the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2418**

Correspondence: As a Marin County Resident of 26 years, please Use my comments as a Marin County Homeowner and taxpayer as an Absolute reason to PROTECT Our wild Elk, as soon as possible.

The Point Reyes National Seashore Is Important to All of Us in Marin County.

As a taxpayer I do Not and Never, wanted Ranchers to Profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Why? Because WE the taxpayers Demand This to be the Priority of Our National Seashore

Fences have been a Catastrophe in Wilderness. The NPS needs to Immediately END the tragic, ongoing deaths of OUR rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking DOWN the fence so elk can access food and water - AS Soon as Possible!

The NPS needs to Listen And Act on Behalf of OUR native wildlife by Ending Commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. However, First, TEAR Down the FENCES and make sure OUR Elk have Full access to Water - Now!

Marin County Taxpayer,  
Mrs. Melissa Polick

**Correspondence ID:2419**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2420**

Correspondence: Do the right thing .....cattlemen do not need all of the prime grazing. They must learn to share. Apparently they believe they have the “right” to it all.

This is not true.

**Correspondence ID:2421**

Correspondence: Protect the elk!

**Correspondence ID:2422**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

• The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2423**

Correspondence: Your duty is to protect and preserve the ecological integrity of the Point Reyes National seashore.

It is not to act as benefactor of private ranchers who have no right to abuse public land.

All commercial ranching must be ended and all associated fencing must be removed from there.

The National Park Service should solely attend to the well-being of the flora and fauna in this precious place.

**Correspondence ID:2424**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2425**

Correspondence: I have been to Point Reyes and it is a beautiful place where the wildlife should roam.

There must be a way to protect the Elk while keeping in the cattle. If the fencing can come down that would be best but if not there must be open corridors without blockages created for the elk to move and migrate.freely.

**Correspondence ID:2426**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2427**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

This is an area I visit more than 20 years ago and I remember its wild and remote beauty. Point Reyes needs to be protected to remain wild and native. Thank you for considering my comments.

**Correspondence ID:2428**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2429**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2430**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2431**

Correspondence: Thanks for reading my comments on Tomales Point plan. Wilderness and wildlife protection are priorities for me. I advocate that livestock grazing and related fencing should not be part of an area set aside for wildlife and wilderness. My understanding is that there is not an easy coexistence of livestock and elk in this area and so I advocate that wildlife should be prioritized. It seems to me that continued grazing rights in this are prioritizes special interests over public interest.

**Correspondence ID:2432**

Correspondence: Please consider the following points as they concern NEPA:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your attention to the above points.

**Correspondence ID:2433**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2434**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2435**



Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. That the elk are dying of starvation and thirst to allow private profit from cattle ranching is outrageous and NOT what our public lands are for.

**Correspondence ID:2436**

Correspondence: I implore you to return park to natural habitat WITHOUT fences. Ranchers should not exploit our public lands for their profit. You have the responsibility to protect the natural wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2437**

Correspondence: Please do what you can to protect and insure a long and lasting tule elk population in the point Reyes National seashore. If this means removing fencing used to coral domestic animals, so be it. Please make this a priority before this population is lost.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:2438**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle.  
Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2439**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service  
Protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife. Ranching and fences have no place in wilderness. End the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. Ranching should have ended decades ago.  
The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2440**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.  
Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.  
The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

PLEASE DO THE RIGHT THING!

**Correspondence ID:2441**

Correspondence: I am against fencing in the elk, expanding the ag usage of the seashore, and expanding grazing on this sensitive landscape. Evict any non-compliant ranchers,

**Correspondence ID:2442**

Correspondence: Elk yes, cattle no!

**Correspondence ID:2443**

Correspondence: Wilderness does not have fences. Wildlife need access to food and water. The NPS has a mission to preserve both its habitat and wildlife.

Allowing animals to starve because they are fenced in is a violation of your mission. Allow grazing rights to expire. Private ranches should not be the jurisdiction of a government agency. You are creating grave harm to a species that is endangered. Cease and desist immediately, ie. Tear down the fences that prioritize cattle over wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2444**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2445**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2446**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk have the natural right to graze the Phillip Burton Wilderness, and they urgently need that forage.

The original 25 year lease to ranchers has expired, and any new NPS leases need to be cancelled. Ranchers must remove all of their fences at Port Reyes / Tomales Point, and end all commercial ranching activities at that location.

**Correspondence ID:2447**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2448**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you

Arturo Beyeler

**Correspondence ID:2449**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2450**

Correspondence: I am so tired of my tax dollars supporting the ranching industry. The Point Reyes National Seashore is a prime example. This is Wilderness, where no fences should exist. The NPS is supposed to be protecting National Parks. The Tule Elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness are dying because the water is fenced off for the cattle. This is cruel and against what the NPS should stand for. Take down the fence!

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

NPS, please spend my money in ways that align with your mission.

thank you,

Dr Kathie Kingett

**Correspondence ID:2451**

Correspondence: Wild animals in the wilderness deserve to live wild without fences. The fences have caused wild animals to die because of lack of food and water. They deserve to be protected. The cattle ranchers are profiting off this land and hurting the wildlife.

If you want to raise cattle then you should have your own land or pay to use the land without fencing to protect the wild animals. If wild animals are dying in large numbers, the practice of cattle using the wilderness areas should be stopped.

**Correspondence ID:2452**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence that prevents elk from accessing food and water. The NPS is duty-bound to protect Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife; fences have no place in wilderness areas. I would respectfully remind the NPS that Pt. Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans -- not just ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Pt. Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for considering my views.

**Correspondence ID:2453**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Cattle can be re-located. This is the only home for the endangered Tule Elk.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the ongoing tragic and senseless deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2454**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please.

**Correspondence ID:2455**

Correspondence: The Tomales Point Area Plan needs to be evaluated so that the elk it is bound to protect no longer suffers starvation and death by being confined within the 6,000 acres they are allotted. While the comment period is going on and decisions are being made, could the elk at least be provided with food and water? Their range needs to be greatly expanded to ensure their survival. We concerned citizens far outnumber the ranchers who want to retain the land they are permitted to use. Please heed our voices, as the animals depend on you.

Thank you.

Deborah Webster

**Correspondence ID:2456**

Correspondence: Please take the fence down.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:2457**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the natural Seashore and its wildlife as the highest priority - it is a unique treasure of the National Park System and the West Coast.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as was planned decades ago. In addition to extensive fencing, it is easy to see the unacceptable damage done to the landscape by cattle: denuded areas, deep pitted areas from numerous hoofs prints around ponds, streams and wetlands, large amount of feces -- all creating pollution, erosion and sedimentation that flows directly into fresh water ponds and streams, the estuaries and bays. Farm vehicles appear to be able to drive anywhere across the landscape.

thank you for your consideration of these comments.

**Correspondence ID:2458**

Correspondence: Cattle ranching and fencing should not be allowed on our public lands. It's horrible for the wildlife and the climate crisis. Keep the elk and kick the ranches off the public property. Encourage vegetarianism and or vegan lifestyles!! Mother Nature will more than appreciate it!!!

**Correspondence ID:2459**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence at the Point Reyes National Seashore. It threatens the native elk population.

**Correspondence ID:2460**

Correspondence: Do not prioritize cattle over elk. Do not prevent elk from grazing in or out of the park. Cattle cause global warming, stop supporting cattle and ranchers

**Correspondence ID:2461**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2462**

Correspondence: This is stupid. Take the fence down.

**Correspondence ID:2463**

Correspondence: I completely endorse the Wilderness Watch positions:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2464**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2465**

Correspondence: Please do what you can to save the Tule Elk at Pt. Reyes. They really are a treasure there. And fences have no place in Wilderness. The Tule Elk need to be able to access food and water. Please prioritize needs of wildlife and not ranchers.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2466**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore BELONGS TO ALL AMERICANS! NOT JUST TO RANCHERS WHO PROFIT FROM ITS USE. The NPS MUST IMMEDIATELY PROTECT THE SEASHORE AND ITS WILDLIFE, NO MORE DELAYS OR EXCUSES.

ITS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF NPSTO TAKE CARE OF THE SEASHORE AND ITS WILDLIFE NOT TO DO THE BIDDING OF FOF THE CATTLE RANCHERS THAT PAY YOU THROUGH THE LOBBYISTS (BRIBERY)

FENCES HAVE NO PLACE IN WILDERNES! The NPS MUST END THE TRAGIC ONGOING DEATHS OF RARE TULE ELK AT POINT TOMALES in the Phillip Burton Wilderness BY TAKING DOWN THE FENCE so elk can access food and water.

The NPS MUST PRIORITIZE THE NEED OF native wildlife BY PUTTING AN IMMEDIATE END TO COMMERCIAL RANCHING AT Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2467**

Correspondence: As a biologist who understands the importance of maintaining rare biodiversity, it is appalling to see how ranching has been prioritized over Tule Elk at PRNS. Doing so undercuts the mandated reason for national parks -- ie, preserving the wilderness biodiversity over commercial interests.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. I urge the Park service to follow its mandate by pulling down the fences, and creating a sunseting timeline for ranching.

**Correspondence ID:2468**

Correspondence: A park is established for wildlife preservation- not cattle! Take down the fence for Tule Elk at Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:2469**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2470**

Correspondence: I am very concerned over the Park Services treatment and lack of engagement on the Tule Elk. We are at a moment in history and historic drought. From the awful drinking ponds going dry to the salt licks going bad. The fences are extremely dangerous to humans and these animals. It's awful and easily fixed. You have volunteers willing to help maintain things as well and there is nothing being done. Please please do the right thing. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2471**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2472**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2473**

Correspondence: Take down the fences at Point Reyes National Seashore. Let the elk and other wildlife live as it is meant to be. The ranchers have been taken advantage of free food and water for their cattle for years. Their cattle should be kept on their own property, not public land. I firmly believe all leases to cattle ranchers should end immediately. It's not all about Ranchers. Give the land back to the wildlife as it should be.

**Correspondence ID:2474**

Correspondence: I'm very concerned and disappointed by your current management of the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Cattle ranching is a destructive and inappropriate use of Point Reyes.

You currently have the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you, Deborah Reiter

**Correspondence ID:2475**

Correspondence: Stop using my precious tax dollars for the profit of cattle ranchers, agriculture, and other greedy businessmen! It infuriates and truly saddens me to think of innocent wildlife struggling and starving to death for profit of cold blooded, heartless business as usual. Enough is enough! STOP this cruel torturous action NOW!

**Correspondence ID:2476**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences do not belong in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2477**

Correspondence: I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS!!...The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.



**Correspondence ID:2478**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for operating in the public interest rather than to select private interests benefiting inappropriately from national resources.

**Correspondence ID:2479**

Correspondence: To NPS, comments:

I have had the deep pleasure to visit this area on and off for 40 years. It is a unique wild seashore park and wilderness and must be kept to optimize the lands health and wild animals in the park and wilderness and the ability of the public to view them forever--as NPS's highest use of public dollars for this park and wilderness area.

In fact, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans and should service our needs first and last. It should NOT be used to service private ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife first and always.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. They must be removed to allow native animals the space and food reserves needed to survive and sustain their dwindling numbers. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. DO THIS NOW!

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. This is a must and no exceptions to this rule should be allowed now or in the future. Please return the park, national seashore, and wilderness areas to the native species that live there, not domestic cattle or other domestic animals, privately owned.

Thank you. Jim Parker

**Correspondence ID:2480**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2481**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2482**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2483**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans. It's public land. Its use should not be prioritized for private, for-profit ranchers. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2484**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2485**

Correspondence: The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated-Ghandi

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2486**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2487**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2488**

Correspondence: take down the fence protect the elk

**Correspondence ID:2489**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife and seek compromise so both can peacefully exist and if not, the ranchers must go!

As such, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Fencing in a wild herd of endangered elk is misguided at best and tragic at worst!

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. And if that is not feasible, they must seek a resolution that first protects the wildlife and then considers the ranchers needs, not the other way around! Ranchers have had many years to prepare and while I enjoy seeing both free ranging cows and wild elk, it is our national responsibility to protect the wild elk first and foremost!

Please find a way ~ fencing the elk until they all die is inhumane and a travesty of greed over what's right!

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:2490**

Correspondence: this is horrible. stop hurting wildlife so that others may profit

**Correspondence ID:2491**

Correspondence: Point Reyes belongs to all of us and is a Park for wildlife as well ; therefore why on earth you have place privately owned cattle ( NON native species ) over the native elks ? These animals are dying due to your restriction of their roaming ! Is NOT right nor humane !

**Correspondence ID:2492**

Correspondence: 1) The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

2) Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

3) The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2493**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2494**

Correspondence: Please let the wildlife roam

**Correspondence ID:2495**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern at the National Park Service,

What is happening here is inhumane. The Tule Elk are dying at alarming rates on account of your starving them to death. Profit does not come before cruelty. In other words, cattle ranching, which is only for profit, is not a priority over the lives of these innocent creatures.

It is a matter of life and death that you change your stance on this matter.

naomi cohen

**Correspondence ID:2496**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to greedy ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness; it is an invasion of their animal rights. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2497**

Correspondence: Take down the fences - and allow native wildlife the freedom to BE

**Correspondence ID:2498**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2499**

Correspondence: Please remove the barbed wire fence at Tomales!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2500**

Correspondence: Cattle and livestock ranchers MUST operate in harmony with wildlife and these fences have no place in the wilderness. Protect the elk and take down the barbed wire. For the environment overall, we must end grazing leases on public land and protect that land for wildlife and future generations!

**Correspondence ID:2501**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2502**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you, Darryl.

**Correspondence ID:2503**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the National Park Service's planning to process related to "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Please withhold my personally identifiable information.

The fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, is at stake. The Tule elk are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for

the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Please consider the following:

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing and not just whatever benefits the ranchers. A balance can be struck so that extreme measures do not kill or needlessly make a species suffer.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2504**

Correspondence: Indigenous animals such as elk cannot be contained from their necessary habitat to thrive much less or five. Remove the fencing.

**Correspondence ID:2505**

Correspondence: Indigenous animals such as elk cannot be contained from their necessary habitat to thrive much less or five. Remove the fencing.

**Correspondence ID:2506**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2507**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over ranching and livestock in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fences that are prohibiting the Tule elk from moving freely to water and food sources. This policy needs to change!  
Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2508**

Correspondence: It is a tragedy what is happening to the Tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore. This Tule elk are nearly extinct and the Park Services should be prioritizing them over cattle. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The Tule elk should not be confined by fences to prevent them from being able to forage for food and water, so that 6,000 cattle can continue to graze there. These fences that are cutting the elk off from food and water are causing them to die at an alarming rate. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2509**

Correspondence: Gentlemen:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments. I objected to the current management of Point Reyes National Seashore for the following reasons:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its native wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

I strongly urge you to seriously consider my comments. Thank you,

**Correspondence ID:2510**

Correspondence: Stop allowing cattle on the national seashore. You spent 50,000,000 tax payers dollars so don't renew the rancher's lease. Tell him to take his cattle and leave

**Correspondence ID:2511**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2512**

Correspondence: Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. Take down the fence and save them!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2513**

Correspondence: I feel that fencing at Point Reyes National Seashore is unnecessary and wrong and should be immediately removed.

As public lands, this Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness; it's not wilderness anymore when fences are erected. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. These poor animals are starving and dying of thirst thanks to these fences.

NPS - please start prioritizing the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. And stop playing favorites with cattlemen and ranchers. It's a stacked deck against the elk and wildlife in the area when you only consider what they want.

**Correspondence ID:2514**

Correspondence: Elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2515**

Correspondence: Commercial ranching at Point Reyes must be the lowest priority for the NPS; protection of the Seashore and the wildlife is primary as is well stated and annotated in the Wilderness Act. Therefore, the fences must be removed so the Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness can access graze and water. THIS is the point of Wilderness and the NPS.

Rancher can go, protection of our National Seashore and the Tule elk is the priority.

**Correspondence ID:2516**

Correspondence: Your actions regarding the Tule Elk are cruel and despicable. I am ashamed that my taxpayer dollars are contributing to this travesty. I had hoped for better stewardship of our lands and



creatures from this administration! So disappointed and sad. I beg you to reverse this decision and allow the Elk to live free and in a safe and healthy environment, which includes free access to the food and water they need for survival.

**Correspondence ID:2517**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2518**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2519**

Correspondence: Please SAVE the Tule Elk !!!!!

It's a very simple and profound idea

**Correspondence ID:2520**

Correspondence: When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. Some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

NPS needs to live up to the original commitments that were made at the establishment of the National Seashore in 1962. Please end ranching and remove the fences now.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Don W

**Correspondence ID:2521**

Correspondence: Please amend your treatment of the native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. They should be supported to thrive, not suffer! Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2522**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2523**

Correspondence: Re. Protecting Tule Elk in Point Reyes National Seashore:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

While hiking in Point Reyes NS my family and I have often encountered areas of land turned where the land

has been very disturbed by the cattle and large cow patties are all over.

This is not our idea of wilderness. The commercial ranching at the National Seashore needs to end.

**Correspondence ID:2524**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Cattle don't belong here at all! They're alien, and too big for the ecosystem in Point Reyes.

TAKE DOWN THE FENCE! Protect the Tule wapiti ["elk" is a misnomer for wapiti; its is also the English-language name for the species *Alces alces* in Europe, which we in North America call "moose." *Alces alces* is native to both North America and Eurasia.]

**Correspondence ID:2525**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2526**

Correspondence: •The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The planet has lost 70% of its wildlife in the last 50 years; we must do everything to protect wildlife!

•The NPS should stop the awful, chronic deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Please remove the fence so elk can access food and water. This is wilderness: no fences.  
•Please terminate commercial ranching at Point Reyes and protect its wildlife instead of prioritizing profits for ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:2527**

Correspondence: The elk deserve to be in this area and free more than the cattle. The elk are native to the area. Cattle are not! I can't believe that this is even an issue that we have to fight for. The elk are dying of thirst. This is ridiculous!!!

**Correspondence ID:2528**

Correspondence: It is my understanding that the national parks services is supposed to protect national parks, all of the wildlife and plants that are in the national parks, and not turn its head for some unknown reason. These national parks should be for all citizens of the United States.

The point Reyes national seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The national Park service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in wilderness. The national Park service needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare TULE elk at point Tomales in the Philip Burton wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The national Park service needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2529**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not only the ranchers who directly profit from its use. The mandate of the National Park Service is to protect the entire Point Reyes National Seashore ecosystem, including its wildlife.

Fences are directly in conflict with the Wilderness ethic and the Wilderness Act of 1964 - fences do not belong in Wilderness. Furthermore, the fence is directly altering the ecosystem and resulting in the tragic death of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by preventing access to the food and water they need to survive. These fences should be removed to restore the natural range of Tule elk, as well as provide access to the food and water they need to survive.

The National Park Service must prioritize the needs of native wildlife over commercial interests such as ranching. Please put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as was supposed to be done decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2530**

Correspondence: Fencing in wild Tule Elk is poor management. Forging a cooperative agreement with agricultural interest is necessary if they want to share the land with native species. Perhaps the entire peninsula should be free of non-native animals. Take down the fence and let the Elk find their way to food and water. Professionally manage the land and offer land lease at market rates that sustain and fully accept native ecosystem responsibilities.

**Correspondence ID:2531**

Correspondence: Please consider the following points in making your decision regarding Tomales Point

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2532**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2533**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Please protect our natural resources

**Correspondence ID:2534**

Correspondence: Please remove all cattle related fencing from point Reyes national seashore. Please manage this land for its public landowners and wildlife, not for cattle. Cattle are not even native to this country. They are an invasive species that does not belong on this property. Thank you for your efforts.

**Correspondence ID:2535**

Correspondence: This National Park is home to a jewel of biodiversity. Namely the elk that lives there. The ranchers have been paid fair market value years ago when this area was designated as a National Park. And yet they are still running their welfare ranching operations at this park. I respectfully request that you place biodiversity above commercial ranching operations at this park, and take immediate steps to protect the elk population that only exists at this National Park Thank you very much for your valuable time and kind attention to this very important matter.

**Correspondence ID:2536**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2537**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2538**

Correspondence: I'd rather look at deer than cows. And are the owners of the cows paying anything other than low cost per head to graze what rightfully belongs to the natural animals. And our the owners of the cows paying the proper price for the cost to the environment to raise a pound of meat.

Perhaps all sides of this story ought to be presented side by side so the real costs are compared, and then think about what future generations might say by basing food decisions only on profits.

Thanks for considering all sides of the story. I vote for the deer

**Correspondence ID:2539**

Correspondence: Please accept my comments about The Point Reyes National Seashore.

This seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. We should not be prioritizing their profits over the safety and welfare of rare Tule Elk and other wildlife. The animals native to this area have rights and deserve to be protected and not sacrificed for greed and profit.

This is absurd, The Point Reyes National Seashore is a national treasure, worthy of your protection. Cattle and ranchers have NO place here.

AND....

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness are dying because. of the fences!!!! They can't access food and water.

There was supposed to be an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes decades ago. There is no time like the present.

Help us end this, NOW.

**Correspondence ID:2540**

Correspondence: Please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore - that area belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Just this one action is what is required for your oversight of these rare animals to return to more humane wildlife policies and practices.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thanks for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2541**

Correspondence: Why is there even a debate? Of course this French must come down! Don't fence in wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2542**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

It is despicable to let the Tule elk at Point Reyes suffer and perish at the behest of cattle ranchers. Please remove fences that confine the elk to an area that cannot provide for their survival.

Thank you,  
Michael Dorer

**Correspondence ID:2543**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2544**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2545**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2546**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2547**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. This land belongs to the public and to the wildlife and established ecosystems. Get the cattle out and take down the fence!

**Correspondence ID:2548**

Correspondence: Please choose Tule Elk over cattle at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. At least let the elk share grazing with the commercial cattle in the area...Take down the fences and let the elk back on our public land.

Thanks for your hard work.

**Correspondence ID:2549**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2550**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2551**

Correspondence: ,Please, take the fence down. All animals have a purpose and the right to live.

**Correspondence ID:2552**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes, as it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please do the right thing to preserve and protect the Tule elk. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2553**

Correspondence: please save the elk dont prioitize cattle over elk

**Correspondence ID:2554**

Correspondence: please save the elk dont prioitize cattle over elk

**Correspondence ID:2555**

Correspondence: The ranchers aren't paying you, all Americans are. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2556**

Correspondence: It is not a valid use of taxpayer dollars for the NPS to prioritize the interests of ranchers who profit from using public lands. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The fence violates the concept of Wilderness but could also be considered animal abuse as it prevents the elk from reaching water and grazing.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2557**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.



The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2558**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip

Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2559**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2560**

Correspondence: As an American taxpayer, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I believe that the NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2561**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

Please respect the health, beauty and majesty of the Tule Elk by ensuring that they survive for generations to come. Please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Please protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness, this is why it is called Wild Life. The welfare of the incredible Tule Elk is in your hands, please do the right thing and ensure that these amazing animals survive. Thank you! April G.

**Correspondence ID:2562**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2563**

Correspondence: I am very concerned about the safety of the native Tule elk at the Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California. This is a rare subspecies of elk that the NPS needs to be proactive in ensuring their survival and herd growth. I understand the never-ending conflict between for-profit private ranching interests and the survival of a native species.

However, this IS public land in a national seashore that belongs to the American people not private commercial ranchers. This particular area of the Phillip Burton WILDERNESS at Tomales Point is the best habitat for these rare elk to survive and thrive. This area also has the largest Tule herd but the herd has ridiculously been fenced in to “save” grazing land and water supplies for cattle ranching. This misuse of public land has led to catastrophic consequences. Tule elk have been cut off from food and water and are dying at a horrendous and unsustainable rate.

This is public land and should be used primarily as habitat for native species that celebrate our amazing national heritage of iconic and rare species. This land should never have been leased for such long periods of time and especially not be degraded by the grazing of an absurd number of almost 6000 cattle! This has been going on since 1962!

The thought that 28,000 acres of public land is being used for a minimum cost and that our rare and endangered native Tule elk are dying because of this misguided management, is disgraceful.

I am totally against the extended leasing of any of this national seashore for commercial ranching. The original agreement was to allow the established ranchers of 1962 to graze the land for 25 years. That time span is long over. Ranching must be stopped and NO leases renewed. Our native wildlife, the Tule elk, and their survival are more important than corporate commercial profit. The fact that these commercial ranchers have REFUSED to honor the 1962 agreement makes it even more imperative that NO leases are extended nor renewed. I am sick and tired of the Western rancher “ethic” that they are above the law and that they “deserve” full and cheap access to commercially use our public lands.

**Correspondence ID:2564**

Correspondence: please take fences down! let the tule elk live: let the public enjoy more recreational land: let commercial entities go somewhere else...

**Correspondence ID:2565**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2566**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank You.

**Correspondence ID:2567**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2568**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2569**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to \*all\* Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife!

And of course, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

In summary, the NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes -- like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2570**

Correspondence: FENCING IS A BAD THING IN THIS AREA, AND CATTLE SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO GRAZE HERE. IT IS TIME TO DO THE RIGHT THING ON THE POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE. DO IT SOONER RATHER THAN LATER.

**Correspondence ID:2571**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2572**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2573**

Correspondence: I am taking time to write to you today because even though I live in Texas, I feel very strongly about the horrible situation of Tule Elk in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The NPS website says "The National Park Service is dedicated to conserving unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations">

And yet, NPS has put up a fence that is causing starvation and dehydration for the rare elk that live here.

The NPS should be protecting the seashore and its wildlife, not the ranchers and the cattle they run there.

You have the power --indeed, the duty--to end the death of these elk from starvation and thirst at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Fences have no place in wilderness in the first place. This situation is unconscionable.

It is time for NPS to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. Geez, do your job. These elk and this land belongs to all Americans, not to the ranchers who profit from its use.

**Correspondence ID:2574**

Correspondence: I am extremely concerned about the continuing degradation of our planet and its natural resources, including wildlife on land and sea, not to mention humans. I object to the confinement of elk in favor of cattle ranching in what has been a wilderness set aside at the national seashore. The presence of elk are necessary for the total ecological health in that area. They should be allowed free range..

**Correspondence ID:2575**

Correspondence: Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. I am deeply concerned about this.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. All citizens should matter, not a select few. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Between the results of drought and elk being cut off from food and water, they are dying at alarming numbers. This has been documented with visitor photographs.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2576**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans and wildlife - not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2577**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2578**

Correspondence: Dear Staff,

I am writing to comment on the fencing conditions at Pt. Reyes, and to express my belief that the area should've managed for the native species, including the elk herd which inhabits the area. The fencing is extremely detrimental to the survival and well being of the herd, and should be modified or removed. Managing the area for cattle grazing is completely out of keeping with the agency's responsibilities for the area, and the cattle grazing should be reduced or phased out, as specified in the original plan for the area.

To allow a natural area with a natural population of wildlife to be harmed out of concern for commercial interests is antithetical to your department's responsibilities.

Please thoroughly consider what changes can be made to the current fencing situation that will allow the elk to be able to reach sufficient food and water, and to sustain themselves in this area.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2579**

Correspondence: For the following reasons I oppose fencing:

Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2580**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:2581**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness! The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2582**

Correspondence: Someone's profits and fences do not matter more than nature and living creatures. NPS needs to end the ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2583**

Correspondence: For the record: Comments on Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore management plan update

April 26, 2022

To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it.

The top overall priority for NPS should be the maximum protection of the park's resources for the benefit of the public, now and into the future, as mandated by the Organic Act of 1916. All management decisions should be predicated on the goal of preserving, enhancing and restoration of the natural biodiversity found in PRNS before the arrival cattle and dairy ranching.

First and foremost in that regard should be the permanent removal of the elk fence that prevents the natural roaming of the Tomales Point herd. It will be far easier and less costly to the Park Service to allow the elk free access to the water and forage necessary to the herd's healthy existence. That would preclude the necessity of providing sufficient water sources, mineral licks and forage due to being

penned up and exacerbated by the current severe drought. As seen with the other herds in the park, the ability to roam freely is a much stronger guarantee of herd health than direct but often inconsistent management.

Secondly, to meet those goals, the Park Service must work to finally remove any and all private, for-profit ranch operations in this area, as well as throughout the rest of the seashore. It has always an open question as to how much harm or damage the elk actually do to ranching operations, but there is no question that allowing for-profit exploitation of the public's seashore resources is a giveaway that the public vehemently opposes. This "gift" to ranching families has caused untold environmental harm that is just coming to light: poisoned creeks, streams, lagoons and shore waters polluted by excess manure spread on the land and washing into such waters; a number of illegal garbage dumps, some so large that trucks, cars, broken appliances, farm equipment and other trash are piled up in areas as large as a football field; bulldozed streambanks and riparian habitat; raw human sewage dumped in fields and under ranch worker housing, and more. Scientific and environmental reviews clearly show that the park's resources will continue to be degraded as long as ranching operations continue. In addition, as the public awareness of the abuses grows, so does its opposition to ranching.

Thirdly, NPS should establish a prairie preserve in the Tomales Point area. PRNS used to have vast resources of native deep-rooted grasses that have been supplanted by non-native annuals and noxious weeds either brought in by ranch plantings or spread by the use of imported feed tainted by invasive species' seeds. Annual grasses contribute to global warming through the rotting of the plants as they die off at the end of the season, whereas the native grasses are proven to be effective carbon sequesters. A prairie preserve could allow the restoration of the native grasses, which would in turn encourage the re-establishment of the related flora and fauna, thus increasing the healthier biodiversity that has been so sadly degraded. This would benefit insect life, birds, small mammals, fish and eventually might even help bring back some of the larger indigenous apex predators like mountain lions.

Other improvements should include designating Tomales Point as a wildlife corridor that would run throughout the park. As the landscape eventually returns to its more natural, normal state, fire management techniques as practiced by Native Americans could be employed, both to manage fuel loads as well as function as a teaching laboratory for other agencies and personnel.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only "historical" ranch in the seashore. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate upon the arrival of those settlers.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I look forward to seeing what improvements the NPS can make through this process. Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2584**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2585**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2586**

Correspondence: •I appreciate that Point Reyes National Seashore has a different history from other National Parks. However, it remains critical that the rare Tule elk be protected. I recognize that commercial ranchers have continued to use the land, but perhaps it is time to make the park truly national -- for all American citizens. Native wildlife should be preserved and allowed access to food and water. Thank you..

**Correspondence ID:2587**

Correspondence: Please prioritize elk over domestic cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2588**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2589**

Correspondence: For the following reasons I am writing to urge the Park Service to prioritize native wildlife over cattle at the Point Reyes National Seashore:



The Native Tule Elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, appear to be needlessly and rapidly perishing at Point Reyes seashore. It could be argued that the plight of the elk has been due to the practices followed by the NPS's General Management Plan for Point Reyes, which has included keeping the elk behind fencing while it has allowed for the expansion of commercial agricultural use and the extension of cattle leases on these lands long after the terms governing the original leases had expired.

After the original 1962 land leases has expired after 25 years, it seems that the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches to end livestock grazing at Point Reyes. However, there were some ranchers that refused to leave the area. Unfortunately, when that happened, for whatever reason the NPS granted new leases to those ranchers. As a consequence some 28,000 acres of public land are still being used to graze some 6,000 head of cattle while the native Tule elk suffer behind fencing.

These elk, whose numbers have been diminished alarmingly since 2015, need to be given fresh forage and water to keep them alive and thriving especially in these times of unmitigated drought. The NPS's needs to make these accommodations for the Tule elk as its indisputable priority: The Tule Elks grazing area needs to be seriously enlarged to accommodate the well deserved grazing and watering needs for this indigenous native animal population of the Point Reyes seashore. The cattle need to be relocated and nature's balance once again restored restored!

**Correspondence ID:2590**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2591**

Correspondence: Please consider the following important points.

Thank you.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I appreciate the opportunity to be able to submit my comments to you.

Dr. Sharon Sprouse

**Correspondence ID:2592**

Correspondence: Please do not prioritize cattle over native wildlife at Point Reyes National Seashore. The seashore belongs to everyone, not just ranchers.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to protect rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2593**

Correspondence: Take down the fence.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2594**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

I strongly object to the current grazing policy in Point Reyes National Seashore at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness, and the disastrous effects the grazing policy is having on native fauna, especially tule elk. I love Point Reyes and its fabulous biodiversity and believe that wilderness designation means \*wilderness\*, not grazing cattle when natural herbivores are there to fulfill that role.

The NPS has confined the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades \*after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing\* there. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are starving at alarming numbers, dropping from 540 to 286 in 2015. 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent have died since then. It is cruel and entirely unnecessary. The cattle and fences are what need to go.

When cattle, a non-native and non-selective herbivore are introduced, their activity damages not only the native flora and wetlands, while also threateing the survival of the native elk. Tule elk are a protected species in California and should be allowed to range freely, not kept in a wire-fenced enclosure with inadequate food and water where they are being allowed to die of starvation and dehydration in Tomales Point so that cattle can thrive. It makes me wonder, as clearly a protected animal must take priority over cattle, which can graze almost anywhere and don't belong in a sensitive wilderness. Cruelty towards animals is also against the U.S. law and the ethics. We would not allow any land owner to starve confined animals on their land. Allowing protected tule elk to die of dehydration and inadequate nutrition simply pits the public against the NPS and its repugnant policy at Tomales Pt that favors growing hamburgers over protecting a rare native species. Stand by the decision you made more than 25 years ago to end grazing in Point Reyes and Tomales Point, and meanwhile ensure that the tule elk have access to water and food to maintain a healthy herd.

Sincerely,

Dr. Leslie Kuhn

**Correspondence ID:2595**

Correspondence: Don't let elks die!!

**Correspondence ID:2596**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2597**

Correspondence: wildlife over cattle.

these are Public lands,  
NOT for individual/corporate profit.

**Correspondence ID:2598**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2599**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2600**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2601**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2602**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2603**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2604**

Correspondence: Take down the fence to save native Tule Elk at Point Reyes!!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2605**

Correspondence: Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to read this. We are a crucial point to save a rare Elk breed. Unfortunately greed & pollution are once again taking over the spotlight because they have the money. Cattle grazing on public land violates the laws already established & only creates more pollution to a climate concerned nation.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for reading this & PLEASE DO THE RIGHT THING!

Sincerely,

Zach Rasmussen

**Correspondence ID:2606**

Correspondence: The elk were there first and should at least be able to share the land with the cattle. However I feel that the cattle shouldn't be there in the first place.

**Correspondence ID:2607**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to meet it's mission statement to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences definitely have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2608**

Correspondence: Les Wapitis de Tule appartiennent à la Faune qui occupait la place avant tous ces éleveurs!!

Les Wapitis étaient sur ces terres bien avant les éleveurs!!

Arrêtez de les faire agoniser en les privant d'eau et de nourriture!!

**Correspondence ID:2609**

Correspondence: Dear Park Management,

Please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore.

I believe that native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to the present NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes which keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Elk are animals that naturally live in the wilderness. To have an elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point is contrary to your stated goal on your website which is to offer a

window into the historical richness of the National Park System and the opportunities it presents for understanding who we are, where we have been, and how we as a society, might approach the future.

Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

To confine elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there is contrary to protecting the historical richness of the park. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. Although this is who you were, I hope that this is not who you are now. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Although this is where you have been, I hope that this is not how you intend to approach the future.

It is said that elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers & the elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

I have alsoDear Park Management,

Please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore.

I believe that native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to the present NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes which keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Elk are animals that naturally live in the wilderness. To have an elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point is contrary to your stated goal on your website which is to offer a window into the historical richness of the National Park System and the opportunities it presents for understanding who we are, where we have been, and how we as a society, might approach the future.

Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

To confine elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there is contrary to protecting the historical richness of the park. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. Although this is who you were, I hope that this is not who you are now. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original

agreement to end this commercial use. Although this is where you have been, I hope that this is not how you intend to approach the future.

It is said that elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers & the elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Due to the fact that I consider elk dying from hunger & thirst a case of animal cruelty, I have also expressed my concern with this situation to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, but I sincerely hope the National Park Service can rectify this situation before the ASPCA becomes involved.

I will appreciate your prompt consideration in this matter.

Thank You.

**Correspondence ID:2610**

Correspondence: Perhaps you have forgotten that the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS has a duty to and must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, including the Tule Elk population.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS MUST prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2611**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
A. Martin

**Correspondence ID:2612**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2613**

Correspondence: Dear National Park management & staff,

Since the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans & not just to ranchers who profit from its use, the National Park Service should protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Since fences have no place in Wilderness Areas, the National Park Service should end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

I believe the National Park Service should prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2614**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2615**

Correspondence: I am very concerned about the horrible management of our national treasure, the POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE, which is the cause of degradation of the environment & the hunger & thirst of the

**Correspondence ID:2616**

Correspondence: Commercial ranching was to be gone from the Wilderness many years ago - get rid of them !!!!!!!

Take down all the fences; they don't belong in any Wilderness area

4 very concerned US citizens

Doris + Deborah Lahr

Alexander + Susanna Busch

**Correspondence ID:2617**

Correspondence: Please think beyond and stop prioritizing what businesses want. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Additionally, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.



**Correspondence ID:2618**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2619**

Correspondence: It's time to let nature's creatures do their natural routines.

**Correspondence ID:2620**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, making this a priority. Currently at issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. Elk cut off from needed food and water are dying at alarming numbers due to fencing. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes is keeping elk trapped behind this fence in order to expand commercial agricultural use, mainly for cattle. Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is allowing nearly 6,000 cattle to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. Outrageous! So now some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access their rightful lands to forage and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago!

**Correspondence ID:2621**

Correspondence: The situation at Point Reyes National Seashore is nothing short of an abomination. Rare and indigenous Tule Elk are being driven to extinction by fencing that denies them their birthright to food and water. They are dying slow, painful deaths as the result of thirst and starvation. Outrageously, on the other side of the fence their land is being over run by cattle, an invasive species. How can this possibly be happening in what has been designated as a wilderness area? Please remove

the fencing, scale back and end grazing and terminate leases to ranchers. Animal agriculture is one of the most destructive industries on the planet, but this situation is taking it to another level

**Correspondence ID:2622**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2623**

Correspondence: I am deeply disturbed by the situation regarding the Tule Elk at Point Tomales. It is inconceivable to me that rare wildlife is being sacrificed so that commercial ranching can be more profitable.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2624**

Correspondence: I am very concerned about the horrible management of our national treasure, the POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE NPS is directly responsible for the degradation of the environment & the CRUEL hunger & thirst & death of the TULE ELK.

I firmly urge the immediate removal of fencing, which results in the dismal outcomes resulting in insufficient forage & water for all living things at the national seashore.

. We are in the 5th year of drought & attention to that has to effect all of us, as well as wild animals.

Further the commercial ranching & agricultural businesses have to immediately be dismantled & the area must be returned to its natural state. The ranchers who refused to leave at the end of their 25 year lease are trespassing on property that belongs to all Americans, not just a few with political influence. MOVE THEM OUT. They have no business occupying a national seashore=an abomination that has been allowed way too long.

We are so fortunate to have such this special natural resource right in our own backyard & drastic changes are required to restore Pt. Reyes National Seashore to the one envisioned by President John F. Kennedy in 1962.

Please move with haste to correct the present situation.

Sincerely,

Ann M Stock

**Correspondence ID:2625**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2626**

Correspondence: Elk are dying off at an alarming rate thanks to ranchers buying more cattle to slaughter. The whole thing disgusts me. Killing off elk to make room to feed cattle and then kill them makes no sense. All of this disgusts me

**Correspondence ID:2627**

Correspondence: The Tomales Point Area Plan suffers from three fundamental flaws:

1. The planning for Point Reyes National Seashore fails to take into account the obligation the NPS to account for the needs and privileges of all Americans, not just to the ranchers who profit from its use and have refused to vacate it according to the terms of their original access. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife to preserve it for all Americans, not the sole benefit of a small and intransigent group.

2. The use enclosures to prevent the full and unfettered access of wildlife, including Tule elk, are a failure of imagination and management practice. The NPS has a moral and organizational mandate to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk and other wildlife can access food and water.

3. The essence of regulatory capture is the perversion of the covenant that the NPS has with the public to provide nationwide access and input to prioritize the needs of both native wildlife and the larger American public by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Ranching is a time-honored profession, but it has come at the cost of depriving Americans and wildlife from their full due in the Point Reyes National Seashore. No more.

**Correspondence ID:2628**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Do your Job.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

No cattle! Anyone in the NPS management have balls to get the cattle out? We the people don't want cattle In on or on Point Reyes National Seashore lands.

**Correspondence ID:2629**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:2630**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2631**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2632**

Correspondence: It is the National Park Service policy not to interfere with wildlife, other than monitoring

**Correspondence ID:2633**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2634**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THE FENCE LET THESE ANIMALS LIVE AS THEY WERE INTENDED. ARE YOU GOD OR DO YOU ONLY THINK YOU ARE????? THE RANCHERS ARE GETTING ENOUGH FREEBIES NOW AND YOU SEEM TO FAVOR THE HUNTERS ALAO. AS FAR AS THOSE OF US WHO SEE THESE ACTIONS AS CRININAL YOU ARE MURDERER'S OF OUR REPEAT OUR WILDLIFE

**Correspondence ID:2635**

Correspondence: Hello,

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

This is unacceptable. Please fix this.

**Correspondence ID:2636**

Correspondence: It is past time to remove the fence that prevents the Tule Elk from reaching fresh water.

Fences have no place in wilderness. The tule elk deserve better treatment then the dairy cows.

These ranches should of been removed decades ago. This wilderness belongs to all citizens, not just the ranchers that profit from denuding this landscape.

Please protect this wilderness and the native plants and animals that belong here. Remove the cows. We have no shortage of cows elsewhere on private lands.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Carol Kuelper

**Correspondence ID:2637**

Correspondence: I support all these points. I am tired of our Federal Lands being used and abused by profiteers. They do not have a right to use these lands at the expense of wildlife and our personal enjoyment. Then to fence off the wildlife is truly the worse insult of all. I am tired of all the abuse from these "privileged" thieves. Our federal lands are just that!! OURS. Clear all Federal land from grazing and use by private and corporate unethical thieves.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2638**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The National Park Service needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. This is cruel and inhumane to deny the elk food and water, they are native to this area, ranching interests should not take priority over wildlife. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. This is reprehensible!

The National Park Service needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

**Correspondence ID:2639**

Correspondence: From Wilderness Watch:

" The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. "

**Correspondence ID:2640**

Correspondence: --The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

--Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

--The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2641**

Correspondence: Please remove the fences at The Point Reyes National Seashore ...

It has been put aside for a wild place and for wildlife..it belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

PLEASE....protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

PLEASE ..the rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness are being killed by the fences. Bytaking down the fence elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2642**

Correspondence: I am urging the National Park Shrive to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore and to remove the fencing destroying habitats and wildlife at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California. I am concerned specifically about the Tule Elk and the Philip Burton Wilderness. At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades a

**Correspondence ID:2643**

Correspondence: Please protect the elk and get rid of the cattle grazing , starting with removal of all fencing from the wilderness. Taking care of native wildlife at Point Tomales should be top priority, not commercial grazing, which should have been ended long ago. Elk should not be dying cut off from food and water. We expect better of the agency. Fix this!

**Correspondence ID:2644**

Correspondence: Dear NPS and all Interested parties including Diane Feinstein, Jared Huffman, and ALL Ranchers,

I would like to see all cattle grazing omitted from the Pt. Reyes National Seashore immediately. I know it is regularly said that these ranches are "historic" but to me they are not and anyone with any real sense of what the word history means they are not. The original Indians who cared for this land are the true keepers of Pt. Reyes National Seashore's history, not the ranchers. I am not a Native American Indian but I feel that it is a huge error to keep granting use of any aspect of this NATIONAL park for ranching. The ranchers are not supposed to be there based on the original plan of phasing ranching out. For some reason, and my guess is money, this has continued and I feel all responsible and benefitting from this need to be held accountable for this huge misuse of our public land. But first, lets get the ranchers off our national seashore for all the reasons that have already been brought to your attention: pollution, bad stewardship, over use, killing off of native species, etc.

As important, the Elk fence must come down, immediately. It is not only a cage but a neglectful, torturous cage for the Tule Elk who are a National Treasure and should be free as all wild animals should be. They are in a jail with the fence and they have done nothing wrong. I believe it is a tremendous error of the NPS to continue this practice in order to please and benefit the ranching industry. Its wrong to keep elk trapped like that, you know it, I know it, and anyone with any conscience knows it.

Lastly the park should be completely re-wilded. Completely. To that end visitors should be limited in number and kept in only a few areas. People should not be allowed to roam all over the park willy nilly. There should be a predetermined amount of daily permits and only a few trails that people are allowed on. The rest should be protected from the human eye and the human touch. Wild is just that - wild. Wild animals and native plants should be left untouched and unmolested by human curiosity,

Thank you for your time,  
Get ranchers out of our public land/National Park - Pt. Reyes Seashore. Free the Tule Elk NOW!!!

Sincerely,  
Siobhan Duff RN, BSN, MSN, PHN

**Correspondence ID:2645**



Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,  
Robert Fingerman

**Correspondence ID:2646**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2647**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. It is imperative that a primary focus of the NPS is to protect these lands now, and for future generations.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Drought conditions that make access to water more difficult for native elk populations have added additional survival stressors to an already vulnerable population.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it should have decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2648**

Correspondence: You probably know that the rare tule elk at Point Reyes are dieing from hunger and thirst due to being fenced in and having insufficient resources. They live in a national park, which are supposed to preserve the nature, and the government has bought grazing lands long ago to give them back to tule elk, and so it seems really unfair that farmers and their livestock are still prioritized over wildlife. So, I would like to ask you to remove the fences so tule elk can access more land, food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2649**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence to stop elk from starving or dying of thirst. Our commitment should always be to wildlife and their environment so that we leave something of nature to future generations.

**Correspondence ID:2650**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THE FENCE.YOU PEOPLE HAVE DONE ENOUGH DAMAGE TO THE EARTH.THE LAND BELONGS TO THE WILDLIFE,NOT RANCHERS

**Correspondence ID:2651**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2652**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in the Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as was planned decades ago. It's never too late to do the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:2653**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2654**

Correspondence: Please tear down these archaic fences that lead to the destruction of the elk and the ecosystem around them. This is historic Miwok land that shouldn't be trampled on by ranchers and their whims.

**Correspondence ID:2655**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2656**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2657**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern regarding the fencing of native elk at The Point Reyes National Seashore:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Ashley Wang

**Correspondence ID:2658**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2659**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to aboriginal inhabitants, the Northern Miwok tribe and should remain a sacred site. September 13, 1962 former president John F. Kennedy signed a release stating that Point Reyes will be protected land to preserve the natural beauty of its ecosystem, including the livelihood of non-human animals. Ever since environmental policies and regulations had been changed by recent presidents Donald Trump and Joe Biden, it has stripped away the rights of preserving Point Reyes, as well as allowing private ranchers to destroy more habitat. If not the National Park, who will be supplying the tule elk a safe place to thrive? Through tribal collaboration with the NPS, we as a community must find SOLUTIONS to end the ecocide of the seashore and save the lives of future tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:2660**

Correspondence: What is currently happening to the Thule elk at Point Reyes is truly astonishing and unbelievable. I'd like to know how ranchers that were limited to a 25 year lease get to continue ranching and fencing off the native elk who are dying of starvation and lack of water. This is deplorable. It is a travesty. This is leased public land. The fences need to come down. Until they do these elk must be fed and provided water from the ranches or elsewhere.

**Correspondence ID:2661**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2662**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2663**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2664**

Correspondence: Live up to your purpose; the elk need help; cattle don't.

**Correspondence ID:2665**

Correspondence: It is time to change old bad habits. We have no choice but to take responsible action NOW. Native Tule Elk are dying off, due to the improper idea to fence them off from lands that are traditionally theirs, and are currently used for cattle ranching. Cattle ranching was supposed to end there a long time ago. It's confusing as to why NPS chose cattle over elk, and continue to do so in these confusing times.

Remove the fences that constraint these elk. The public taxes have paid for this land and now require the use of it in order to save the planet. Please take the right action immediately. Our planet is on the brink and if we don't make the right choices, there will be no life left here.

**Correspondence ID:2666**

Correspondence: I have camped at the Point Reyes National Seashore and it belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I saw the elk many years ago and they were the highlight of the trip. Fences truly have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Denee

**Correspondence ID:2667**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2668**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Instead of extending cattle leases in the Point Reyes National Seashore - which I had the incredible privilege to visit a few years back - the NPS should take down the fences and allow wildlife to roam free. National parks belong to the public, not to cattle farmers. Large scale cattle farming destroys our environment at every corner with methane/ GHG, land compacting, dung floods, and it is inhumane to cattle; please don't let them destroy our national parks as well!

Please protect the Phillip Burton Wilderness - and keep it wild!

Respectfully,

**Correspondence ID:2669**

Correspondence: All these points are valid and must be considered. Wildlife must take precedence over profits.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I can understand one Oyster farmer, but Cattle Ranching has absolutely no business causing harm to native wildlife. Just look at the wild horses that are being slaughtered because of too much ranching.

**Correspondence ID:2670**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2671**

Correspondence: Take down the fence and let these innocent animals graze and drink water otherwise they will die. Take care of our voice less animals. They have a right to live

**Correspondence ID:2672**

Correspondence: Point Reyes is a place I've known and loved for decades and even though I'm no longer in California, it's still important to me to speak up for the protection of the native species that live there, particularly the elk right now.

Ranchers who profit from the park's use are NOT the owners of this land - this is a park for the people! The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have absolutely no place in the wilderness and is currently severely harming Tule elk populations as they cannot access food and water that they need. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access their food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2673**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2674**

Correspondence: Elk over cattle!!!

**Correspondence ID:2675**

Correspondence: Do not fence in the Tule Elk!

**Correspondence ID:2676**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to aboriginal inhabitants, the Northern Miwok tribe and should remain a sacred site. September 13, 1962 former president John F. Kennedy signed a release stating that Point Reyes will be protected land to preserve the natural beauty of its ecosystem, including the livelihood of non-human animals. Ever since environmental policies and regulations had been changed by recent presidents Donald Trump and Joe Biden, it has stripped away the rights of preserving Point Reyes, as well as allowing private ranchers to destroy more habitat. If not the National Park, who will be supplying the tule elk a safe place to thrive? Through tribal collaboration with the NPS, we as a community must find SOLUTIONS to end the ecocide of the seashore and save the lives of future tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:2677**

Correspondence: Please protect the Elk so they can survive.

Please take down the fence.

Thank you.

Helen Goldenberg

**Correspondence ID:2678**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The wilderness is for wildlife not domestic farmed animals. Please stop measures that harm wildlife to support farmed animal production.

**Correspondence ID:2679**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2680**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2681**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there.

Please, put an end to all this cruelty.

**Correspondence ID:2682**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to aboriginal inhabitants, the Northern Miwok tribe and should remain a sacred site. September 13, 1962 former president John F. Kennedy signed a release stating that Point Reyes will be protected land to preserve the natural beauty of its ecosystem, including the livelihood of non-human animals. Ever since environmental policies and regulations had been changed by recent presidents Donald Trump and Joe Biden, it has stripped away the rights of preserving Point Reyes, as well as allowing private ranchers to destroy more habitat. If not the National Park, who will be supplying the tule elk a safe place to thrive? Through tribal collaboration with the NPS, we as a community must find SOLUTIONS to end the ecocide of the seashore and save the lives of future tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:2683**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:2684**

Correspondence: The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Its mission is not to allow ranchers to profit from its use, but to keep the park and wildlife free and safe from them.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, and we do not benefit if it is not cared for as a treasure instead of being used for private profit.

A Wilderness is no place for fences. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2685**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The Point Reyes



National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife - if COVID has taught us anything, it is the significance of protecting wilderness and wildlife in order to protect human life as well. Please do the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:2686**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2687**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2688**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2689**

Correspondence: These are PUBLIC spaces. Wildlife need public spaces on which to graze freely. Private property owners do not own the land and should not expect exclusive rights/access.

**Correspondence ID:2690**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Keep your agreements with wild life reservation

Thank you  
Nancy and Errol Rubin

**Correspondence ID:2691**

Correspondence: Save the elk. Don't kill for profit.

**Correspondence ID:2692**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2693**

Correspondence: It is appalling that in a wilderness area we are building and maintaining a fence to keep wild animals in.

This is impeding their ability to LIVE and survive.

It's the COWS that need to be contained, not the natural Tule elk.

Tear the fence DOWN.

**Correspondence ID:2694**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2695**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2696**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2697**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

DONATE

Help us protect Tule elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness. All first-time donations matched by a generous member in Alaska.

**Correspondence ID:2698**

Correspondence: I understand that NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

It is time to stop all commercial use of the lands. Please make this happen.

**Correspondence ID:2699**

Correspondence: As someone who treasures our state's incredible biodiversity and wildlife, I am disappointed that the National Park Service proposes to place non-native cattle over the needs of tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. The American public pays for this land! I don't want my hard earned tax dollars subsidizing ranchers at the expense of tule elk.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

For the reasons stated above, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2700**

Correspondence: save elk lives over cattle

**Correspondence ID:2701**

Correspondence: - The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2702**

Correspondence: Please don't be the engine behind the death of the elk. More cattle can always be raised but once the elk are gone they are gone. You are choosing profit and domesticated animals over wild life which is part of our national legacy. Please remove the fences and allow the elk a fighting chance.

**Correspondence ID:2703**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2704**

Correspondence: The animals that depend on the area for safety and as source for food should be protected. They shouldn't be allowed to die to aid Ranchers live stock.

**Correspondence ID:2705**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2706**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago."

Thank you.

Sincerely,

M.C. O'Connor

**Correspondence ID:2707**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2708**

Correspondence: Dear Sir/Madam, I understand that the NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years in complete disregard for the original agreement of 1962 and worse, in complete disregard for the natural life and welfare of the Tule Elk population. It is high time for the Point Reyes National Seashore to be returned to its intended status of 1962, barring commercial grazing after 25 years.

Yours Faithfully, Bernt Johansson.

**Correspondence ID:2709**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2710**

Correspondence: Dear Sirs,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please take your responsibility for the animals.

Sincerely Yours,  
Gudrun Wünsche

**Correspondence ID:2711**

Correspondence: Dear Sirs,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please take your responsibility for the animals.

Sincerely Yours,  
Gudrun Wünsche

**Correspondence ID:2712**

Correspondence: " The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:2713**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2714**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. You must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. You need to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

You must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2715**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2716**

Correspondence: Please end commercial ranching at Point Reyes. Protect elk and wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:2717**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

The elk of Point Reyes should not be kept from the food they need to survive just to please the ranchers. It is their park. Our National Parks are for protecting our native wildlife, fauna and flora. The Phillip Burton Wilderness is a wild place and should not be fenced against the wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2718**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore

At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Please do the following:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2719**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in the wilderness

**Correspondence ID:2720**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Even some of us who are from Iowa have been there!

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

**Correspondence ID:2721**

Correspondence: At issue here is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

These elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Therefore, the NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Furthermore, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. And finally, the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2722**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to



prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2723**

Correspondence: Native animals should have first claim to this land, as they were the ones originally there. The current situation -- where the grazing animals are pushing out the native ones -- needs to be reversed.

**Correspondence ID:2724**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2725**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2726**

Correspondence: URGENT REQUEST: SAVE OUR PRECIOUS ELKS!!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, NOT just to greedy ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

PLEASE TAKE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND DO THE RIGHT THING!!

Thank you very much in advance!

**Correspondence ID:2727**

Correspondence: SHAME ON YOU!!

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

STOP THIS HORROR IMMEDIATELY!!!

**Correspondence ID:2728**

Correspondence: Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

AND YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE!!

The National Park Service is a disgrace to human civilization!!  
YOU SHOULD PROTECT THE PRECIOUS ELK, NOT KILL THEM!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2729**

Correspondence: The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

The NPS is a disgrace to America!!! The WHOLE world knows about this tragedy by now!!  
SO, ACT AND SAVE OUR PRECIOUS ELK NOW!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2730**

Correspondence: The fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California, is a horrible death! These beautiful animals are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to YOUR MISMANAGEMENT. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. YOU cruel people from NPS are corrupt!! This sickening cruelty must END NOW!!! WE DON'T ACCEPT THIS ANYMORE!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2731**

Correspondence: URGENT URGENT URGENT :

Precious beautiful Tule Elk at the Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness are dying because of YOUR MISMANAGEMENT!!!

The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. THIS IS PURE EVIL!!!  
Take your responsibility and save these precious elk NOW!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2732**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

As a tragedy continues at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California, change is urgent. At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2733**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2734**

Correspondence: You need to take down this fence NOW. These innocent elks are being deprived of what they need to survive because of this barrier that has been erected!

**Correspondence ID:2735**

Correspondence: Don't sacrifice forested/wild land for cattle grazing !

Find another way to make money !

**Correspondence ID:2736**

Correspondence: Don't sacrifice forested/wild land for cattle grazing !

Find another way to make money !

**Correspondence ID:2737**

Correspondence: Don't sacrifice forested/wild land for cattle grazing !

Find another way to make money !

**Correspondence ID:2738**

Correspondence: Don't sacrifice forested/wild land for cattle grazing !

Find another way to make money !

**Correspondence ID:2739**

Correspondence: Don't sacrifice forested/wild land for cattle grazing !

Find another way to make money !

**Correspondence ID:2740**

Correspondence: Don't sacrifice forested/wild land for cattle grazing !

Find another way to make money !

**Correspondence ID:2741**

Correspondence: Don't sacrifice forested/wild land for cattle grazing !

Find another way to make money !

**Correspondence ID:2742**

Correspondence: Don't sacrifice forested/wild land for cattle grazing !

Find another way to make money !

**Correspondence ID:2743**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2744**

Correspondence: Take down the fence! Wildlife first!

**Correspondence ID:2745**

Correspondence: Protect the Point Reyes National Seashore from commercial ranching. Remove the fences so the rare Tule Elk can assess food and water. Decades ago the commercial ranching was supposed to cease.

**Correspondence ID:2746**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough

forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

**Correspondence ID:2747**

Correspondence: Please put native wildlife first! The Tule Elk herds are native and have been relocated to areas that suited humans, not Tule Elk. Now the Tule Elk herd at Point Reyes is being decimated due to a lack of grazing areas and availability of freshwater. Please stop commercial ranching and take down the fences at Point Tomales.

Thank you,  
Elizabeth Ramsey

**Correspondence ID:2748**

Correspondence: One thing that is obvious as you drive across this country: there are plenty of cattle. On the other hand, there are very few Tule elk. One place the elk are hanging on, under deplorable conditions, is Point Reyes National Seashore. The reason for the deplorable conditions is that they are fenced into an area too small because the Park Service is allowing commercial cattle operations on parkland even though cattle ranching was supposed to be phased out in the '80s. I urge you to get the cattle off Point Reyes and, in the words of Ronald Reagan, "tear down that fence". I want native plants and animals on MY National Seashore. I do NOT want cattle on MY National Seashore. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2749**

Correspondence: Please do everything you can to save the elk and preserve the wilderness for future generations. We do not need more fences and more cattle. We need sustainable custodial care of the world's natural resources. That means leaving existing wilderness alone and allowing a return to wilderness whenever possible.

**Correspondence ID:2750**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2751**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife!

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please protect the wildlife!! That is what our parks are there to do!!!

**Correspondence ID:2752**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. These fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2753**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to aboriginal inhabitants, the Northern Miwok tribe and should remain a sacred site. September 13, 1962 former president John F. Kennedy signed a release stating that Point Reyes will be protected land to preserve the natural beauty of its ecosystem, including the livelihood of non-human animals. Ever since environmental policies and regulations had been changed by recent presidents Donald Trump and Joe Biden, it has stripped away the rights of preserving Point Reyes, as well as allowing private ranchers to destroy more habitat. If not the National Park, who will be supplying the tule elk a safe place to thrive? Through tribal collaboration with the NPS, we as a community must find SOLUTIONS to end the ecocide of the seashore and save the lives of future tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:2754**

Correspondence: Please prioritize the native species in this national park over the invasive cattle. The elk deserve a place to live freely and should not be forced to compete with grazing cows.

**Correspondence ID:2755**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Please phase out ranching, remove the fences, and allow the Tule Elk increased range to be able to survive.

**Correspondence ID:2756**

Correspondence: Please end the commercial ranching once and for all.

Protect the wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2757**

Correspondence: Wilderness belongs to all of the people of the United States and to the flora and fauna who live there. Please take down the fences restricting the movement of the elk at Point Reyes. Fences have no business being in a wilderness area especially since they restrict the creatures who belong

there. In addition, ranchers should not be able to graze cattle on wilderness land. Point Reyes belongs to all of us not just the ranchers. And the public and the resident creatures should have priority use of wilderness over private profit.

**Correspondence ID:2758**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration of what needs to be done for the survival of this important subspecies of Elk.

**Correspondence ID:2759**

Correspondence: I am a former seasonal ranger at Crater Lake Nat'l Park and a former enthusiast of the wilderness areas of Pt. Reyes, Tomales Bay and the annual 'rutting season' of the Tule Elk. Knock-down fences were utilized at Crater Lake which allowed mule deer & black-tailed deer to migrate back & forth through Nat'l Park land & Nat'l Forest Service land. Livestock have no place in Wilderness. The NPS stationary fence must be removed, along with livestock from this pristine wilderness area so to offer elk & deer access to food and water.

In summation the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:2760**

Correspondence: Please protect the Tule Elk and give them back their habitat. Don't let them die off due to being fenced in. How cruel is this practice!!!

**Correspondence ID:2761**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

This is what we Americans want and our voices must be heard.

Sincerely,

Darrin McKeehen

**Correspondence ID:2762**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the needless and sickening, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2763**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2764**

Correspondence: Dear NPS:

I urge you to prioritize real wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore and Wilderness area.

As a tragedy continues at Point Reyes National Seashore at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Native Tule elk, a rare subspecies that is nearly extinct across California is rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years, all contrary to Wilderness regulations.



It is not appropriate that the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you,  
Kim Porter

**Correspondence ID:2765**

Correspondence: Please prioritize the health and well-being of the native Tule elk at Point Reyes National Seashore and take down the fence at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness! As part of the National Park system, the mission is to preserve and protect wild places, so it is very disturbing to think that cattle (already a very earth un-friendly enterprise under the best of circumstance) are being prioritized over native elk! There is clearly not enough food and water for the elk so they are unhealthy and/or dying a slow painful death. Why are cattle allowed to graze on NPS land in the first place? The 25 year grace period is up. If the owners of the cattle will not move them, the Park Service should take some action, or at least not protect the cattle at the expense of the native Tule elk. As a tax paying citizen of the USA and someone who frequently visits National Park sites, including Point Reyes NS, I feel strongly that Point Reyes belongs to all Americans (one of the major points of the existence of the NPS) and must be protected, not fencing in native species so cattle ranchers can make profit. Put an end to the commercial ranching at Point Reyes immediately!!

**Correspondence ID:2766**

Correspondence: Hi there I love national parks

**Correspondence ID:2767**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife by removing the fencing that has caused the elk population behind the fence to drop from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Thank you for serving nature through the park service.

Shawn Johnson

**Correspondence ID:2768**

Correspondence: Do the right thing!

**Correspondence ID:2769**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2770**

Correspondence: Take down the fences!!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife - and the sea - from pollution!.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2771**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

As a tragedy continues at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California, the National Park Service (NPS) is accepting public comments on its planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk

trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Thank you for taking my comment. Support and protect the mighty Elk species.  
Johanna

**Correspondence ID:2772**

Correspondence: This Point Reyes National Seashore property belongs to ALL Americans, not just ranchers who profit from over--using the land to graze their money-making animals. The NPS must be responsible in its duty to protect the wildlife in this area.

"How to fence the west" sounds like the name of a bad Western movie, but in reality, it's a bad, real life scenario where native wildlife are dying because of being denied food and water. They are trapped behind a fence! Take down that fence!

Why has the NPS waited so long to end commercial ranching at Point Reyes, like it was supposed to do 25 years ago? Wildlife should be the number one priority in this area! Keep the wilderness wild!

**Correspondence ID:2773**

Correspondence: Please support the Tule Elk in the Philip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore. The fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly are needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. Open the range so the elk can survive!!!!!! cattle can graze anywhere. This has been the elk's home for hundreds of years. Stop the killing.

**Correspondence ID:2774**

Correspondence: The needless pain that our American Flora and fauna face at the expense of all Americans for the profit of a few needs to stop. The violence against our animals and plants needs to stop. Rational, well informed scientific information must prevail for the health of us all. Local issues like The Point Reyes National Seashore effect me and my fellow American people, plants and wild life like my Florida issues effect us all. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2775**

Correspondence: NO CATTLE PRESENCE AND/OR GRAZING ON THE NPS-MANAGED LANDS !!!

**Correspondence ID:2776**

Correspondence: How can you live with yourselves? It is your job to protect these beautiful animals for generations to come. I have seen them along the road and they are absolutely majestic. This is my land. I am a 4th generation Californian and my great granddaughter is a 7th generation Californian. I do not give permission to allow any further grazing by cattle on the land these beautiful creatures need to survive, including necessary streams and ponds. It is your job to protect them. Obviously since they are dying off at a horrendous rate you are failing miserably. Please get a veterinarian up there and find out if they have a disease and then cure it if that is true. Otherwise you are just killing the last ones on this earth. What kind of people are you. I am so tired of public agencies not doing what they are supposed to do.

**Correspondence ID:2777**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2778**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2779**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2780**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2781**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

Do the right thing!

**Correspondence ID:2782**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2783**

Correspondence: National Park Service's MISMANAGEMENT is causing the starvation death of Elk - pandering to cattle owners instead of wildlife at Point Reyes National Seashore. WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU PEOPLE??? ELK ARE DYING OF HUNGER AND THIRST WHILE PRIVATELY-OWNED CATTLE FATTEN UP!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2784**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2785**

Correspondence: I believe our wilderness areas are sacred, to be left alone, not touched by the modern world in any way. This means roads, logging, grazing, fences, noise, and especially preserving wildlife in all its forms. These too few, dwindling areas belong to the public, not commercial enterprises of any kind.

**Correspondence ID:2786**

Correspondence: Please give these deer their God-given right to water access in their birth region. Enough already.

**Correspondence ID:2787**

Correspondence: I want this fence to be removed for the Elk to flourish in their habitat

**Correspondence ID:2788**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an END to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2789**

Correspondence: The National Parks Service proposed General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. Instead of protecting the wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

It's time to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:2790**

Correspondence: This issue is very important to me. I have friends who live in Pt. Reyes and have seen this problem close up.

I believe the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS is charged with and must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

In addition, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. This is unconscionable and needs to stop immediately.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

**Correspondence ID:2791**

Correspondence: The more I read about this the more disgusted I get with your behavior. These ranchers are polluting the wild lands in our state and because you do not hold them responsible, they are destroying our National Park. Human waste mixed in with cow dung, how disgusting can you get? It is quite obvious that they have absolutely no respect for the land, the animals or the people of this country. I guess they are another reflection of the disintegration in our culture. Greed laughing at all of us all the way to the bank. I really expect more of you as a representative of the people of this Nation. Your plan violates several federal environmental laws, including the Point Reyes Act, which established the Point Reyes National Seashore in 1962 for the purposes of "public recreation, benefit and inspiration;" the Organic Act, which requires the agency to leave natural resources "unimpaired" for the benefit of future generations; and the Clean Water Act by allowing ranches to circumvent water quality standards. The Park Service's inadequate environmental review for the plan violates the National Environmental Policy Act. You were entrusted with the rare Tule Elk herd, which you have allowed to be decimated. For shame on you. You were entrusted with those rare elk, which are absolutely majestic, and obviously since they are dying off at a horrendous rate you are failing miserably Maybe you need to find another job. That land belongs to the people, not the cattle and dairy farmers who destroy it. I am sending a copy of this to the White House. I hope President Biden will decide that the National Park Service needs some new blood. I honestly had expected a lot more from you.

**Correspondence ID:2792**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2793**

Correspondence: I read of some continued bad management decisions at the Point Reyes National Seashore. The Seashore is public land. As such it belongs to all Americans. Allowing ranchers to use it for profit is a cheap shot. The NPS should be protecting the Seashore and its natural wildlife, not promoting the meat industry..

To begin with fences are hugely inappropriate in Wilderness areas. Allowing them to constrain elk access to food and water is unethical and contrary to public's interest on their public land. and plain and simple incompatible. The NPS needs to end the unnecessary destruction of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the

Phillip Burton Wilderness. The fence should come down. Elk should have priority access to food and water.

On a more global scale the NPS should categorically prioritize the needs of native wildlife over the bovine industry or any other industry. Please take the necessary steps to end ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:2794**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2795**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,  
Jill Mistretta

**Correspondence ID:2796**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2797**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to ALL AMERICANS, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS MUST PROTECT THE SEASHORE AND ITS WILDLIFE. Ranching activities are DESTROYING the land and FOULING the water. To not only allow this to continue, but to allow even MORE of these National Seashore lands to be used for these purposes is UNCONSCIONABLE AND UNACCEPTABLE.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to END the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by IMMEDIATELY REMOVING the fence so elk can access food and water. To allow these animals to DIE FROM STARVATION, DEHYDRATION OR GUNSHOT is absolutely heinous and barbaric. Aside from the moral and ethical obligation and SWORN DUTY the NPS has to PROTECT WILDLIFE, do keep in mind that one of the reasons people come to Point Reyes to see these rare elk in their native habitat.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by ENDING COMMERCIAL RANCHING at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.



**Correspondence ID:2798**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2799**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2800**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2801**

Correspondence: It is time to return Point Reyes to the wild. Why should we be funding these hobby ranchers? Cows out more Elk in. In fact, every cent should be to protect the park and no longer exploit by private owners. I hike here weekly, and smell and see the dirty water seeping down from the pastures. I even have seen cows in the Abbott Lagoon! Your focus has been wrong for decades. Time to change your thinking. Close down the ranchers. You finally got that oyster business out. You have the power.

**Correspondence ID:2802**

Correspondence: I have just been informed of the tragic situation affecting the Tule Elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Fences are keeping the elk from reaching food and water so they are dying because the NPS is NOT doing its job. This is a wilderness area that should prioritize the health of the wildlife over grazing for ranchers' livestock. Fences are completely inappropriate in a wilderness area and should be removed as soon as humanly possible.

Your job is to also protect the Seashore, not ranchers' interests. This belongs to ALL Americans and the wildlife that live there. You MUST stop the commercial ranching interests as you were supposed to do

decades ago. Please remove the fences and ranchers grazing privileges that are inconsistent with a wilderness area.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2803**

Correspondence: The Elks living in the Tomales Area of Point Reyes are native to this place. They should be able to drink water whenever they need to. I respectfully request NPA to take some serious action in this matter

I do not see why a private party is closing or having a fence close so that the Elks are dying because of lack of water.

Please act before more of these animals die.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:2804**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service:

I cannot say it better than this:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS MUST protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have NO PLACE in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The NPS is not and should not be a part of the cattlemen's association. It should be protecting the wildlife and the land that belongs to US, the taxpayers and citizens.

Take down the fences!!

**Correspondence ID:2805**

Correspondence: Hello- I am very concerned about the Tule Elk at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. Native Tule elk are a rare subspecies - nearly extinct across California- but they are there in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

NPS should be doing all it can to protect the largest herd of Tule Elk at the Point Reyes National Seashore but instead, alarmingly, these elk are rapidly and needlessly dying there because NPS has fenced these elk into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Why? Why does the NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keep elk trapped behind a fence? Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst... as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

NPS should be ashamed. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

This is horrifying!

But furthermore I learn that this is being done to to keep these elk from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore. In other words, NPS is prioritizing cattle as it allows for the expansion of commercial agricultural use and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. And then, in a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

This is scandalous!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:2806**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2807**

Correspondence: Please take down the fences that are causing the elk to die of hunger and thirst because they cannot access food or water. And Stop the grazing of private owned cattle on our public lands.

**Correspondence ID:2808**

Correspondence: Prioritize nature over greed.

**Correspondence ID:2809**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in a Wilderness area. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2810**

Correspondence: Hi there friend

**Correspondence ID:2811**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2812**

Correspondence: The history of government handouts to ranchers, in the form of cheap leases, has negatively affected the local elk herd. The NPS has an obligation to phase out ranching in wilderness areas, in accordance to the Wilderness Act, and return the area to uses that wilderness is meant for: wildlife preservation, public recreation and nature conservation. They have failed to do so.

The NPS has historically given in to a small number of heavy handed ranchers when their leases expired and they refused to leave, like children refusing to return a toy. This has all been at the expense of an exponentially greater number of people who would see this area properly managed for conservation, especially for the dwindling Elk herd who clearly need more land to thrive.

I have nothing against ranchers, and I love a good hamburger. But if ranchers can't afford to own their own land - which is strange considering all of the beef and dairy subsidies they receive as handouts - they shouldn't be asking the government for public land that isn't theirs.

I'm a property owner and a landlord, and I've worked hard for where I'm at. Now imagine if all I had to do was ask the government for government apartments for pennies on the dollar that I could rent out for a good profit. What a thing!

NPS, I hope you make the right decisions here.

**Correspondence ID:2813**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and serious consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2814**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2815**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2816**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2817**

Correspondence: It is long past time to remove the dairy cows from Point Reyes, take down the miles of fences, and let the tule elk once again roam freely on this land. The dairy farm owners have been fairly compensated for the purchase of this land. It is our expectation that our Wilderness lands will be managed as wilderness; not as commercial enterprises for private interests.

Remove the dairy herds, take down the fences, let the Wilderness ecosystem flourish, manage the restoration of the tule elk herd.

**Correspondence ID:2818**

Correspondence: It is long past time to remove the dairy cows from Point Reyes, take down the miles of fences, and let the tule elk once again roam freely on this land. The dairy farm owners have been fairly compensated for the purchase of this land. It is our expectation that our Wilderness lands will be managed as wilderness; not as commercial enterprises for private interests.

Remove the dairy herds, take down the fences, let the Wilderness ecosystem flourish, manage the restoration of the tule elk herd.

**Correspondence ID:2819**

Correspondence: It is long past time to remove the dairy cows from Point Reyes, take down the miles of fences, and let the tule elk once again roam freely on this land. The dairy farm owners have been fairly compensated for the purchase of this land. It is our expectation that our Wilderness lands will be managed as wilderness; not as commercial enterprises for private interests.

Remove the dairy herds, take down the fences, let the Wilderness ecosystem flourish, manage the restoration of the tule elk herd.

**Correspondence ID:2820**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans not the ranchers. NPS is suppose to protect the Seashore AND the wildlife. There are more than enough cattle out there. NPS needs to put an end to commercial ranching as per the original agreement and put native wildlife first for once. TAKE DOWN THE FENCES. The ranchers do not own this land. This is just cruel to starve these beautiful animals on purpose DO YOUR JOB!!!!!!!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2821**

Correspondence: please protect the elk

**Correspondence ID:2822**

Correspondence: Our Wild life is as important as your cattle, please stop this now, tear down the fence!

**Correspondence ID:2823**

Correspondence: Tule Elk are systematically being starved to death at Point Reyes National Seashore. They are being denied access to grazing and water due to a fence that was erected to keep the elk from land that was leased to cattle ranchers by the National Park Service.

There is absolutely no justification for killing off elk in favor of cattle that were deliberately moved into that area. Tule Elk were there first, that is their home. The fact that cattle somehow take precedence over the elk is appalling. No animal's life should be discounted simply for profit.

As a taxpayer and someone who understands that all creatures deserve access to food and water this problem must be corrected now, before it's too late. The fence must be removed. Ranchers do not have a monopoly on the Point Reyes National Seashore. This area belongs to all Americans, not just a select few. NPS created the issue so now they must fix it by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes - something that should have occurred decades ago.

Starvation is a cruel and inhumane way to die and these elk deserve the quality of life to which all sentient beings are entitled.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

**Correspondence ID:2824**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2825**

Correspondence: These deer have been very cruelly treated by those who were to protect them. It is outrageous to have fences in this area. This habitat is for all and not just for the ranchers who attempt to override the rights of others in order for them to profit.

**Correspondence ID:2826**

Correspondence: National Park Service Representative,

Please remove the fences that are keeping the Tulle Elk population from foraging for food as the Elk are no danger to the Cattle near their border.

By preventing the Tulle Elk from this land you are damaging their food searches and placing Cattle over the Elk.

Please consider removing the fences so that the Elk and Cattle grounds can be equally shared.

Sincerely,

James Morrison

**Correspondence ID:2827**

Correspondence: we have plenty of inland land with generic ecosystems, why would we raise cattle on the Point Reyes National Seashore?

**Correspondence ID:2828**

Correspondence: Cattle owners must be responsible for grazing land for their hers. they should not be allowed to use Park land for their cattle!

**Correspondence ID:2829**

Correspondence: Wilderness populations must be protected. Cattle are not endangered and are not part of the natural cology of the area. Elk are magnificent animals and need to be allowed their place in their territories!

**Correspondence ID:2830**

Correspondence: TAKE DOWN THE DAMN RIDICULOUS FENCES ALREADY

**Correspondence ID:2831**

Correspondence: I am writing to comment on "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness of Point Reyes National Seashore. As a frequent visitor to this beloved area, I am speaking out for the native Tule elk herds, which have been confined behind fences for many years. I believe the NPS has mismanaged the elk, which has caused the high death rate of these endangered animals.

Tomales Point is one of the most spectacular areas at the Seashore. The elk confined within the enclosure are prevented from roaming to obtain sufficient forage and water for their needs. The fences must be removed. The elk are dying of hunger and thirst.

I object to the NPS General Management Plan that has been expanding commercial agricultural use and extending cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years at Point Reyes National Seashore. This is in direct opposition to the intended purpose of the National Seashore, which has been set aside for wildlife and visitors to enjoy the beauty of the Northern California Coast. The NPS must change course to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Please end commercial ranching at Point Reyes. The ranching leases need to be revoked because agricultural activities at the Seashore were scheduled to end decades ago. Fences do not belong in Wilderness areas. Remove these barriers to restore the Tule elk populations and protect wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2832**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Put the animals first in their territory. With all the wildlife encroachment over the years, it is time to save and protect wildlife habitat the planet.

**Correspondence ID:2833**

Correspondence: Gentlepeople,  
These are my comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan.

It disturbs me that land that belongs to me - meaning every American - is monopolized by ranchers who then put up fencing which prohibits anyone else from using it. It annoys me no end that these ranchers make money off my land which I cannot visit. But even worse than that it precludes native wildlife from using it which I think is criminal.

We have rare elk that need to traverse this land to graze and drink. The current situation gives ranchers priority over wildlife and other Americans. This is wrong. This is not the land for the few but for the many.

Please taken down these fences. Please allow wildlife including the rare Tule elk access. I believe commercial ranching was to end at Point Reyes many, many years ago. Please end it now.

Thank you,  
Christina Robison

**Correspondence ID:2834**

Correspondence: I live in Utah now, but I am from Marin County. Pt Reyes is one of my favorite places in the whole world. I love its open natural feel. I love the wildlife, too. For me, Pt Reyes lights a beam of hope in this over-civilized world.



As National Park, Pt Reyes is a treasure for all Americans to love and enjoy in its natural setting. Please keep it that way!

Ranchers and cattle should not be given priority in this special place. Pt Reyes should not fence in the elk. Commercial ranching should be discontinued in the park, so Pt Reyes can live on as the nature preserve it was originally intended to be.

**Correspondence ID:2835**

Correspondence: We all will die if animals die since we live with and off animals to survive animals have every right to live safe and sound just like us and how God wanted and willed them to without human unneeded horribly, inhumanely, and terribly killing, destroying, and murdering them all for the sake of greed of men who have no right doing this to innocent animals!

If we don't immediately do something now we all die if animals die we die if plants/trees die we die because trees help with breathing healthy air in the world by preventing toxic carbon monoxide pollution spread over the planet!

Signed,  
Jan Hughes  
No Titles

**Correspondence ID:2836**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2837**

Correspondence: We frequently visit Pt Reyes, and over the years have been horrified to see creeks and gullies that flow into the Bay filled with unimpeded runoff from the dairies. It made sense to end the permitting as planned in the original legislation, yet the Park Service has extended permits, fenced the land, and protected rancher profit at the expense of the wild tule elk herds. What possibly justifies keeping animals from water in a drought???

This is a National Park/Seashore/wildlife area--by legislation--and should be treated as such. We strongly urge you to:

\* End the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Fences have no place in Wilderness.

\* Prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like the NPS was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,  
Meg Beeler & Tom von Tersch

**Correspondence ID:2838**

Correspondence: I well remember Pt. Reyes from my time at Santa Barbara, and I would urge you to ensure that the wildlife there are properly protected from the commercial interests that now make it impossible for the wildlife to thrive. The Tule elk need space to roam, and fencing has no place on our

land--emphasis is on OUR land. End the commercial use of our property and give it back to the elk-- where it belongs.

**Correspondence ID:2839**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2840**

Correspondence: To the park service, Elk are native to North America and cattle are not native to North America. Your priority should be to take care of the natives animals.

**Correspondence ID:2841**

Correspondence: Down with the fence

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2842**

Correspondence: Take down the fence !

**Correspondence ID:2843**

Correspondence: I am writing to comment on the proposed Tule Elk enclosure.

The Point Reyes National Seashore was created as a preserve to protect the entire seashore and its wildlife. I strongly oppose containing the elk into a reasonably small area while thousands of cattle roam freely.

The fence must be removed and the elk allowed to roam, after all this is public land. It is my strong opinion that the cattle ranching operations MUST be phased out as soon as possible and the elk permitted to thrive, not die of starvation while cattle thrive.

The ranchers who sold their land to the park service 60 years ago were fairly compensated for their property. It is time for their descendants to move on and give the national seashore totally to the public and wildlife. I urge the park service to quit deferring to ranchers, eliminate the fencing and get the cattle out!

**Correspondence ID:2844**

Correspondence: I get a ton of environmental email but the one from Wilderness Watch that told me about the situation at this park has got to be one the craziest!

According to it, the ranchers were originally supposed to be out of there in 1987 (and were given a quarter century in the first place) -- I'm 55 -- in 1987 I was an undergraduate in college!

Apparently the park was founded in 1962 -- nobody who was ranching in 1962 is still ranching, and most who were are dead!

I'm so sick and tired of the privatization and commodification of every last thing in the US, including even human blood!

Kick the cowboys to the curb! It's time for the elk to have, as the Indigenous say, "Land Back!"

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2845**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2846**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2847**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2848**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2849**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the people. It is the job of the NPS to protect the Seashore and its wildlife for the people. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the deaths of Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness that belong to the people

by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water and survive in OUR National Seashore. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife that belong to the people by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago! People from all over the world come to Point Reyes to see beautiful wilderness and wildlife. They do not come to see cattle. People all over the bay area and California and other states come to see a seashore and wildlife, not cattle. Please get your priorities straight. This land and wildlife belongs to the people. It is paid for by our taxes because the people want to preserve it. Cattle do not belong on our National Seashore. Cattlemen should not be allowed to usurp OUR resources that were meant for OUR wilderness and wildlife, specifically OUR elk.

**Correspondence ID:2850**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

The roadless & wilderness areas, National Parks, National Monuments and National Wildlife Refuges and the beauty of these lands are, in my opinion, what make this country so great and I believe we should continue to protect all these special locations from being gutted or contaminated. Doing anything to detract from the viability of any wildlife in these areas diminishes the experience of human visitors.

**Correspondence ID:2851**

Correspondence: Please do not allow cattle ranching on the Point Reyes National Seashore. Get rid of the fences and allow the elk to roam free.

Thank you

**Correspondence ID:2852**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2853**

Correspondence: The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2854**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2855**

Correspondence: I urge the National Park Service to prioritize the Tule elk herd over use of the Point Reyes National Seashore by ranchers. The NPS has the responsibility to protect native wildlife and to place the needs of wildlife above commercial concerns.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2856**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife as its main mission. Cattle are an intrusion and a destructive force in a national park area.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. If cattle are incompatible with wildlife, then it is cattle that must be removed.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Cattle trample and foul the local streams, trample on native shrubs and compete with local wildlife for habitat. They must be expeditiously removed so the area can return to its natural state for the enjoyment of the public.

**Correspondence ID:2857**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2858**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2859**

Correspondence: Our national parks and seashores belong to the entire public and ranchers shouldn't even be permitted on them with their for profit herds.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. And fences restricting the Tule elk is inexcusable. They have a right to live and roam in the wilderness as nature intended. They shouldn't be dying from lack of access to food and water.

Commercial ranching at Point Reyes was supposed to end decades ago. The NPS needs make that happen and prioritize the needs of native wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:2860**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife at the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

I strongly believe that the NPS needs to put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes and let native wildlife thrive in the landscape.

**Correspondence ID:2861**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2862**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2863**

Correspondence: My comments include the fact that the Point Reyes National Seashore should not be sacrificed to ranchers whose sole concern is how much money they can make from what belongs to every American.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, especially from cattle or any other grazing, domestic herbivores. The Tule elk, especially at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness, have to contend with fences to keep them out of their own territory. This is a good example of abuse of wildlife. Not only is it abuse, it is a form of wildlife murder to prevent these Tule Elk from food sources and watering places.

The fences in Wilderness must come down.

The NPS needs to remember its mission--its mission is not now, or ever, to cater to the livestock industry or farmers/ranchers in general. Commercial ranching should END now.

**Correspondence ID:2864**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

Please take down the fence and let the elk get to food and water. They are endangered, cattle are not. Surely cattle can graze somewhere else, but the elk cannot -- because you won't let them. Your job is to protect Wilderness and the creatures who inhabit Wilderness, for all of us, not to increase profits for commercial ranchers.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2865**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

I don't understand why this was not done years ago. It is simply not right that wildlife dies so that ranchers can make a profit. Sounds like there is a powerful lobby involved and nobody has the guts to stand up to them.

**Correspondence ID:2866**

Correspondence: Elk are a natural grass eating animal & these Roosevelt elk are endangered. Cattle are privately owned & not a natural grass eater on public owned land. Cattle over eat & over graze land that isn't private land for profit. The land belongs to the people the government deemed had a right to make the best use of but that only happens when the people are asked their opinion.

**Correspondence ID:2867**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2868**

Correspondence: Hello. I would like to make this comment:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2869**

Correspondence: It is WELL past time for us to STOP pandering to special commercial interests in our National Parks, wildlife refuges and wilderness areas. We have already done so much to destroy this planet and our wildlife, it is imperative we now swing the pendulum in the other direction - and keep it there. The USFWS is a joke. The NPS needs to step WAY up and defend our beleaguered wildlife from stupid things like cattle ranching, which has NO business on public lands. Ranchers and their destructive fencing have NO place in our National Parks - these are NOT places for them, they are places for us all to go and enjoy peacefully, quietly, and carefully. The Tule elk need our help and protection - and you need to DO YOUR JOBS and protect them. I'm sick and tired of paying taxes to support our Parks and then finding out they are being abused by commercial interests. STOP IT.

**Correspondence ID:2870**

Correspondence: You need to take down the fencing to let the elk have access to food and water. Your job is to manage wildlife, not make room for cattle. Nobody wants to see cattle by the seashore they want to see wildlife particularly the Tule elk. You are killing them by letting them starve and have no access to water. I'm not understanding this when the ranchers were supposed to and occupying the space a long time ago. Once again you seemed to be in favor of the ranchers instead of the wildlife. You need to prioritize Wildlife because that is your job. You really need to kick the ranchers off. Just because they refuse to leave when their lease ended didn't mean that you had to let them stay. The Tule elk are much more important as other wildlife and there are no fences that belong in the wilderness

**Correspondence ID:2871**

Correspondence: To Who it May Concern,

I am using this commenting period to advocate for the Tule Elk and the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness.



The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration on these important matters,

- Evelyn Och

**Correspondence ID:2872**

Correspondence: We have no park service. How can parks starve and allow the wildlife to die of thirst and starve in order to support private industry??

I will not donate to this phony park. I will not support the ranchers stealing the food and water from the elk.

Shameful. Disgusting. We'd be better off having volunteers take care of the park and tell the ranchers to buy food and water elsewhere.

**Correspondence ID:2873**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago

**Correspondence ID:2874**

Correspondence: I am writing to comment on the proposed Tule Elk enclosure.

The Point Reyes National Seashore was created as a preserve to protect the entire seashore and its wildlife. I strongly oppose containing the elk into an unreasonably small area while thousands of cattle roam freely.

The fence must be removed and the elk allowed to roam freely, after all this is public land. It is my strong opinion that the cattle ranching operations MUST be phased out as soon as possible and the elk permitted to thrive, not die of starvation while cattle thrive.

The ranchers who sold their land to the park service 60 years ago were fairly compensated for their property. It is time for them and their descendants to move on and give the national seashore totally to the public and wildlife. I urge the park service to quit deferring to ranchers, eliminate the fencing and get the cattle out!

**Correspondence ID:2875**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2876**

Correspondence: We shouldn't have to keep having these discussions. The Tule Elk deserve to be protected and cared for - not butchered or left to die.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2877**

Correspondence: Please do not keep the elk behind the fence.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2878**

Correspondence: I'm asking if you can prioritize wildlife over cattle/livestock at the Point Reyes National Seashore. The Tule elk that are trapped there by a fence are suffering and starving to death. All the while, the cattle, owned by private ranchers, get all the grass they can eat, while the elk get nothing. This cannot go on like this, as fences have no place in Wilderness in the first place. The National Park Service needs to put an end to the tragic, ongoing deaths of the rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so the elk can have access to the food and water they desperately need. The Point Reyes National Seashore, as a national park, belongs to all Americans, not just to the ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife from overgrazing, even if it means removing and redirecting ranchers and their livestock somewhere else. Again, the National Park Service needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by ending commercial ranching at Point Reyes once and for all, like it was supposed to do (and should have been done) decades ago. So please kindly put the needs of wildlife first this time. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2879**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

**Correspondence ID:2880**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2881**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2882**

Correspondence: Please, please, please stop killing our precious wildlife!!! In this case our wild Tule Elk. They are wonderful, vibrant animals that call this their home and deserve all of their home to live on with plenty of food and water!!!! Sick of catering to the private corporate rich ones who abuse the people, the animals and the land!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2883**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2884**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and

water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Heidi Buech

**Correspondence ID:2885**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

California is ready to prioritize the support and well being of native animal populations over that of cattle.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2886**

Correspondence: Please support this Act

**Correspondence ID:2887**

Correspondence: Park Service, please prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore!

The avoidable tragedy at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California continues for the native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. Keeping elk trapped behind a fence, expanding commercial agricultural use, and extending cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years is unacceptable!!!! The suffering, starving and dying of these sentient elk must STOP now! That is your duty, protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there!

Preventing elk to forage and drink water, while nearly 6,000 cattle are allowed to graze at the National Seashore, is outrageous, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there.

When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

Please allow the elk to survive, to graze and have access to water, and discontinue allowing livestock owners to destroy their area's.

**Correspondence ID:2888**

Correspondence: PLEASE! STOP THIS OUTRAGE!

We have plenty of “ranchers”, but the rare Tule elk are almost extinct! We HAVE to stop putting profit over LIFE. Those fences are an OUTRAGE.

Do the right thing.....PROTECT THE ELK NOT THE RANCHERS.

**Correspondence ID:2889**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2890**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2891**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2892**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2893**

Correspondence: Please help the Tule Elk to survive and not die off by starvation and lack of drinking water. It's time to phase out the cattle ranch on PRNS park lands and make it a true nature park. Give the elk the space to roam and forage. Give them and other wildlife a chance to thrive. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2894**

Correspondence: What are domestic cows doing in the Point Reyes National Seashore Park???? They generally pose an environmental threat to the water supply and the livestock methane emissions do not support a healthy ecosystem. Federal lands and particularly National Parks (!) should not be a harbor for environmental damage.

As a visitor to the beautiful Point Reyes National Seashore, I ask that Cows be removed from Point Reyes National Seashore as the essential part of a General Management plan that supports the mission of the park to preserve wildlife like elk, and restore the coastal prairie of the seashore environment.

**Correspondence ID:2895**

Correspondence: Please take down the fencing at Point Reyes. Cattle grazing has plenty of other land in the west to use, but it is a detrimental practice to have cattle be in such sensitive areas as Point Reyes anyways. Ranchers should not be prioritized over wildlife and access for all Americans, who jointly own the land.

**Correspondence ID:2896**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2897**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2898**

Correspondence: What the heck!! Our forests belong to wild life not domestic animals and their care givers. Take down the fence!!

**Correspondence ID:2899**

Correspondence: I believe that the NPS needs to find a better way to manage the elk heard at Point Reyes National Seashore. Prioritizing cattle over wildlife is not appropriate to the NPS mission. There is at least one "scorched earth" ranch out there - fixing that mismanagement should be a top priority. The Federal Government paid fair market for those lands and it's suppose to be for the benefit of ALL OF US, not just another subsidy for the cattle industry. You know what's right and fair, please do it. Stop torturing the poor elk.

**Correspondence ID:2900**

Correspondence: Please support the elk herd at the Point Reyes National Seashore. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Please have a heart and act conscientiously for the protection of the natural world and all wildlife therein!

**Correspondence ID:2901**

Correspondence: Greetings-  
Please reconsider the use of fences at Point Reyes Natioanl Seashore.

The Point Reyes National Seashore does not belong to just ranchers who use it. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to promote wildlife, like the Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

Thanks-

**Correspondence ID:2902**

Correspondence: Please take down the fence at point reyes for the ELK. Why are we harming the creatures on this earth who actually make this a special place to be?!

**Correspondence ID:2903**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2904**

Correspondence: I write to express my strong opposition to the confinement of the Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk and the sacrifice of these native wild Tule Elk to accommodate commercial ranching on Public land. It is simply appalling to let a small special interest guide your policy, rather than the broader public interest and the right scientific understanding of ecological integrity, health and balance and stewardship of a native species.

It is outrageous that the National Park Service is dedicating its efforts to protect ranching interests rather than the public interest and the best ecological science. Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

It is disturbing that it is necessary to point out that fences have no place in Wilderness; containing the Tule Elk in a small space simply to allow ranchers to continue to exploit land and water for their profits, does not conform to any understanding of wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

In truth the NPS needs to commit its labor and efforts to meet the needs of native wildlife and put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes; it is high time to do this, though in truth this should never have been a question and the matter righted decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2905**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2906**

Correspondence: The NPS is supposed to care for our parks and not the interests of businesses.

Here are two actions you should take immediately:

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2907**

Correspondence: The coastal Miwok should have some management of the land at Tomales Point-Point Reyes National Seashore. Point Reyes National Seashore remains the only National Park unit where tule elk can be found. The elk should be protected and prioritized as much as the cattle are that live there. Tule elk are an ecologically critical part of the landscape of Point Reyes, while cattle-grazing permits in the national park are a privilege for a few livestock owners. Ranch leaseholders shouldn't be able to dictate Park Service policy that hurts or kills park wildlife. The Park Service is required to manage Point Reyes National Seashore without impairing its natural values and for the maximum protection, restoration and preservation of the local natural environment.

**Correspondence ID:2908**



Correspondence: Nature needs to be nature for healthy ecosystems. People need to leave nature alone. I hope you don't have children or grandchildren....because thier future is looking non-existent

**Correspondence ID:2909**

Correspondence: End agricultural and cattle use in Point Reyes in favor of Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:2910**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2911**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2912**

Correspondence: Hi

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to those greedy and evil ranchers who profit from its use and abuse. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. That is your job. Stop cow towing to ranchers!

Fences have no absolutely place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago!

STOP giving those ranchers everything they want. These are ghouls!

**Correspondence ID:2913**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2914**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

I was born and raised in the SF Bay Area, and I have been going to Pt. Reyes since I was a small child. It's beautiful and lovely and we're so lucky it's protected.

As an adult, I've come to realize the impact that the cattle and the farms have on the natural environment that is supposed to be protecting NATURE and not cattle & farms. Many of us know about the poor water quality in Tamales Bay, how it's coming from cattle fecal run-off, and how it's being ignored to support the cattle and farms. I do understand that there are long time farms and families that work up Pt. Reyes.

But enough is enough. The climate is changing and we need to change too.

I want to strongly encourage the NPS to support the natural environment, wild animals, and biodiversity.

Take down the fences, provide water for the Elk if necessary. They need to expand their range just like we opened up the range along the southern California coast for our sea otter population.

Give the Elk what they need to thrive and prosper. They have rights just like we do, and their right is to thrive and prosper in the natural environment that we've protected for them and other wild animals.

Thank you, Matt

**Correspondence ID:2915**

Correspondence: I have benefited from spending time at the Point Reyes National Seashore for many decades. This amazing wilderness belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. In a world of vanishing natural spaces, I implore the NPS to protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:2916**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. SAVE THE TULE ELK!

**Correspondence ID:2917**

Correspondence: Cattle have no place in this wilderness. Get them out now as was promised many years ago! Fences have no place in Wilderness. Get them out too. The fences hurt native elk. Get rid of them now!

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS needs to do its job which is to protect park areas from non-native impacts in order to preserve and restore native ecosystems. What is it that causes you to abandon your mission: is it politics?

Please do your duty by prioritizing the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2918**

Correspondence: Hello,

I support the removal of both fences and ranches from the Seashore. Dairy farming is not comparable with ecological health of the land. National Parks should not be leased out for destructive use. The preservation and improvement of wildlife populations and habitat should be the primary management concerns.

Thanks,

Mark

**Correspondence ID:2919**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I understand that when the government bought the land for us, the ranchers were to cease cattle grazing in 1997. Why was their lease extended? The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Rare Tule Elk are dying of hunger and thirst because they are fenced into an area too small to sustain the herd. This is national wilderness land- it should not include fences for the convenience of cattle ranchers.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2920**

Correspondence: The national parks belong to every American, not just to cattle ranchers. Take down the fences at Point Reyes to allow access by Tule Elk.

Cattle have no real business in public lands. For profit businesses including cattle producers, should not endanger MY lands with their fences and the destructive habits of non native animals.

Wildlife must have priority over cattle at all times.

**Correspondence ID:2921**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I am committed to a vegan lifestyle and my concern is for the wildlife, not ranchers raising animals for slaughter. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The negative impacts of fencing on wildlife and ecology are well documented. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2922**

Correspondence: Priority for Point Reyes National Seashore should be given to wildlife and public use over uses for private profit, particularly not for cattle ranching. We are in the midst of a climate emergency, and cattle ranching/farming is a major contributor to global warming. Our public lands should not be contributing to the problem. We should be reducing the public lands available for private cattle ranching. And we should not allow fences in wilderness.

**Correspondence ID:2923**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Therefore, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2924**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Soon we won't have any wildlife to worry about!!!!

**Correspondence ID:2925**

Correspondence: Dear Sirs:

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue. Please make the right choice. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2926**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence that keeps the elk herd on Tomales Point captive and at the mercy of drought.

**Correspondence ID:2927**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2928**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern-

Please consider my comments:

1. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
2. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
3. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2929**

Correspondence: The NPS is engaging in animal abuse for the benefit of one sector, private ranching operations. Tule Elk are being starved in public lands and the NPS is complicit. Their actions are shameful.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2930**

Correspondence: I write to oppose the NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes that keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes as it was supposed to do decades ago.

At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2931**

Correspondence: Take down the fence to save native Tule Elk at Point Reyes! The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2932**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

PLEASE NOTE: I am the daughter, granddaughter, (and great-, great, all the way back 200 hundred years) of a Texas rancher, and we were tasked with protecting the wildlife, at the expense of the ranch! What is being described at the Phillip Burton Wilderness would not have been tolerated on either the state or federal level!! For shame on those ranchers, and on the NPS who allow it!

**Correspondence ID:2933**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2934**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2935**

Correspondence: I'm writing about the SENSELESS, CORRECTABLE TRAGEDY that is happening to the RARE, NEARLY EXTINCT native Tulle Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California and your so-called planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

Instead of keeping the few remaining of the Elk trapped behind fences, why don't you move them to a protected area where they have food, water and room to move. This should be you #1 PRIORITY.

Why are the ranchers running the show?

Trapping the E

lk behind fences, while expanding commercial agriculture use and extending EXPIRED cattle ranch leases is NOT a plan. A plan would SAVE the Elk not condemn them to a horrible death. A plan would reduce commercial agriculture and not give new leases to cattle ranchers who think they are entitled to keep their cattle on public land.

YOU ARE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS OF THESE ELK. YOU keep them behind fences without enough forage to feed them and the ongoing drought drying up fresh water sources which equals EXTINCTION. How many visitor photographs of dead and emaciated Elk do you have to see to get the picture???

Instead of doing your job, the National Park Service is allowing these wonderful animals to die out because of ranchers, cattle and commercial agriculture!?!?!? The last thing America needs is more cattle.

So the ranchers refused to move when the leases were up? Oh boo-hoo! Instead of doing your job and removing the cattle and fences - you extend leases. Are you kidding me?

I'm ashamed that a Federal agency doesn't have the cajones to do what is necessary to SAVE THE TULLE ELK! Instead you bow down to ranchers and give them new leases for up to 20 years.

It's time to implement a REAL plan. Cancel those leases, tear down the fences and remove the cattle. If the ranchers don't comply, they can go to jail!

That's how you save the Elk and solve a problem!

**Correspondence ID:2936**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just ranchers who profit from its use and degradation.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife populations.

Fences have no place in the Wilderness. Connectivity is what makes healthy, functioning ecosystems. Fences only fragment and deplete the biological integrity of ecosystems.

These fences must be taken down, so as the Tule Elk can access food and water. Animals are starving to death because of these imposed restrictions and this is not acceptable.

The NPS must prioritize wildlife over commercial ranching and return Point Reyes to its former wildlife designation, like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2937**

Correspondence: Fences have NO place in Wilderness, Parks or Wildlife Refuges! It certainly seems the Park Service has been around long enough to realize that.

But then livestock producers have NO place in these areas either - these businesses were bought out decades ago - WHY are they still allowed to run cattle in a NATIONAL SEASHORE?

No one with any common sense believes there is a place for livestock entities in a National Park! Move them out once and for all.

**Correspondence ID:2938**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. These fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS should prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2939**

Correspondence: This situation is nuts. First of all letting people ranch on wilderness designated land blows my mind. How can you call it wilderness when people are raising livestock on it? This land is for people to hike on and camp in. It's for the wildlife to roam free and live their lives. It's not for some kind of Cliven Bundy rejects to make fast bucks off the government. Cows destroy everything they touch, move them out. The government's treatment of the elk is a national embarrassment.

**Correspondence ID:2940**

Correspondence: To summarize, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife, including preventing extinction of rare Tule elk, thus preventing their deaths.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Ranchers can and must be the ones to provide food and water for their private, profit generating animals.



At stake is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. NPS must stop being shills for ranchers, and protect rare wildlife, else be prosecuted for cruelty in starving them to death.

**Correspondence ID:2941**

Correspondence: April 28, 2022

Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Rd.  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

I have written many comments over the last several years concerning the issue of Tule Elk within Point Reyes National Seashore. I'm disturbed and saddened to see this condition still prevalent in spite of the mission of the National Park Service (NPS) and that of the Department of the Interior. As I have stated before in previous comments, my wife and I are past residents of California. Even though it has been several years since living in the state, we still feel a connection to the state, its people and its land. Presently we live in Bozeman, Montana, moving here after my retirement with the Dept. of Interior in Sacramento, my last duty station.

One of the goals in my life was and is to visit as many National Parks and other assorted parks, historic sites and recreation areas under the management of the Dept. of Interior as possible. But at this moment, I have to say, I'm writing to express our disappointment regarding the NPS's ineptitude or unwillingness to deal with the issues at hand within the park, that of protecting the Tule Elk and their associated habitat within Point Reyes National Seashore.

My wife and I had visited Point Reyes National Seashore while we lived in Sacramento several years back and were very much shocked at what we saw while there. The influence of the cattle ranching industry and the dairy community upon the landscape was unsettling to say the least. My understanding was that

after a certain time period, those activities would cease on NPS lands. But now I find the leasing of these lands has been extended into the future. I shouldn't have to mention that cattle grazing is an incompatible purpose of the National Parks, including Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area. It is the mission and legal obligation of the NPS to manage these lands for the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment for generations to come.

While there, that is not what we saw. We saw a private ranching community utilizing the Park's resources to overgraze, pollute and extend the threat of invasive weeds throughout the park. I shouldn't have to mention that this type of activity also leads to a reduction of native species, lessening the biodiversity, even including those protected under the Endangered Species Act. My wife and I find the tolerance of such activity contrary to the purpose of which the Park Service was established. Basically, the resources within the park are being utilized and lessened over time, being sacrificed for private economic gain. It seems as if preservation and restoration of the Park's resources have become secondary or lower on the priority list, and all this at the public expense.

The American people spent millions to buy these lands and millions more to subsidize these private ranching operations. Some 28,000 acres of the Seashore and GGNRA are essential off limits to public use and enjoyment. Fences, locked gates, and signage posted by ranchers further restrict the public access to land the public owns. I must say that we did not visit Point Reyes for the purpose of viewing dairy cattle or the destruction emanating from them.

We understand the current condition is exacerbating the habitat conditions of the Tule Elk, keeping the species trapped behind a fence or enclosure at Tomales Point. Consequently, elk are suffering from lack of forage and fresh water causing them to die of hunger and thirst. I have seen the pictures and they are downright disgusting. I find this policy abhorrent to the purpose and mission of the NPS. National Parks should be concerned about the survival of America's iconic wildlife, not that of domestic animals.

The recovery of native Tule elk, a species found in no other National Park, is consistent with the mission of the NPS. Commercial leaseholders should not dictate the confinement, removal, hazing, and killing of wildlife in a national park, as the case at Point Reyes National Seashore. From information I have received, there is this statement.

"The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently."

I urge the NPS to get back to the purpose for which they were established. They need to restore, protect and rewild Point Reyes National Seashore to its original landscape for the enjoyment of the American people. Only then will it live up to the majesty and dignity which it possesses. The Park Service needs to remove fences within Phillip Burton Wilderness in order to allow elk to have access to food and water. Finally, the NPS needs to prioritize the need of wildlife and our natural resources and put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Sincerely,

Clinton Nagel

**Correspondence ID:2942**

Correspondence: I am strongly opposed to the policies that allow continued ranching on Point Reyes National Seashore property. The land belongs to all Americans and we should have a say in determining the future of this land, including wildlife such as the Tule Elk.

To learn that we are losing the elk population because they are sequestered and starving in order to allow cattle to thrive on our public lands is unacceptable and represents mis-management --if not criminal conduct --by the people who are hired to protect our elk.

A timeline was established to end private use of this public resource. Public funds were paid to landowners. Do what you were --and still are --entrusted to do. Take the fences down and move the cattle out. They no longer belong on our publicly-owned land.

This action is long-overdue!

Thank you,  
Leslie Bisharat

**Correspondence ID:2943**

Correspondence: Please remove the fences in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. The largest herd of native Tule elk, is rapidly dying (!) due to mismanagement. A fenced enclosure at Tomales Point is responsible for the largest herd of native Tule elk dying of starvation and thirst. There is not enough forage for the trapped elk and the drought has left the elk no water. Please take a look at the devastating photos of DEAD and EMACIATED elk. It's horrific and inexcusable. The suffering is slow and cruel. And this ill-advised fence was installed to prevent the elk from competing for forage and water with almost 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore -decades after the government paid to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. Some ranchers refused to move their cattle, and the cattle are now being prioritized over the endangered elk species.

NPS - Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife, and these endangered native elk and stop supporting commercial ranching. Per the previous agreement and payment from the government, the Point Reyes National Seashore is not a place for ranchers to use for grazing cattle and profit.

Please remove the fence immediately to enable the deer to access food and water. As a citizen, I am outraged that the NPS that I help support - is NOT supporting wildlife in a wilderness area. Start prioritizing wildlife care and not giving in to ranchers' interests. The public wants wilderness areas and the wildlife in them, to be protected.

**Correspondence ID:2944**

Correspondence: It is outrageous that the Native Tule Elk be condemned to die in the most agonizing ways just to please cattle owners, when they are who need to find alternative solutions to protect their flocks. There are not first and second-class animals, for that reason, this double standard is unacceptable

**Correspondence ID:2945**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2946**

Correspondence: PLEASE do the right thing and protect the wildlife in Point Reyes NATIONAL PARK. This area was NOT designated for cattle farming, PLEASE find a place in your heart for our quickly VANISHING wildlife.

Suzanne Kunstman

**Correspondence ID:2947**

Correspondence: Take down the fences and take out the cattle. Point Reyes National Seashore is for all the people, not just a few ranchers.

Protect the natural life there, please. Don't imprison it or change its natural movement. Let Americans enjoy the places of beauty that have been gifted to them by our government and by the choice of the people.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2948**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for the ability to comment.

**Correspondence ID:2949**

Correspondence: Park Service, please prioritize the tule elk over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore! Mismanagement is leading to rapid and needless failing and dying of these beautiful and threatened creatures. It is unconscionable to keep them trapped behind fencing, where they are hungry and thirsty, even unto death!

The conservation and care of these elk must take priority over commercial agriculture and cattle-ranch leases!

Please do all you can to correct course and care for this rare herd, for their sake and for all of our sake.

Thank you very much.

**Correspondence ID:2950**

Correspondence: Fences don't belong on public lands around forests. Why are the native animals given short shrift? Why are we allowing ranchers to profit from our public lands? The poor elk are starving because they are fenced in. Let's correct this huge mistake! Remove the fences please!

**Correspondence ID:2951**

Correspondence: C/o Superintendent Craig Kenkel  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
2 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Tomales Point Area Plan

Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

This scoping comment is submitted by the Marin Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (Marin CNPS) regarding the forthcoming Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Tomales Point Area Plan. The California Native Plant Society is an organization of nearly 10,000 members statewide dedicated to conserving native plants and their natural habitats and to increasing the understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants. Marin CNPS currently has approximately 530 members.

Marin CNPS is pleased that the Seashore is undertaking a comprehensive planning process for the Tomales Point Peninsula. This area is a gem within the Seashore with its stunning views to both east and west, coastal grass and scrub lands, rare plants and native elk population. It is past time to update the management plan for this area.

**1. Issues affecting rare and special status plant species**

Marin CNPS and the Seashore have been surveying and monitoring rare plant populations on the Point Reyes Peninsula for many years. The rare and special status plant species on Tomales Point are listed in Attachment A below. This information is taken from an unpublished Marin CNPS document entitled "Tomales Point AKA Pierce Point, Pt. Reyes Peninsula: A Plant Species Checklist [dated 31 March, 2008,

revisited 13th Sept 2008, Aug, 2010 and 3 Sept. 2011: nomenclature last updated February 2018 by Doreen Smith.]

We first urge Seashore planners to update this data in terms of both occurrence and taxonomy.

The DEIS should then analyze the impacts of all alternatives proposed in the document on these particular species and others to be found in the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve. For example, the following questions should be addressed:

A. What will be in the effects on special status plant species of actions that could enlarge the elk population within the Reserve, such as drought mitigation measures?

B. Conversely, what would be the impacts of measures that could reduce elk numbers?

C. What measures should be adopted to mitigate any adverse impacts to these special plants and the mosaic of coastal prairie / coastal scrub plant communities?

D. How can climate change be expected to affect these rare species?

2. Questions pertaining to native vegetation more generally

A. How will the balance of native versus non-native plant species be affected by each potential action in the Reserve?

B. How will the relative abundance of grasslands versus coastal scrub be affected by each potential action in the Reserve?

A recent Marin Voice column in the Marin Independent Journal urges the Seashore to carefully analyze the impact of elk versus cattle on the introduction and spread of invasive species such as thistles, hemlock, mustard and wild radish. <https://www.marinij.com/2022/04/21/marin-voice-point-reyes-needs-detailed-study-of-invasive-plants-before-extending-ranches/>.

We support this request.

The passage of approximately 45 years since the introduction of elk into the Reserve offers the opportunity to compare the condition of the vegetation within the Reserve with that of the adjacent Pastoral Zone to assess the impacts of native ungulates versus cattle on native plant populations. CNPS urges planners to begin by comparing how these natural and extractive uses have affected the plant life therein.

Also, the effect on grass and shrub plant communities of elk and deer foraging exclusive of livestock should be analyzed by comparisons of species composition and density in and outside the numerous large ungulate exclosures within the Reserve. This could aid the assessment of an appropriate density of elk in the Reserve to sustain their habitat, i.e. elk and deer carrying capacity, and natural mix of species in Reserve's plant communities.

For a bit of background, California prairies evolved under a regime of grazing by Pleistocene-era megafauna that included mastodon, mammoth, camel, llama, bison, elk, pronghorn and horses. These

herbivores grazed on grasses and forbs as well as trees and shrubs. Grazing Handbook, Sotoyome Resource Conservation District (2006). See <http://www.carangeland.org/images/GrazingHandbook.pdf> at 2.

Foraging differences between species are dictated by size and nutritional requirements as well as anatomical differences in teeth, lips, mouth structure and digestive systems. Smaller ruminants such as deer, goats and pronghorn favor shrubby plants while larger species like cattle and elk prefer grasses and similar plants. Grazing Handbook at 9.

Elk have some advantages over cows from a conservation point of view. A study from Arizona reported that while elk and cattle have similar diets, the stubble height in elk-foraged fields was about 2 centimeters higher than stubble left by cows, with positive ramifications for soil moisture retention, erosion, plant regrowth and wildlife habitat. Halstead, L.E. et al., Elk and Cattle Foraging Under a Specialized Grazing System, *J. Range Management* 55:360 (July 2002). Furthermore, being larger and heavier, cattle consume more forage than elk: a single adult dry cow consumes almost half again as much forage (727 lbs. per month) as one mature elk (474 lbs. per month). Grazing Handbook at 9. These differences between elk and cattle should be analyzed for their benefits to sustaining sensitive species and the area's plant communities in assessing alternatives for Tomales Point Peninsula and the Seashore as a whole.

### 3. Issues that affect the implementation of the General Management Plan Amendment of 2021

The announcement of the planning process for Tomales Point states that the NEPA analysis will address "maintenance or removal of the tule elk fence." Such an analysis needs to evaluate how removal of the fence could or could not be integrated with the General Management Plan Amendment [GMPA] for the Pastoral Zone.

The presence of many more elk in the Pastoral Zone would increase the grazing pressure on the available forage. This could well require adjustment of the number of cattle on each ranch or additional culling of elk in the Pastoral Zone. Such a change could also require modification of the ranch operating agreements.

If the fence removal cannot be integrated into the GMPA and the ranches are to be phased out, what management actions will be required to protect native plants and plant communities? How will the potential for an increase of invasive plant cover be mitigated?

Conversely, if the fence is to remain in place, what management actions will be necessary to protect and enhance the health of special status plant species and native plant communities? How will the carrying capacity of elk be determined and maintained in the Reserve?

Finally, if climate change is to increase the frequency of drought conditions, how will that affect the management of the Reserve and the Pastoral Zone?

### 4. Issues that affect the character of the Phillip Burton Wilderness Area

We are concerned that the character of the Reserve's Wilderness Area be maintained for the enjoyment of park visitors. Artificial structures to implement management actions and means to maintain them tend to detract from the public's wilderness experience and should be avoided as management tools per 2006 NPS Management Policies Chapter 6: Wilderness Preservation and Management. The rationale for

use of unnatural facilities (tanks, water lines and troughs) and All-Terrain-Vehicles (ATVs) to supplement water for elk during drought needs assessment based on the consumption and need of supplied water by ungulates since their installation during the drought in 2021.

## Conclusion

We urge Seashore Planners to remain mindful of the Missions of both the National Park Service and the Seashore itself as they address the difficult decisions involved in this process.

The Organic Act provides that the Mission of the National Park Service is “to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations”. The original 1962 enabling legislation for the Seashore declared that it was established “to save and preserve for purposes of public recreation, benefit and inspiration, a portion of the diminishing seashore of the United States that remains undeveloped... .” Public Act 87-667 Sec. 1. Congress later elaborated on this statement by requiring the Department of the Interior to administer its Point Reyes lands “without impairment of its natural values, in a manner which provides for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area,... “ 16 USC Sec. 459c (6)(a).

CNPS would like to see this planning process result in increased biodiversity at Tomales Point and more widely in the Seashore. We urge the Seashore to use the guidance in the Mission statements as the overarching principle to shape all aspects of the final outcome. Such an approach would promote the vision embodied in the Organic Act and the type of experience the public has come to expect in National Parks.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Carolyn K. Longstreth

On behalf of the Marin Chapter of the California Native Plant Society

Attachment A

Special Status Plant Species at Tomales Point

SCIENTIFIC NAME COMMON NAME CA. RARE PLANT RANK

ASTERACEAE

Blennosperma nanum var. Pt Reyes Blennosperma 1B.2  
robustum

Cirsium andrewsii Andrew's Thistle 1B.2

Erigeron supplex Rayless daisy 1B.2

Hesperevas sparsiflora var. Coastal Evax 1B.2  
Brevifolia



Lasthenia californica Perennial Goldfields 1B.2  
Ssp. Macarantha

BRASSICACEAE

Arabis blepharophylla Coast Rock-cress 4.3

CONVOLVULACEAE

Calystegia purpurata Coastal morning glory 1B.2  
Ssp. Saxicola

IRIDACEAE

Iris longipetala Coast Iris (Old Pierce Ranch) 4.2

LILIACEAE

Fritillaria affinis var tristulis Pt. Reyes Chocolate lily 1B.1

OROBANCHACEAE

Triphysaria floribunda San Francisco Owl's-clover 1B

POACEAE

Agrostis blasdelei Blasdale's Bent Grass 1B.2

POLYGONACEAE

Chorizanthe cuspidate Spineflower 1B.2  
var. villosa

CA Rare Plant Rankings

1. Listed in the 2008 CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants, highest priority
- 3 Plants about which ore information is needed.
4. Plants of limited distribution

**Correspondence ID:2952**

Correspondence: The tragedy continues at Point Reyes National Seashore for the Tule Elk.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the National Park Service (NPS) has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Cut off from needed food and water, the Elk are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

THIS MUST STOP.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. This is surely a moral failure by humans who apparently have no regard for wilderness and those that live there.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2953**

Correspondence: From what I understand, the National Park Service (NPS) General Management Plan for Point Reyes is keeping elk trapped behind a fence, has expanded commercial agricultural use, and has extended cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

However, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. It is the duty of the NPS to protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:2954**

Correspondence: Support native wildlife over commercial ranching!

**Correspondence ID:2955**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2956**

Correspondence: Tule Elk. Photo by Jack Kenney

Photo by Jack Kenney

The National Park Service (NPS) has initiated a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Claudio Henriques

**Correspondence ID:2957**

Correspondence: Tule Elk. Photo by Jack Kenney

Photo by Jack Kenney

The National Park Service (NPS) has initiated a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Heloisa Henriques

**Correspondence ID:2958**

Correspondence: Tule Elk. Photo by Jack Kenney

Photo by Jack Kenney

The National Park Service (NPS) has initiated a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Claudio Mattos

**Correspondence ID:2959**

Correspondence: Tule Elk. Photo by Jack Kenney

Photo by Jack Kenney

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WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Heloisa Mattos

**Correspondence ID:2960**

Correspondence: Tule Elk. Photo by Jack Kenney

Photo by Jack Kenney

The National Park Service (NPS) has initiated a public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore.

This plan will update the management guidance of the peninsula, including management of the Tule Elk herd in this region of the park. These elk are confined to the Point, held behind 8-foot fences that were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for cattle.

WildCare has been proactive in advocating for this elk herd which faces significant challenges due to drought. Poor quality forage, and probably the reduction in flow from springs and seeps that are the main sources of water for the captive elk, caused over 150 elk to die in a single year (2019 - 2020).

Removing the fence, and setting up a wildlife corridor to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed, is the most humane option for the herd.

Claudio Simoes

**Correspondence ID:2961**

Correspondence: First of all, I do not understand why the Tule Elk herd is being confined behind 8-foot fences in the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore. From my understanding, these fences were erected in 1978 by the Park Service to separate this herd from the public land used by ranchers for their cattle. This fencing has resulted in poor and inadequate forage as well as causing limited water to become unavailable to the elk resulting in the deaths of 150 elk from 2019-2020.

I simply cannot understand how the Park Service has betrayed its mandate to protect wildlife and to be responsible for the elk dying in exchange for cattle. I truly do not believe that these conditions should exist for one more day. Fences should be immediately removed and a wildlife corridor should be established to allow the elk to leave the peninsula in search of better food and water sources as needed.

**Correspondence ID:2962**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2963**

Correspondence: Please keep this area wild! Speak up for those that can't speak for themselves!

**Correspondence ID:2964**

Correspondence: Please keep this area wild! Speak up for those that can't speak for themselves!

**Correspondence ID:2965**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2966**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your time.

**Correspondence ID:2967**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in wilderness. The National Park Service needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The National Park Service needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2968**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:2969**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk deserve to be protected, not destroyed by you. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2970**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2971**

Correspondence: I have visited the Point Reyes National Seashore in years past, particularly to view its wildlife, like the magnificent and rapidly declining Tule Elk. I understand the elk are dying of hunger and thirst because the Park Service has fenced them into a small area to provide more area for cattle to graze. I am angered and saddened by this news.

This seems to be a gross abuse of public lands by domestic livestock, and the suffering of native wildlife because of their presence. Please remove the fences from Point Reyes and allow elk to forage naturally. Point Reyes should be for true wildlife, this country has more any enough cattle.

Thank you for considering my comments.

**Correspondence ID:2972**

Correspondence: protect all the elks

**Correspondence ID:2973**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife for the purpose of protecting the ecological system for all Americans to enjoy.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. This should be obvious, but it is simply being stated again for those who do not listen. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Again, this is obvious, but I am re-stating this for those who have their ears covered.

Please do your job to protect this ecological system for all Americans to enjoy.

**Correspondence ID:2974**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

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The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2976**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2977**

Correspondence: With climate change stresses on all forms of wildlife, along with the continued encroachment of human activity on previously open lands, it is vital that we conserve our remaining wilderness areas for the creatures that live there. Cattle ranching is not one of the activities that helps maintain ecological diversity. As a son of farm families, I can say first hand that grazing cattle is highly destructive, especially of water resources like streams and ponds. Leave our parklands free from cattle. Let's give Nature a little space to breathe. Take our the cattle, and tear down the fences, and let the native animals roam.

**Correspondence ID:2978**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all of us and not just to ranchers who profit from its use. My family and I want the the NPS to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

We believe that fences do not belong in Wilderness and that the NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. This was supposed to be done years ago and should be done now.

Thank you for your respectful attention to our opinion and comments.

**Correspondence ID:2979**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all of us and not just to ranchers who profit from its use. My family and I want the the NPS to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

We believe that fences do not belong in Wilderness and that the NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. This was supposed to be done years ago and should be done now.

Thank you for your respectful attention to our opinion and comments.

**Correspondence ID:2980**

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We believe that fences do not belong in Wilderness and that the NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. This was supposed to be done years ago and should be done now.

Thank you for your respectful attention to our opinion and comments.

**Correspondence ID:2981**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2982**

Correspondence: Nature is unbounded. Only man (those at the top) want to segregate, divide and destroy the unity that is nature.

WIRE FENCES DON'T BELONG IN WILDERNESS AREAS. How stupid could anyone get?

**Correspondence ID:2983**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.



Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2984**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2985**

Correspondence: Thank you for this opportunity to express my concerns. Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to us all. It was not intended simply for for ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2986**

Correspondence: I am concerned about the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California. This herd is rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement which keeps elk trapped in an enclosure at Tomales Point, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. Not only is there insufficient forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater sources to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk. The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. Some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. What is the reasoning for this?

The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. Why has no action been taken?

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS has a responsibility to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence, allowing elk access to vital food and water. Furthermore, the NPS

needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an immediate end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

Thank you for accepting my comments on this important issue.

**Correspondence ID:2987**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2988**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, and all wildlife, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I believe that the NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS should end the ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by removing the fences so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2989**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

• Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

• The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2990**

Correspondence: This area belongs to all Americans and should not be used exclusively for agriculture, especially those that are for profit. This must be protected for Americans to enjoy and allow the ecosystem to thrive. Fences are also uncalled for in wilderness area. It gives the illusion that this area is not allowed for public visitation when it is a public park, the fences must be removed. Having fences and for profit ranching on public lands is a great violation for all Americans. It is saying that corporate interest is far more important than the American public enjoying their parks and for the ecosystem to be maintained and protected. Your organization has an obligation to put the American people and their parks first over profit. Not to mention the horrifying conditions you have created for the elk not only send the wrong message to future generations but it creates an imbalance in the ecosystem. Do the right thing and remove the fences and get these elk in better condition for everyone to enjoy. Commercial ranching has no place in public lands and to expect them to is a conflict of interest in a wide array of ways. Do no harm to the environment by doing the right then and removing fences and

discontinuing ranching on public protected lands. Let Americans have wilderness, not everything needs to be commercialized.

**Correspondence ID:2991**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern:

Please do what you can to bring back the numbers of Tule elk. Take down the fences that are killing them! These are native elk, and rare.....on the brink of extinction! NO MORE CATTLE GRAZING! NO MORE FENCES KEEPING THESE ELK IN!! I don't think public lands should be used for any cattle grazing or mining, etc. that benefits very few people but can ruin the land for all of the rest of us, and kill off the native plants and animals.

If the land would be better off without the National Park Service, then it should be dismantled.

Sincerely, Kima Garrison

**Correspondence ID:2992**

Correspondence: Please take down the fences save the wildlife !

**Correspondence ID:2993**

Correspondence: Dear Sir:

I write to strongly request the Park Service prioritize wildlife over privately owned, for profit, domestic livestock. Never place a single rancher before the American people.

Thank you for reading my important request.

Sincerely,

James Woods

**Correspondence ID:2994**

Correspondence: Why do you allow ranchers to have more access, more rights to public lands and wildlife habitats than anyone else?

FENCES DO NOT BELONG IN THE WILDERNESS, BUT THE ANIMALS DO!!!

**Correspondence ID:2995**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2996**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2997**

Correspondence: As a strong supporter for our National Parks and conservation, I would like to ask that you PLEASE remove the fencing that surrounds the Tule Elk that are confined to the Point. Building a wildlife corridor would allow the elk to leave the penninsular in search for BETTER food and water. This truly is the most HUMANE option for the herd.

Thank you for your consideration,  
T. Tario

**Correspondence ID:2998**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:2999**

Correspondence: I respectfully urge the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore.

At stake is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore. With all due respect, I believe NPS mismanagement is responsible for the needless deaths of this native animal. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 year. This is a plan that benefits ranchers, not the tule elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. As you know, when Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a disappointing move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. This is a travesty. Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 296 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. This is completely unacceptable! Fences have no place in Wilderness. It's ridiculous. It's a

mockery. The NPS must end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tamales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS can and must do better by the tule elk. If not, then the NPS is functioning like a subsidiary of the ranching industry. This would be infuriating, sad, and disappointing. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Please do the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:3000**

Correspondence: I would like all parties who will be deciding this issue to please consider any changes in land use, environment and the impact on every being.

Animals have to be just as important or more so than any of the other impacts. Humans are totally responsible for care of all the animals on this earth. Since they have Not been given equal consideration has made for great disruption off our eco systems everywhere on this planet.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:3001**

Correspondence: Please take down the fences at the Point Reyes National Seashore. The NPS is supposed to protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. Please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for having the courage, strength, and intelligence to do the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:3002**

Correspondence: Dear NPS:

I am writing regarding the Tule Elk population on the Phillip Burton Wilderness (Pt Reyes National Seashore).

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

It is completely despicable that these elk are being starved to death and have no access to water because private interests are being prioritized over a national treasure.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:3003**

Correspondence: • The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3004**

Correspondence: Cows can live anywhere, but not so with Tule Elk. Tear down that fence! Cows can move elsewhere. I have enjoyed watching Tule Elk at Point Reyes--and even seen a mountain lion there. Let them interact as nature intended. Wildlife and wildlife habitats must be given priority over farm animals.

**Correspondence ID:3005**

Correspondence: I am a retired wildlife biologist, California State Park planner who led the Tomales Bay State Park General Plan, and park interpreter at the Golden Gate Recreation Area. I've hiked the trails and sailed the waters of Point Reyes for 50 years. I'm quite familiar with the complexities of balancing public use and concessions with natural and historic preservation and interpretive needs. I recognize the historic and interpretive value of ranching at Point Reyes but to preserve the elk and to improve environmental conditions it is time to eliminate or greatly reduce the ranching concessions at the National Seashore.

The ranchers have been allowed to stay long beyond the original 25-year lease. I was appalled at the eyesore of the huge white structure NPS allowed to be built at the ranch on the way to Tomales Point. As part of the general plan team for Mount Diablo State Park, we had a similar issue with a cattle ranch whose lease was up but who argued to continue operations as an interpretive resource. We let the ranch continue as an interpretive ranch but limited the acreage grazed to what was necessary for interpretive purposes (reducing grazing by about 80% and protecting endangered plant habitat). I would support allowing at Point Reyes one historic ranch to continue as such an interpretive ranch with a limited and dedicated grazing area.

The elk are far more important than cattle! NPS needs to prioritize the rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Thank you, Bob Hare

**Correspondence ID:3006**

Correspondence: As a taxpayer it makes me very disappointed in my government that they have let fences be put up on our federal property that is for ranchers but is at the expense of our beautiful Tule Elk. Our federal land that we the taxpayers pay for is not for ranchers but for our wildlife. Take down those fences & save those Elks.

**Correspondence ID:3007**

Correspondence: Native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California are rapidly & needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, & extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.j

Instead of protecting the Wilderness & elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger & thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead & emaciated elk. That is cruel, heartless, & unacceptable.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage & water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches & end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS.

Really, these squatters were granted new leases because they refused to move so NPS chose to reward their bad behavior! Outrageous!! So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Unbelievable!

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, & another 25 percent died more recently.

I am speaking up for the rare Tule Elk who are being sacrificed by NPS for a bunch of fricken domestic cows. NPS, Please choose to do the right thing by prioritizing the needs of native wildlife & putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like NPS was supposed to do decades ago. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

NPA, please remember, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to the ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I hope to very soon be able to thank NPS for having chosen to do the right thing for the Tule elk and the American people the NPS is suppose to be serving.

**Correspondence ID:3008**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the Point Reyes National Seashore and its wildlife. This seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. In addition, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

I urge the NPS to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3009**

Correspondence: This submission is written to replace the one I just sent in at 1500 hours. When I read the printed form, I saw that using “ & ” instead of writing the actual word “ and ” made my initial message unintelligible. So here is what I actually said before “ & ” destroyed my initial message.

Native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk. That is cruel, heartless, and unacceptable.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS.

Really, these squatters were granted new leases because they refused to move so NPS chose to reward their bad behavior? Outrageous!! So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Unbelievable!

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

I am speaking up for the rare Tule Elk who are being sacrificed by NPS for a bunch of fricken domestic cows. NPS, Please choose to do the right thing by prioritizing the needs of native wildlife and putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like NPS was supposed to do decades ago. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

NPA, please remember, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to the ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I hope to very soon be able to thank NPS for having chosen to do the right thing for the Tule elk and the American people the NPS is suppose to be serving.

**Correspondence ID:3010**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3011**



Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Do the right thing. Protect our planet and its wildlife!

**Correspondence ID:3012**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3013**

Correspondence: I am writing to ask you to do the most humane thing possible for the rare Tule elk.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I have visited Point Reyes a few times when I visited the area and it is lovely.

I don't think that fences belong in Wilderness at all.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife. It needs to put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes -- like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Please, please, do the humane thing and take down the fence.

**Correspondence ID:3014**

Correspondence: Let the elk LIVE in peace!

**Correspondence ID:3015**

Correspondence: I urge the NPS to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water and to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3016**

Correspondence: Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3017**

Correspondence: STOP Murdering innocent animals!! They don't need fences & neither do we. Let them roam freely. Fences don't belong in the wild- they are death to all!!!

STOP the greedy ranchers. All they care about are \$\$\$- never the animals.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3018**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3019**

Correspondence: Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California and rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of

public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

HERE IS MY MESSAGE:

The Elk should be permitted to go wherever that they need to go for their survival. Stop confining the elk and let them move freely.

**Correspondence ID:3020**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3021**

Correspondence: I would like to add my comments regarding the Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California to ask that the Park Service prioritize wildlife over cattle at Point Reyes National Seashore

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Also I believe that fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Finally the NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for the opportunity to add my voice to the millions of our fellow Americans for whom this issue is fundamentally important. I appreciate your consideration of my comments, and thank you for your work on behalf of all Americans.

**Correspondence ID:3022**

Correspondence: Shame on the NPS and the greedy ranchers who are slowly killing the Tule elk - the rightful inhabitants of the land that they are being kept from. There is something so wrong that this situation exists. Starvation and thirst are horrible ways to die. It is especially evil that they are being treated this way so that ranchers can graze their cattle on PUBLIC LAND that does not belong to them, and are therefore keeping the elk from these resources. The elk must be saved.

**Correspondence ID:3023**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:3024**

Correspondence: I am extremely concerned to learn that Tule Elk are being by the presence of fences while cattle ranchers are allowed to profit at the elks' and taxpayers' expense.

Ranching on wilderness is counter to wilderness objectives.

Fences in wilderness is counter to wilderness objectives.

Now we are killing elk by preventing them from being able to reach food and water.

That is counter to wilderness objectives.

I am appalled at this blatant and horrific disregard.

Take down the fences.

Prioritize wilderness over ranching on purported wilderness lands.

Not one more elk should suffer and die.

**Correspondence ID:3025**

Correspondence: Dear Sirs,

There must be no fences for wild deer, they must be roam freely and not become an other status than cattle. There are to much cattle and i find that the wild animals in a certain terrain must be free to move to water and grasslands!

Thank you and i hope that this will be alright!!!!

Els den Hoed

**Correspondence ID:3026**

Correspondence: Please accept my comments as an outdoor professional (International Mountain Leader - IML):

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:3027**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

The Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore must be set free of the fencing so the remainder of the herd can be saved!

They are forced into a fenced area at Tomales Point, despite the fact that the government paid for the land at the National Seashore, because the cattle ranchers were granted new leases for grazing access for cows after their leases had expired, and after they refused to leave, back in 1962.

The Tule elk are dying from lack of access to water and food. The fence needs to be removed so the elk can live among the cattle, and also now the leases for cattle on this 28,000 acre parkland need to be ended. The area belongs to the public for the wildlife, and the Tule elk must not be fenced in for the convenience of cattle any more. There seem to be only about 150 of these elk left, after they have been dying from hunger and thirst for years now.

Please make a new plan for this area that will save the lives of the remaining Tule elk.

Thank you in advance for this much needed change in management.

Mary

**Correspondence ID:3028**

Correspondence: I am writing because I have learned that the National Park Service is confining rare native Tule elk at the Point Reyes National Seashore to prevent them from competing with cattle for forage and water and that many of the elk are dying because of this. I am outraged that the cattle are being protected while the elk are being allowed to die.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just the ranchers who are allowed to profit from its use. The National Seashore and all of its wildlife need to be protected, not the cattle.

There is no place for fences in wilderness, and the National Park Services needs to end the death of the elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fences so the elk can access food and water.

The National Park Service must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by ending commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3029**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans as public lands.

As such, NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. This can be accomplished in part by taking action to end the ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

Take down the fence so elk can access food and water.

NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:3030**

Correspondence: Cut those fences. Make a way for the elk to move to their food and water.

**Correspondence ID:3031**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3032**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3033**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3034**

Correspondence: Date: April 30, 2022

From: Kenneth Bouley

To: Superintendent Craig Kenkel  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Tomales Point Area Plan

Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

I appreciate the opportunity to submit comments in response to your invitation: "The National Park Service Seeks Public Comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore."

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOINPS/bulletins/3105906>

My main comment is that it is obvious that from the framing of the plan activities under comment that NPS already accepts the validity of the hotly contested outcome of the recent GMPA process for the remainder of the Seashore, namely that ranching will be continue as previously, with modest and aspirational mitigations. I realize this is the subject of an ongoing lawsuit. Of course, the handling of the elk north of the fence is the subject of another lawsuit.

It is my understanding that per NEPA and NPS policy, the correct sequence of planning activities is to have a General Management Plan, and then one or more detailed implementation plans to execute on the goals of the General plan. The GMP should focus on the purpose of the Park, guided by foundational documents such as the 1916 NPS Organic Act ("to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein" - 54 U.S.C. § 100101) and the PRNS park legislation ("shall be administered . . . without impairment of its natural values . . . consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment." - 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6.) Once the goals are established, only then are implementation plans appropriate to lay out the details to attempt to achieve them.

Your press release says, "The intent of the planning effort is to replace the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan for Tomales Point and to address, where appropriate, any updates to the park's General Management Plan as it relates to the Tomales Point area." The problem with this is that it presupposes there is a limited appropriate range for the elk in the first place. Wildlife move around, given the opportunity to do so, and this is as it should be.

The press release further says, "The impetus for this planning process are the impacts to the tule elk population and other resources within the Reserve arising from the historic drought conditions over the past eight years." But as is generally known, the elk outside the Reserve did not suffer the same attrition as the penned herds. It is therefore mistaken or disingenuous to attribute the "impacts" to the drought rather than to the fence.

(Furthermore, the "impacts" euphemism may be understandable given the formal role of the Superintendent's position, but many of the public you serve do not choose to characterize the prolonged suffering and deaths of hundreds of animals as "impacts.")

This current situation is convoluted: as you have already determined you will keep ranching in the park, now you apparently will consider removing the elk fence which would of course increase conflict between elk and the ranches. In my opinion, this gives the appearance of a deliberate "divide-and-conquer" strategy designed to obtain a pre-determined goal of protecting the ranches. Afterall, the public is well aware that the inclusions of Alternatives E and F in the most recent GMPA process were court-mandated and were never seriously considered.

In 1993, the “Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on Control of Tule Elk on Point Reyes National Seashore” concluded, “The long-range goal of elk management at PRNS should be the re-establishment of free-ranging elk throughout the seashore and associated public lands. This would involve ... removal of the fence across Tomales Point. [The National Park Service] and [California Department of Fish and Game] should develop a long-range management plan with the goal of achieving a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population subjected to a minimum of management intervention.”

([https://www.nps.gov/pore/getinvolved/upload/planning\\_tule\\_elk\\_report\\_scientific\\_advisory\\_panel\\_1993.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/pore/getinvolved/upload/planning_tule_elk_report_scientific_advisory_panel_1993.pdf) )

Lastly, even though the entire process appears, again, to be ill-conceived and calculated for a pre-ordained outcome, if you are going to list issues to be addressed at all, it is very unclear why you would name “supplemental water for the elk in times of need” and omit any mention of forage or minerals. After all, your office took pains to correct the record where people or reporters said the elk were dying of dehydration, pointing out that it was, rather, “drought-related malnutrition.” To make that rather pedantic point, and then to fail to follow-up on your own assessment, seems to me like a fickle and neglectful oversight.

Are you seriously going to consider removing the fence? What happens to the elk as they wander on to operating ranches? It will not look like progress if, as they move south in search of forage to stay alive, they are hazed and eventually shot.

The scope of the next process should therefore include a re-evaluation of the appropriateness of ranches in the Seashore. At the very least, the succession policy should be reevaluated and re-oriented towards goals of wilderness and elk range expansion, rather than being stacked against them. Commercial industry should make way for wildlife in National Parks, not the other way around.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Bouley

**Correspondence ID:3035**

Correspondence: With all due respect, fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you for your attention.

**Correspondence ID:3036**

Correspondence: First of all I didn't know this was happening, this is not right. Wildlife should have priority over ranchers especially in a National Park! Which is why fences should be removed in wilderness so these elk can roam free. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. I have been going to Point Reyes on occasion to



hike and camp but won't be going back unless this ends, I don't want my park fees going towards commercial ranchers. Other than this issue the park is greatly managed elsewhere

**Correspondence ID:3037**

Correspondence: wild animals have been pushed to such a small part of their natural habitat by humans that want the land for cows that the wild animals need to keep what land is left to them. The National Park Service is to serve the land , the people and the animals of the parks not the cattle people. cattle owners are in a business and the park service is not there to give a business what they want. leave Tomales Point to the wild animals, they need it. ...Thank you Diana Rodgers

**Correspondence ID:3038**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore is public land and must be preserved for all Americans. With that said, the National Park Service must strive to maintain the Seashore in its natural state so that all wildlife can benefit. In order to protect the Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness the fence must be removed. The fence is preventing elk from accessing food and water and the Tule elk are dying in large numbers. Commercial ranching has no place on public lands. I urge the National Park Service to end commercial ranching at Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3039**

Correspondence: I hike at Point Reyes several times a year and was there yesterday on Tamales Point. I was very upset to see that the natural elk watering hole on the way out to Tamales Bluff was already algae filled and well on it's way to drying before summer has even arrived. On the way back, I noticed that the watering holes for the cattle were all clear and high. This is an abomination on the National Seashore, which should be protecting the wildlife. Do the right thing, take down the elk fence, finally get rid of the ranches virtually squatting on public lands, and follow your mission statement. I'll let others point out the pollution, raw sewage, and land degradation that the ranches produce. Thanks. Dan

**Correspondence ID:3040**

Correspondence: Hello,

What is happening to these elk is criminal. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Sincerely,  
Jairus

**Correspondence ID:3041**

Correspondence: Please reconsider your practice of allowing cattle and leases for cattle to have access to our public lands at the expense of our wildlife. I am very disturbed by the disruption that the Tule Elk are experiencing, and I believe that we must do a better job of protecting our wildlife. This is even more important with the current water situation here in California.

I think many question the decisions that allow the cattle industry to be subsidized at the expense of our shared wildlands. I believe that this needs to be reassessed to protect our shared resources and heritage.

Please consider the long-term effect of cattle on our lands, and our obligation to our native species.

I thank you for the opportunity to share my comments.

**Correspondence ID:3042**

Correspondence: As a Marin native and a person who cares about the integrity and health of Marin's treasured wildlands, I implore you to immediately dismantle the 3-mile-long fence of the Tule Elk Reserve at Point Reyes National Seashore, to free the over 200 elk confined inside it. They are struggling to survive and more will die in the coming drought this summer and autumn. I've learned that hundreds of these magnificent wild animals have already suffered and died in record numbers over the last ten years because they are blocked from accessing all 71,000 acres of Point Reyes National Seashore.

The only reason the Tule elk are confined in the Reserve is to placate the cattle operations leasing land in our public park. These same cattle operations are the Seashore's leading source of land degradation, water contamination, and Pacific Ocean pollution from all the cattle manure from these dairy and beef ranches. In addition, the methane emissions from these cattle operations are accelerating global warming.

None of this should be allowed inside a national park unit. National parks are supposed to have the highest degree of environmental regulation. The wild animals inside them, and at Point Reyes National Seashore, are supposed to have the greatest protections from harm. But the opposite is true at Point Reyes and it must end immediately.

Dismantle the Tule Elk Reserve fence, free the Tule elk, and remove all the private cattle operations.

Thank you for following the will of the public, for which Point Reyes National Seashore was created, not to profit private and polluting business operations.

**Correspondence ID:3043**

Correspondence: Native elk should have priority over cattle and ranchers. The fences should come down so elk and other animals can roam freely. This area belongs to everyone not just local cattle ranchers. Cattle ranch leases need to end.

**Correspondence ID:3044**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern,

It saddens my heart to learn that the wild animals like the Tule Elk are being treated like prisoners as they are "locked" behind fences and are unable to find food and water to maintain life. I personally consider this to be a form of cruelty to animals. The leases for the ranchers were for a short time to allow them to find a different grazing area for their herds, but when they were asked to move, the NPS rolled over and gave into them and gave up on the animals whom they are sworn to protect. This is definitely a very disheartening situation. Therefore, I am asking you to do what is correct according to the agreement made years ago and require the ranchers to move their herds, take down the fences so the Tule Elk can once again roam their rightful land and, hopefully, thrive instead of slowly becoming extinct as the NPS forbids them to get to the food and water which they need. Please, correct your actions and change this situation before more Tule Elk die. Thank you for your time and efforts in listening to my voice and caring for the Tule Elk as they deserve to be.

Sincerely,  
Diane Howard

**Correspondence ID:3045**

Correspondence: When deciding, please keep in mind:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Respectfully,

Terry Friedman

**Correspondence ID:3046**

Correspondence: I am requesting that the Park Service remove the fence trapping the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd.

I am requesting that the Tule Elk be allowed to roam across the entire PRNS.

I am requesting that ranching operations and all commercial ranched animals be removed from PRNS.

I am requesting that the dumps of trash from farm operations be removed and the renting parties pay for the clean up.

I am requesting that all barbed wire fences be removed.

Thank you,  
Susan J Dent

**Correspondence ID:3047**

Correspondence: I was shocked at the info on the Tule Elk life threatening situation in the Philip Barton Wilderness!! PLEASE remove the fences so Tule Elk can have access to food and water immediately! The NPS must protect the seashore and its wildlife and no ranching allowed at Point Reyes! Please take care of our wildlife humanely and responsibly!!

**Correspondence ID:3048**

Correspondence: Tule elk BELONG on this land that is PUBLIC land, not private ranchers' land. These ranchers are TRESPASSING. These are rare elk and they don't deserve to be starved to death so greedy ranchers can make a profit. What is happening is WRONG. That fence needs to be removed immediately.

**Correspondence ID:3049**

Correspondence: I am writing to ask you to remove the fences on Point Reyes...

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3050**

Correspondence: Hunters of Color is writing to answer the NPS call for public comment for the Point Reyes National Seashore. The management of water quality, the creation of a climate action plan, the protection of coastal resources, and the tule elk herd's access to clean water is of utmost importance to us, and to the local Indigenous communities, including the Coast Miwok.

Tule elk and the Coast Miwok are endemic to California. They both have been extirpated from their historical homelands. If the tule elk population is given the chance to thrive, the Coastal Miwok's culture and lifeways can also thrive, and California's ecosystems will be positively impacted by the return of a native ungulate. However, this is difficult to attain when the elk don't have access to water during droughts, as has been the case over the past few summers.

We recommend that the Commission listens to the Coast Miwok Tribal Council of Marin, Theresa Harlan, and the Alliance for Felix Cove to be as educated as possible regarding traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) as it pertains to this elk herd and its habitat. The Coast Miwok have lived in close relationship with the tule elk since time immemorial. Their TEK and Indigenous science must be regarded as an exemplar of understanding human-elk relationship in the PRNS region.

As it stands, the tule elk cannot be relocated due to close contact with diseased cattle, and they are also unable to return to a sustainable herd size because of the high fences they are trapped behind. Johne's disease has been documented spreading from the cattle to the elk; manure contaminated ranch water threatens the herd and their ability to ever exist beyond pockets within Point Reyes, for fear of spreading Johne's in relocation attempts.

Management plans must reflect the direness of the situation the elk face. This means that tule elk should be managed so they may no longer be directly exposed to Johne's disease. The clear solution to this issue is to put an end to the privatization of public land that allows cattle ranchers to graze their herds on PRNS land. In effect, the cattle are an invasive species threatening the existence of the tule elk, an endemic, waning species that ought to be protected as such.

Only then, when fear of Johne's is eliminated because the elk are no longer in contact with the cattle, will they be allowed to be relocated. Then, too, the fences that hold this native species captive can fall, and the elk can return to their once vast range. The reintroduction of this native ungulate will restore a natural homeostasis to the ecosystem in the elk's ancestral range. Further, more elk means restored cultural connections for Indigenous peoples, and more opportunity for the public to utilize the herd as a sustainable food source.

For tule elk, California's ecosystems, and the Coast Miwok to thrive, we need the California Coastal Commission to take action. Allow the Coast Miwok to lead with TEK. End farming on Point Reyes National Seashore. Give the tule elk a chance to thrive through relocation and habitat expansion. Take down the fences and let wild species be wild, and public land be public.

**Correspondence ID:3051**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

I continue to be concerned by the stewardship of the Point Reyes National Seashore in general, and the Tule elk in particular.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I would argue that the Seashore also belongs to the wildlife that live there.

The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Cattle are not wildlife. I confer value to wildlife and the environment over cattle and financial interests. The Seashore and its wildlife are national resources to be protected. Cattle are capital assets owned by business people. I want my government to value our national and natural resources over the assets of a few business people. Let them ranch their non-native bovines east of the Mississippi where they belong. I do not confer rights to ranchers and their cattle. Why does my government insist on doing so?

Fences have no place in wilderness. Cattle have no place in wilderness either! The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fences so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3052**

Correspondence: I am writing because of my concern for the welfare, health and future for the tule elk. I deeply believe that the elk and other wildlife are the ones that belong on Point Reyes National seashore, not ranches of any sort. The fence should absolutely be taken down and elk should be provided water in times of need as well.

We and everyone we know love the elk and love to drive or bike out to see them and we want to be sure that future generations will also be able to see these majestic animals. The elk do not erode the land like the cows do, nor do they create a pollution problem for the waterways.

Please consider my comments,

Thank you,

Maria Levin

**Correspondence ID:3053**

Correspondence: Date: May, 2, 2022

Subject: Tomales Point Area Plan--Civic Engagement Comment Period

Dear National Park Service,

While a tragedy continues at Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California, the National Park Service (NPS) is accepting public comments on its planning process related to "wildlife, resource, and

wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point in the Phillip Burton Wilderness. At issue is the fate of native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California. Currently, these impressive animals are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement.

The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. It is the responsibility of the NPS to protect the Seashore and its natural resources, including its wildlife.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only isn't there enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS continues to confine the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of these ranchers refused to move after the 25-year time period and were granted new leases by the NPS. So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying in alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently. It is outrageous that this situation has gone on for so long with no intervention on the part of NPS staff. The NPS must prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it originally agreed to do decades ago.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,  
Lee Ann Bennett

**Correspondence ID:3054**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3055**

Correspondence: Please make it possible for the elk to reach the water and food that they so desperately need!

**Correspondence ID:3056**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore would best serve its purpose as a designated nature preserve for the public if higher priority were given to protect the needs of native wildlife. This is especially important in protecting the Tule elk at Point Tomales by removing livestock fencing and other impediments that continue to harm them.

Commercial ranching is out of place in the Point Reyes National Seashore and should cease to be allowed.

**Correspondence ID:3057**

Correspondence: I strongly oppose fencing the herd of native elk in the Phillip Burton wilderness area at Tomales Point, and I urge you to tear down the fences immediately and allow the elk access to the food and water they need to survive. It should go without saying that fences have no place in wilderness, and confining native elk in a small part of a wilderness area in 2022 in order to protect forage and water for cattle that were supposed to have been permanently removed in 1987 is an outrage. The National Park Service had no business granting lease extensions for cattle grazing at Point Reyes after the original 25-year grace period had expired, and it is a national disgrace that the native elk in the wilderness are dying in order to protect resources for cattle that should not be there in the first place. Point Reyes is a national seashore, and NPS has an obligation to manage it for the benefit of all citizens, to protect native wildlife, and finally to put an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:3058**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3059**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk fence should be removed and the elks should be free to roam.

There should be no population management of the elk population. Specifically the elk population should not be reduced for the benefit of ranching and farm life stock.

The elk population should be supplied with water in times of need.

**Correspondence ID:3060**

Correspondence: •RESPECTFULLY, PLEASE PRIORITIZE WILDLIFE OVER CATTLE AND THE PROFIT OF A FEW AT POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Ranchers and cattle are not precious. Wildlife and our National Parks are precious to the public who own our public lands.

Fences have no place in Wilderness !! The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

It is truly shameful that the National Park Service has allowed this to continue, in my view ! Please correct this debacle.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. Ranchers belong on private land. Not on our so very precious public lands, not in the few wildernesses we have left, and the anywhere near our diminishing wildlife. Please.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:3061**

Correspondence: I worked as naturalist for several parks, and your must uphold its mission to conserve wildlife, which must include protecting the Tule Elk. Having farms in a NP should only be allowed if the ranchers and farmers also work to protect wildlife and NPS should give employ all methods possible to do so. In no way should elk be killed in a NP due to farms and fences should be at minimum. Elk numbers continue to drop; hence the number and/or size of farms should be reduced and plans drawn up to conserve the elk and still have farms. The NPS should serve as a model if how Wildlufe and farming can coexist

**Correspondence ID:3062**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3063**

Correspondence: Biodiversity should be promoted. There should be no population management of the Tule Elk population due to historical endangerment status. Specifically, the elk population should not be reduced for the benefit and added profits of cattle and other live stock ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:3064**

Correspondence: The California NPS, as do the public lands managers in Nevada, regard commercial interests above those of wildlife in their areas. I do not regard this as serving the larger public interest, which should be their prime interest. All of us own those lands and we look to you to manage them to our benefit, not just for cattle owners. Thanks for your consideration, Sam.

**Correspondence ID:3065**

Correspondence: I live adjacent to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS). I cannot imagine the MBNMS being managed for one industry (food harvesting) to the detriment of marine wildlife.



The same can be said of the NPS allowing commercial ranching to the detriment of native wildlife (elk and other associated species) at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Many do not know that the MBNMS is not just the ocean water but extends up shore with the Sanctuary boundary being mean high tide line. That means shorebirds, who rest and feed along the Bay and all tide pool animals matter as much as marine mammals.

1. It is time for the NPS to end commercial ranching at Point Reyes.
2. The NPS must put an end to the deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
3. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

### **Correspondence ID:3066**

Correspondence: Native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to NPS mismanagement. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk. That is cruel, heartless, and unacceptable.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period were granted new leases by the NPS.

Really, these squatters were granted new leases because they refused to move so NPS chose to reward their bad behavior? That is outrageous!! So, some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Unbelievable!

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

I am speaking up for the rare Tule Elk who are being sacrificed by NPS for a bunch of domestic cows. NPS, please choose to do the right thing by prioritizing the needs of native wildlife and putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like NPS was supposed to do decades ago. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

NPA, please remember, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to the ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I hope to soon be

able to thank NPS for having chosen to do the right thing for the Tule elk and for the American people the NPS is suppose to be serving.

**Correspondence ID:3067**

Correspondence: The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife! The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:3068**

Correspondence: Dear Sir/Madame:

Please, for the sake of the animals and wild lands of Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I urge you to commit to the following life-saving measures:

~Remove the fence and barbed wire to allow the free roaming of elk and all wildlife

~Remove ranches from Pt. Reyes National Seashore for the preservation of wild animals, wild and native foliage and trees, for the elimination of massive amounts of pollution, and to allow for responsible recreation

~Stop the plan to kill elk or any wild animal on Point Reyes National Seashore, our public land

Thank you for your attention and deep consideration,

Melissa Flower

**Correspondence ID:3069**

Correspondence: Get rid of the fences at Point Reyes National Seashore!!! They are killing wildlife! The ranchers don't own the land!

**Correspondence ID:3070**

Correspondence: My husband and I visited Point Reyes in February and after reading an article in the Point Reyes Light I felt the need to make a comment or 2. The ranches have been paid for by taxes which comes from the citizens of the state. When you lease back for grazing the occupants have little interest in maintaining grasslands, minimizing their footprint and in general being good stewards of public lands. A quick drive thru the park will demonstrate the weeds, yard cars and general dishevelment of the area. The tule elk area has great views and gives the visitor a welcoming sight to the great outdoors. I have read about the quality of water due farming runoff and find it so sad that testing is not done in a more scientific and stringent method. The population has doubled from 1962 to 2021 with little addition to outdoor areas near the Bay Area. I feel more could be done with input of qualified folks from The Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy and of course The Sierra Club. With Humboldt

State so close by and now being a polytechnic college, there is no excuse for such a treasure to fall into such disrepair.

**Correspondence ID:3071**

Correspondence: The Tomales Point area plan effectively attempts to maintain the integrity of the natural landscape in accordance with native ecological practices and creates the opportunity to secure the local Tule Elk population from the impacts of climate change and human development. After carefully reviewing available project information, I was unable to explore the specific tasks and objectives under the "Forest Management" section. I believe an emphasis on native ecological landscaping and maintenance must be incorporated into this plan to truly be successful in maintaining the integral health of the natural landscape. Native flora additions, increases in native biodiversity, and maintenance of existing native populations will provide benefits in ecosystem services, mitigation of impacts of recreation, improve water retention, and foster a more resilient ecosystem that can withstand the effects of climate change and sustain native Tule Elk populations. The ecosystem services that native vegetation provides will offset the maintenance and repair costs from recreation and climate change, as well as provide savings in disaster and climate mitigation. These healthy native landscapes will more efficiently retain water while filtering out pollutants and effluence from visitors. In doing so, the integrity of the landscape is more resilient to the effects of climate change as human development increases. As a result of improved native habitat structure and food sources, biodiversity of all native communities will increase, and the Tule Elk populations will become more resilient as their surrounding environment does the same. The positive benefits of native landscaping far outweigh the costs when droughts, fires, and water scarcity continue to increase as a result of climate change. Thus, I highly suggest placing an emphasis on improving the native ecology of Tomales Point. Thank you for your consideration and incorporation of public feedback.

**Correspondence ID:3072**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern & The National Park Service:

First and foremost, I would suggest that the current leadership , in particular the Superintendent of the Point Reyes National Seashore, take a moment and re-visit the mission of the National Park Service. It reads:

NPS's mission is to "preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations."

In this lofty statement, I cannot find any justification for the current general management plan for Pt. Reyes. In fact, I think the proposed management plan is a clear abrogation of its mission and a violation of the public trust. Clearly, given the broad and repeated opposition to the plan one can only surmise this plan benefits a few, a minority, at the expense of the general public. Further, the plan arguably harms the public's well-being due to its well-documented adverse environmental and natural resources impacts. For example, the commercialization of Pt. Reyes has resulted in the creation of a major source of greenhouse gas and a well-documented source of pollution to creeks and ponds in the park. I wonder how the NPS can overlook such a state of continuing degradation to the only seashore park in the United States!

It is clear the plan as proposed does not meet even the simplest of environmental, economic and resource utilization tests. A small minority have the greatest gain at the cost and exclusion of the general public. Please reflect on the fact when the Seashore became a park in 1962, the same farms

willingly contracted and took public funds under an agreement selling their their farms to the U.S. public and agreeing to vacate in 25 years.

NPS has failed in its management a by allowing these same farms to sign 20 year leases. Under the new plan, there is no stated enforceable end to the leasing agreement. Clearly, this is an mismanagement of the public understanding and a serious case of misuse of public funds.

For the record and in summary, I oppose this plan for the following reasons:

One, it is a serious abrogation of the public trust and certainly the intention in the establishment of the park in 1962. Any plan must recogize and enforce the contracts signed by the farms and revert this farmland to a more natural state and thereby realize its intended use as a natural resource and recreation area. Farming and cattle do not fit that criteria. Multi-use does not rationalize the current state of degradation the park currently is in.

Two, the Pt. Reyes plan is a climate disaster. NPS should be at the lead in combating the production of methane gas and work to elminate all man-made forms of water pollution within the park.

Three,The Tule Elk must has precedence over any private interest. The fence currently controlling the herd movement has been well-documented to adversely effect the elk herd to the point of being fatal to its long-term viability. The public has stated the elk are the single greatest reason for vistitation to Pt. Reyes. The plan should honor that sentiment.

Four, I want access to the roughly 28,000 acres of parkland my parents paid for with their taxes. The 28,000 acres that I annually pay for through my taxes and support of agencies such as NPS. Let's remember, you work for us not the farmers! We, the public, are routinely denied access to areas of Pt Reyes by false signage claiming private proerty or aggressive farmers misstating facts. It's time to return the park to public use.

Further, the public has stated over and over, they favor elk over cattle. They want the seashore preserved in a natural state not land stripped of native grasses, ponds that are polluted and eroding. Return the land to seep-fed springs as a source of water for the elk population. This is considered to be desirable to mainatining viable elk populations.

The Pt Reyes Management Plan clearly fails on 3 counts: 1) it does meet the stated purpose of a national seashore. 2) the plan benefits a small group of vested interests at the expense of the environment and the greater public. And lastly, 3) the management Plan fails to address the long-term need for preservation of resources for coming generations and its wonderful recreational value for us today.

I consider this comment letter will be accepted into the record, points made considered, and please add me to the record for all future reviews and comments for Pt Reyes National Seashore.

Sincerely,

Leo Heagerty

**Correspondence ID:3073**

Correspondence: Point Reyes Station, CA

May 4, 2022

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station CA 94956

Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

The March 31, 2022, notice seeking public comment on a "Tomales Point Area Plan" states that the proposed plan is to "replace the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan for Tomales Point." [Hereafter "1998 Plan."] Among the issues identified is removal of the Pierce Point elk fence. The release of the elk into the Limantour Area under the 1998 Plan led to establishment of free ranging herds of elk in the Pastoral Zone. Removal of the Pierce Point elk fence would result in even more elk challenging operation of the dairies and ranches in the Pastoral zone contrary to recognition in the 1998 Plan that:

Point Reyes National Seashore . . . operates under . . . management, legal and administrative goals and constraints. The operation of historic ranches and public visitation must be considered. [1998 Plan, p.38]

Since it was never intended that the Seashore be a wildlife zoo, surely the General Management Plan Amendment provides sufficient "drive-by" opportunities for visitors to experience "free ranging elk" in the Pastoral Zone, but could agriculture in the Pastoral Zone survive removal of the Pierce Point elk fence?

Please expand the focus of your proposed plan to include measures identified in the 1998 Plan to make the Wilderness Area more accessible to the elk and thus expand the opportunity to develop additional free-ranging elk herds in the Wilderness Area rather than in the Pastoral Zone. According to the 1998 Plan,

. . . The desired condition of the herd would be free-ranging over some 18,000 acres as a long-term goal . . . [See Figure 7, "Map of Tomales Point Elk Range and Proposed Elk Range for relocated population," 1998 Plan, page 48.]

Environmental review of the chosen alternative in the 1998 Plan led to a "Finding of No Significant Impact" [FONSI]:

The preferred alternative was selected for implementation because it best meets the Service's goals to maintain viable populations of tule elk, use minimal intrusion to regulate population size where necessary, provide for a free-ranging herd, research and monitor the elk and their habitat, and provide the public within information on tule elk.

A summary of effects of the preferred alternative on the environment include:

The maintenance and conservation of tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore would contribute towards ecosystem restoration of native fauna; would be compatible with protecting habitats for several endangered, threatened, and rare species; would assist in preventing impacts from overpopulation that could threaten biological diversity in native habitats.

In addition,

Managing elk using relocations and scientific techniques would not result in the displacement of ranching activities with the Seashore. Existing conditions would continue within the Seashore as a result of the ability to manage elk on the restricted Tomales Point elk range.

The 1998 Plan contemplated using fire as a land management tool in the Wilderness area, one which would also contribute to restoring an historic working landscape:

The prescribed fire program at Point Reyes National Seashore seeks to return the pre-settlement fire regime to the Seashore's habitats while protecting against property or resource damage. Fire is seen as an important component for maintaining vegetative productivity allowing for a more natural equilibrium of vegetation types. Elk assists in reducing fuel loads in grassland and shrub areas where they feed, decreasing the area's susceptibility to fire effects. Thus, elk grazing reduces impacts from fires on forage species. Fire also works towards enhancing productivity through increased nutrient cycling, improving the quality of habitat for tule elk. [1998 Plan, pp 11-12]

Despite this recognition of the value of fire as a tool in managing the land for elk habitat, it took the Woodward fire to burn off the vegetation that limited elk access to suitable forage in the area south of Limantour.

Since the Woodward fire elk have migrated as far south from Limantour as Wildcat Camp, and as far east as the intersection of the Baldy and the Sky Trails. Unlike at Tomales Point and in the pastoral zone where natural fresh water sources are limited, there are several freshwater streams that come off the Bolinas Ridge as well as a couple of lakes and at least one pond in thousands of acres that would be ideal elk habitat if the Park took steps to restore it to the state in which the Miwoks are thought to have managed it prior to the 1800's. The pond I'm familiar with is no longer accessible to four-legged critters because the brushy vegetation has become so dense.

Tools to manage habitat for the elk authorized in 1976, P.L. 94-389, "Preservation of Tule Elk Population in California," [1998 Plan, P.3.] include the use of fire, and the 1998 Plan notes that "Park superintendents have authority to establish the 'administratively determined minimum tools to manage wilderness areas.'" [1998 Plan, pp.11-12.]

The plan to "collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge" is particularly appropriate to developing plans to restore the historic "working landscape" in the Wilderness Area. Citing from the 1998 Plan, p. 25:

Treganza (1962) has estimated some 1,500 indians lived at Point Reyes in Miwok times. A number of observations since 1579 showed the Coastal Miwok used fire as a means of maintaining coastal prairie for the collection of grain and to enhance the habitat for grazing animals (NPS 1993). . . .

Collaborating with local Native Americans to implement the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan would be an exceptional opportunity for the National Park Service, acting through the Seashore, to collaborate with Native Americans, in this instance the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, to restore an historic Native American "working landscape."

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Teichman

**Correspondence ID:3074**

Correspondence: Point Reyes Station, CA

May 4, 2022

Tomales Point Area Plan  
c/o Superintendent Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station CA 94956

Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

The March 31, 2022, notice seeking public comment on a "Tomales Point Area Plan" states that the proposed plan is to "replace the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan for Tomales Point." [Hereafter "1998 Plan."] Among the issues identified is removal of the Pierce Point elk fence. The release of the elk into the Limantour Area under the 1998 Plan led to establishment of free ranging herds of elk in the Pastoral

Zone. Removal of the Pierce Point elk fence would result in even more elk challenging operation of the dairies and ranches in the Pastoral zone contrary to recognition in the 1998 Plan that:

"Point Reyes National Seashore . . . operates under . . . management, legal and administrative goals and constraints. The operation of historic ranches and public visitation must be considered. [1998 Plan, p.38]"

Since it was never intended that the Seashore be a wildlife zoo, surely the General Management Plan Amendment provides sufficient "drive-by" opportunities for visitors to experience "free ranging elk" in the Pastoral Zone, but could agriculture in the Pastoral Zone survive removal of the Pierce Point elk fence?

Please expand the focus of your proposed plan to include measures identified in the 1998 Plan to make the Wilderness Area more accessible to the elk and thus expand the opportunity to develop additional free-ranging elk herds in the Wilderness Area rather than in the Pastoral Zone. According to the 1998 Plan,

". . . The desired condition of the herd would be free-ranging over some 18,000 acres as a long-term goal . . . [See Figure 7, "Map of Tomales Point Elk Range and Proposed Elk Range for relocated population," 1998 Plan, page 48.] "

Environmental review of the chosen alternative in the 1998 Plan led to a "Finding of No Significant Impact" [FONSI]:

"The preferred alternative was selected for implementation because it best meets the Service's goals to maintain viable populations of tule elk, use minimal intrusion to regulate population size where necessary, provide for a free-ranging herd, research and monitor the elk and their habitat, and provide the public within information on tule elk."

A summary of effects of the preferred alternative on the environment include:

"The maintenance and conservation of tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore would contribute towards ecosystem restoration of native fauna; would be compatible with protecting habitats for several endangered, threatened, and rare species; would assist in preventing impacts from overpopulation that could threaten biological diversity in native habitats."

In addition,

"Managing elk using relocations and scientific techniques would not result in the displacement of ranching activities with the Seashore. Existing conditions would continue within the Seashore as a result of the ability to manage elk on the restricted Tomales Point elk range. "

The 1998 Plan contemplated using fire as a land management tool in the Wilderness area, one which would also contribute to restoring an historic working landscape:

"The prescribed fire program at Point Reyes National Seashore seeks to return the pre-settlement fire regime to the Seashore's habitats while protecting against property or resource damage. Fire is seen as an important component for maintaining vegetative productivity allowing for a more natural equilibrium

of vegetation types. Elk assists in reducing fuel loads in grassland and shrub areas where they feed, decreasing the area's susceptibility to fire effects. Thus, elk grazing reduces impacts from fires on forage species. Fire also works towards enhancing productivity through increased nutrient cycling, improving the quality of habitat for tule elk. [1998 Plan, pp 11-12]"

Despite this recognition of the value of fire as a tool in managing the land for elk habitat, it took the Woodward fire to burn off the vegetation that limited elk access to suitable forage in the area south of Limantour.

Since the Woodward fire elk have migrated as far south from Limantour as Wildcat Camp, and as far east as the intersection of the Baldy and the Sky Trails. Unlike at Tomales Point and in the pastoral zone where natural fresh water sources are limited, there are several freshwater streams that come off the Bolinas Ridge as well as a couple of lakes and at least one pond in thousands of acres that would be ideal elk habitat if the Park took steps to restore it to the state in which the Miwoks are thought to have managed it prior to the 1800's. The pond I'm familiar with is no longer accessible to four-legged critters because the brushy vegetation has become so dense.

Tools to manage habitat for the elk authorized in 1976, P.L. 94-389, "Preservation of Tule Elk Population in California," [1998 Plan, P.3.] include the use of fire, and the 1998 Plan notes that "Park superintendents have authority to establish the 'administratively determined minimum tools to manage wilderness areas.'" [1998 Plan, pp.11-12.]

The plan to "collaborate with the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria to incorporate tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge" is particularly appropriate to developing plans to restore the historic "working landscape" in the Wilderness Area. Citing from the 1998 Plan, p. 25:

"Treganza (1962) has estimated some 1,500 indians lived at Point Reyes in Miwok times. A number of observations since 1579 showed the Coastal Miwok used fire as a means of maintaining coastal prairie for the collection of grain and to enhance the habitat for grazing animals (NPS 1993). . . ."

Collaborating with local Native Americans to implement the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan would be an exceptional opportunity for the National Park Service, acting through the Seashore, to collaborate with Native Americans, in this instance the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, to restore an historic Native American "working landscape."

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Teichman

**Correspondence ID:3075**

Correspondence: Re: What to do with Tule Elk at Pt Reyes

What is the feasibility of imbedding birth control hormones into the salt lick?  
If the process has merit, remove the birth control when the herd dwindles to a manageable population.

**Correspondence ID:3076**

Correspondence: Please consider the below comments. We as humans should have a responsibility towards animals and conservation especially when we are directly responsible for a species added danger and/or demise.



The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

### **Correspondence ID:3077**

Correspondence: Marin Conservation League (MCL) appreciates the opportunity to provide input on the scope for the Tule Elk and Tomales Point management planning process, issues to be addressed in an EIS, and any data or other items of interest to be considered. We offer the following items for your consideration:

Input to Scope:

- Consider a larger geographic scope, i.e., a larger project area than Tomales Point, that can address the importance of connectivity in wildlife habitat, and expanding the area further into the Philip Burton Wilderness. Evaluation of the use of elk friendly fences, as in the Willits Bypass project, and migration corridors, could create an opportunity to connect the three herds in a larger area, or in dispersed areas. (Here is a link to a YouTube video about the project. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utqFkxJSUFU>)
- Consider expanding the scope to management of all three Tule Elk herds at the Park in order to better inform the Elk Management Plan for Tomales Point. For example, a DNA analysis for all three herds populations could identify if there is any benefit to augment genetic diversity by bringing in Tule Elk in from other populations.
- Consider expanding the scope of water needs to include neighboring water outside the Tomales Point enclosure.
- Consider expanding the scope to examine nutrition sources - types and quality of forage - present both within and outside the enclosed area. This would include analyzing specific nutritional needs and deficiencies, if any, of the enclosed herd reliant on available forage.

Issues to be addressed:

- Tomales Point Herd Management:
  - o Compare implications of various active management alternatives on the long-term capacity of habitat and optimum size/health of Tomales Point herd.
  - o Include possible variations in fencing.
  - o Explore various possibilities of managing elk and cattle in the same areas so all options of elk-cattle relations for each herd can be understood.
- Supplemental Water for Tomales Point Elk herd: Include a water study that analyzes upland creeks, base flow, ground water, and stock ponds and their hydraulic connections or other influences with each other, both within and adjacent to the enclosure.
- Wilderness Act: Include a thorough study of provisions or waivers under the Wilderness Act that would permit actively managing the elk herd, such as supplementing water and/or nutrition. The anomaly of trying to manage "passively" the small and confined herd in the Wilderness should be addressed. It is a deliberate decision, and may be considered an active management activity.

Data and other items:

- Undertake comparison studies that may help inform management planning:

- o Compare native plant and wildlife inventories inside and outside the enclosure to identify potential differences in presence/absence and health conditions with the elk grazing.
- o In a similar comparison, identify non-native species inside and outside the enclosure to identify differences in presence/absence and threat to native vegetation communities with the elk grazing.
  - Identify what wildlife species can migrate through the existing fence and what species are prohibited from moving through the enclosed area.
  - Collect and analyze Residual Dry Matter for the elk range within the enclosure and assess soil health and erosion conditions
  - Discuss the likely effects of climate change on the Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) and how it may impact the habitat conditions for the Tomales Point herd, assuming that the herd remains within the enclosed area. MCL recommends Scenario Planning for Climate Change. It is an “if this ..., then ...” approach. Climate change may accelerate very quickly in the near future and have a variety of impacts. It is important that PRNS prepare a plan that not only aligns with a reliable source for projections and likely impacts, but also strategizes how the Park will adapt and operate under a variety of likely and possible scenarios.

Thank you for considering these comments,

Terri Thomas  
Vice President, Marin Conservation League  
Chair, Parks and Open Space Committee

**Correspondence ID:3078**

Correspondence: I am just repeating points made first by knowledgeable organizations and that I heartily agree with:

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3079**

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- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3080**

Correspondence: Sierra Club  
San Francisco Bay Chapter  
PO Box 2663, Berkeley, CA 94702

Superintendent Craig Kenkel  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94936  
Dept. of the Interior Region 10

RE: L7617 Public Civic Engagement for Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes Seashore

May 2, 2022

Dear Superintendent Kenkel;

The Sierra Club Federal Lands Committee of the Bay Chapter appreciates the opportunity to comment on the planning process during this civic engagement period, allowing us to address complex wildlife, resource and wilderness management issues at Tomales Point Tule Elk Preserve and the Pierce Point historic ranch.

National Park Service (NPS) planning procedures (and General Management Plan (GMP) statute) require that you start a planning process with a GMP which is at the top of the NPS planning pyramid. That is where decisions are made as to how land areas are to be managed in the future. That's what was just done for your GMP for the ranching area. What is not explained is how Tomales Point is different from the ranching area.

Starting with the 1998 Tomales Point Elk Plan, which was a plan for keeping the elk locked up at Tomales Point, seems to us to indicate that the plan is to keep the elk locked up there. Why else would you get into things now like when to shoot the elk and whether to give them water (but apparently not food) if you weren't planning on keeping them there? NPS must start with a GMP for the management of all the resources of Tomales Point. Only if you were to decide in a GMP to keep the elk locked up at Tomales Point would you need to decide when to shoot the elk and whether to give them water (and, hopefully, food).

We have studied the previous 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan (TEMP). Though many of the plan's aspirations remain unfulfilled, there were several important management tools that should remain and be utilized--especially those that engender humane treatment, habitat enhancements, elk genetic diversity, elk population increases and overall elk health and continued monitoring. We are averse to the experimenting on and cruelty to the elk, killing them "for science" -- especially given the sad losses and suffering of the elk over the past eight years. The herd's diminishing population weakens the gene pool and creates an unsustainable situation.

The 1998 TEMP contains many guiding principles that should be considered in future planning and is the significant reference document that should have been included with the documents list for these comments. The plan was also not included in an amended 1980 General Management Plan (GMP) update. Lawsuits have ensued as so many elk have perished with the Tomales Point herd population currently in steep decline. A GMP revision only for Tomales Point should be conducted in the shortest time frame possible. According to the suits, NPS has failed to perform in a timely or correct procedural manner, which would have been 10-15 years instead of over 40 years. Furthermore, NPS policy states GMP revisions "may be needed sooner if conditions change significantly." As such, we are very concerned about the lack of progress and process regarding the Tomales Point elk that has not been included in a GMP, the structural doctrine of the park and its legal responsibilities.

Therefore, the plan needs the GMP amended to include Tomales Point. Because of significant new changes to conditions such as drought, climate change, extirpations and extinctions, the GMP process would include reviewing ranching lease adherence and water quality impacts caused by ranching. With that caveat, we are responding to the issues asked about for comments and adding some for consideration below.

We acknowledge the new and significant relationship between the Park Service and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) and how it may impact future NPS decisions, particularly regarding wildlife survival, land restoration, cultural resource protection and water supply. We believe the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NPS and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR) should be included in any NEPA process. The nature of and need for confidentiality of the Memorandum of Understanding MOU provides a framework for understanding how the NPS and FIGR relationship to the elk protects resources sacred to the tribes and others.

The responsibility of saving the Tomales Point (TP) herd and population has become a national and international issue. In June of 2021, over 100,000 signed petitions were delivered to the Department of the Interior Secretary. The public is highly averse to any mistreatment, shooting or killing of the Tule elk as recognized in the 1998 TEMP.

Adaptive management for Tule elk is an important tool for assessing impacts on habitat and animals ranging from climate change to visitor use. If a new Tule Elk Management plan is to be included as a subset of the GMP, it must be able to rapidly address the needs of all living beings with an immediate response to conditions endangering their welfare.

It is of utmost importance that the plan does not get bogged down in bureaucracy and remains responsive to the most current wildlife protection management tools and science available.

We would like to see further exploration of the following issues that NPS brought up as part of the planning effort outlined here:

Maintenance or removal of the Tule elk fence:

Based on current science, removing the fence is recommended for the survival of the Tomales Point herd's genetic diversity, vitality and access to resources. When the fence is removed, ensure that cattle cannot get into Tomales Point.

Analyze impacts of elk releases to the Pastoral zone within a maximum one year time limit.

The lack of available resources to sustain viable elk populations

Allow the Drakes Beach and Limantour herds to co-mingle with the Tomales Point herds to improve all conditions necessary for their survival and health

Prevent any suffering of the herd as a result of being cut off from adequate food, minerals or water

Future access to food, water and minerals. The TEMP states "there are no natural year-round streams."

Establishment of new herds

Failure of herds to move from the far North sites because, to their detriment, they are habituated to them. During a transition period they need to be monitored and possibly provided with food, minerals and water

Impacts to ranchers, cows and cattle

Impacts of manure spreading and silage mowing on elk in the pastoral zone

Genetic vulnerability if the fence is not removed

Predator reintroduction -mountain lions, wolves

Consider impacts on other native wildlife and plants and the ecosystem especially given historic pastoral zone land and water augmentations

Prohibit all shooting and hazing of elk

If the fence is maintained and not removed the elk would require constant feeding, minerals and water in perpetuity and the herd will eventually die from inbreeding and loss of genetic diversity in a zoo-like setting. (The above concerns should be considered under both options including fence maintenance)

Population management of the Tomales Point (TP) Tule elk herd

The herd has failed to reproduce for the past several years and if this trajectory continues, the herd will be extirpated

Analyze the two population impacts to the TP herd if the fence is removed or if it is not removed

Revisit the humane population management, without culling, that includes methods recommended in the 1998 TEMP

Work with other land management agencies and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to relocate elk tested negative for Johne's disease

As a continual long-term strategy mentioned in the 1998 TEMP, bring in new elk to enhance genetic diversity

Do not use lethal methods, refrain from culling any TP elk to manage the Tule elk and reconsider humane birth control if necessary

Hire outside consulting wildlife biologist and veterinarian to evaluate the herd's viability to reproduce

Supplemental water for the elk in times of need

How will "need" be determined?

Determine who will be responsible for the delivery of water during drought: the NPS, the FIGR, or other entity?

Study the addition of supplemental minerals important to elk health such as copper, selenium

Rigorously monitor and maintain the water quality ponds and creeks long range and remove algae from installed water troughs

Wilderness management

Monitor hiking trails for overuse, edge degradation, which creates vulnerable island habitats impacting wildlife

Repair eroded tracks from hikers

Opportunities for restoration and replacement of non-native invasives utilizing Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)

Work with tribe on opportunities to enhance and accelerate restoration objectives

Analyze impact of drought on native versus non-native species to inform restoration efforts and improve forage for Tule elk

Use manual restoration techniques without resorting to the use of toxic herbicides

Determine visitors sanitary and water needs at trailhead for potential reduction of visitors to lessen resource impacts

Visitor use and infrastructure

Evaluate providing adequate bathroom facilities at the parking area of the Pierce Point Ranch.

Education and enforcement needed at all levels for visitors

Prevent hazing of wildlife and elk and damage to cultural resources.

Impacts from dogs, wheeled baby carriages etc.

Prevent collection of ecologically significant antlers

Consider signage to prepare visitors re. food, sufficient clothing, footwear, water and sun shield

Healthy sanitary use

Bring in docents and provide increased ranger presence

Prevent degradation and erosion of trail corridors that are habitat for animals

and plants such as: frogs, snakes, caterpillars, beetles, etc.

Evaluate need for weekend shuttle service public transit on weekends to lessen impacts on wildlife

Evaluate visitor use capacity and impacts on resources

Work with the FIGR tribe and Coast Miwok cultural resource sites while maintaining confidentiality.

Preserve and protect indigenous artifacts and cultural resource sites

Not addressed:

Review water quality impacts caused by ranching

Given the current population declines, failure to reproduce and loss of genetic diversity, it is unlikely that the fenced herd will survive much longer. This trajectory is evident today and is not only drought driven. Other factors need to be considered besides the drought. Elk mortality has been brought about by a variety of factors including "experimentation" and culling

Provide public access to compilation of scientific and staff data collection, methods and historic and current context for decision making

All studies regarding the original Tule Elk management and successive plan

All studies regarding TP herd impacts from fencing and mortality counts

Provide to the public all unpublished data that has informed the following:

Water quality and supply

Mineral and forage availability

Fencing impacts including removal

Provide any data and research regarding shared grazing by cows, cattle and tule elk or other elk

Genetic diversity of TP herds

Water Quality and Forage Quality

Long term water and forage should be monitored to maintain the highest quality

Lethal non-native invasives such as poison water hemlock should be removed where possible

Public Safety and Elk Safety: remove dangerous fencing in disrepair

There are currently ten 100 x 100 linear foot vegetation isolation enclosures (10000 sq. feet) remaining from a study done over two decades ago. They present death traps for wildlife and particularly elk and

are dangerous to the public who might encounter them as they are rusty, have fallen over and have dagger-like eroded spikes on the metal fence posts

Immediate removal of all man-made safety hazards including the above

Interim Minerals, forage and water necessary for Tule elk health to be supplied through the NEPA, EIS process

Minerals and food are necessary for all elk showing signs of severe malnutrition

Continue to study, monitor and improve all vital conditions for the TP elk herd not currently being done

Monitoring of the Tule Elk, many are ill today and are not likely to survive, showing signs of wasting, diarrhea, deformed antlers, weakening stride (evident in sand trails), failure to reproduce

Provide veterinary assistance to promote health of the herd and supply necessary nutrients, clean water and forage to the fenced until the NEPA process is completed

Prior to the outcome of the NPS NEPA, EIS determination, the herd should continue to be provided food, water and minerals and hopefully access to the entire Pt. Reyes Peninsula

Cease manure spreading that may impact the future health of all herds with Johne's disease and other wasting diseases known to infect ungulates

Cease silage mowing and replace with native grasses where grazing can be improved for approximately 470 elk after fence removal and habitat improved for ground nesting birds and other species habitat

Provide current studies from biologists, ecologists and botanists

Study what would be key trophic species for reintroduction and repair ecosystem health. (plants and animals)

Provide opportunities for restoration projects with public engagement.

Provide access to studies of plant and animal surveys.

Pierce Point Historic Ranch

The ranch should be restored and maintained and placards and kiosks remain

This non-working ranch serves as a reminder of the historic dairies of Pt. Reyes

Raises awareness of impacts Europeans had on the ecosystem and stands in contrast to wilderness and habitat. It remains the only non-functioning ranch with the history of what the Europeans created on Native American wilderness at Point Reyes

There should be more information on the impacts that the ranchers and dairies had on the Coast Miwok

There should be more information on how the Coast Miwok engaged with those lands prior to the Europeans arrival

Having the historic ranch house occupied by staff ensures public safety, wildlife protection, enforcement, deterrent to poachers

Explore a system for creating entrance/parking fees to assist with the costs of maintenance, scientific research, monitoring and restoration. Consider funding sources, e.g. FIGR, Public, National Parks

Conservancy, a new site specific non-profit...

Consider limiting the number of visitors to the Tomales Point area at the cattle guard with a system that ultimately protects wildlife - especially while fence is not removed

Increased enforcement over illegal uses such as dogs, bikes on trails

Thank you, in advance for your consideration of our recommendations.

Sincerely,

Alan Carlton  
Chair SF Bay Chapter Federal Parks Committee

**Correspondence ID:3081**

Correspondence: It is tragic that Rare Tule Elk are dying because of fences keeping them from food they need to survive. Why? Why are fences needed in the wilderness? They do nothing but keep animals from food. If humans want to get someplace that is fenced in, they will climb a fence or go under. Please take the fences down and save the Tule Elk. This is a rare animal but if the fences continue to stay up they will be gone. Once an animal is gone there is not bringing them back.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans. Ranchers use it just to profit from the land. Once again the rich ranchers use land that belongs to the American people to make more money and kill the wildlife already there. I am tired as is most Americans of seeing this happen in every state. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:3082**

Correspondence: Oh please. Please. It's the least we can do. There is so much to be done in order to re-connect Indigenous peoples to their ancestral lands and sustenance species. I'm not indigenous and I am more than happy to share. I think most of us are. I hope so

**Correspondence ID:3083**

Correspondence: Hello,  
The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.

- Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.
  - Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.
  - 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.
- Regards,



**Correspondence ID:3084**

Correspondence: As a lifetime resident of the State of California, I demand that the native tule elk of the Tomales Point area be PROTECTED.

The National Park Service (NPS) is accepting public comments for the Tomales Point Area Plan, which includes the Tomales Elk Reserve and the abandoned Pierce Point Ranch.

Because of the 8-foot-tall exclusion fence, native tule elk are locked inside the narrow Tomales Point which has few natural supplies of fresh water, and surrounded by Tomales Bay and the Pacific Ocean. Large numbers of elk have died off during recent extreme drought.

The exclusion fence must come down to allow these elk herds room to roam, so they can find adequate water and forage across the National Seashore.

This beautiful coastal park needs to be managed for native wildlife, coastal prairies, and public access, unhindered by fences.

Supplemental water and minerals were supplied to Tomales Elk Reserve elk only after extreme public outcry, protests, and media attention. The fence must come down, and these trapped elk be allowed to roam into the larger Seashore area and find water and food. The free-roaming elk herds did not suffer drought mortality, and apparently have access to better water resources.

- The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.
- Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.
- Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.
- 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. THE FENCE NEEDS TO COME DOWN.

**Correspondence ID:3085**

Correspondence: Just because it can't be said any better:

The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.

- Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.
- Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.
- 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

· The Pierce Point Ranch was a working dairy until closed in 1978 and made into an interpretive center, free of livestock (see: <https://www.nps.gov/places/point-reyes-pierce-point-ranch.htm>). Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that is interpreted as to its dairy history. This should serve

as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

**Correspondence ID:3086**

Correspondence: Please manage our public lands for wildlife, water, recreation, ecosystems, and carbon storage, not livestock!

- The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable, especially when it could be avoided by better management that emphasizes wildlife instead of livestock.

- Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

- Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk and other wildlife become tangled in these fences and die.

- The fence needs to come down in part because 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought.

**Correspondence ID:3087**

Correspondence: Take the fence down:

85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought.

The fence needs to come down.

The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.

Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

**Correspondence ID:3088**

Correspondence: The current loss of elk to drought is unacceptable. The fencing needs to be removed so that the elk have access to water and forage.

Hauling in water to a wilderness area is extremely difficult, costly, and ineffective. Elk that were not fenced in, found their own water sources and did fine.

Old and broken fencing needs to be removed--elk get tangled , injured, and die in the fencing.

Please---do right by the elk: remove the fencing, allowing them to forage and find water on their own. They are very capable.

Melinda Hirsch, M.D.

**Correspondence ID:3089**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service:

Fences have no place in Wilderness. Please end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

Please prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use.

Thank you.

William Johnston

**Correspondence ID:3090**

Correspondence: · The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.

· Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

· Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.

· 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

I hike at Point Reyes and love watching wildlife.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:3091**

Correspondence: How can you sleep knowing you have locked away the elk population in an area without access to movement? Shame on you. Keep wildlife able to function and live free. Remove the fences.

**Correspondence ID:3092**

Correspondence: The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable, especially when there is an easy fix.

I don't think we should be letting the cattle lobby influence our protected lands, but maybe thats just me. We need to be stewards of the land. Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die. 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of Tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought.

The Pierce Point Ranch was a working dairy until closed in 1978 and made into an interpretive center, free of livestock. Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that is interpreted as to its dairy history. This should serve as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Make the right choice.

**Correspondence ID:3093**

Correspondence: The exclusion fence must come down to allow these elk herds room to roam, so they can find adequate water and forage across the National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3094**

Correspondence: In order to comply with your mission to protect and preserve the natural resources of Pt. Reyes Nat. Seashore, you MUST take down the "elk"-fence that is blocking the movement of native wildlife from roaming throughout PRNS.

The Nat. Park Service should not be protecting privately owned domestic livestock at the expense of native tule elk by maintaining the fence at Pierce Point.

Artificially feeding and watering native wildlife is no substitute for allowing tule elk and other wildlife to roam over the entire PRNS to obtain their forage and water themselves, free of domestic livestock that cause tremendous damage to the environment.

Take the Tomalis Pt. fence down!

**Correspondence ID:3095**

Correspondence: We feel very strongly that the Pt. Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) has been guilty of mismanagement and cruelty to animals by fencing the elk in without providing proper and sufficient access to food and water! This has resulted in the slow death of far too many elk while the Park Ranger and subordinates looked on. This outrageous behavior cannot be condoned any longer. You must remove the fences including all the old derelict fencing and other associated hazardous materials.

It is time for a new paradigm that respects common sense and humane behavior on the part of the management of the PRNS. We are now living in the 21st century and no longer tolerate unacceptable cruel behavior on the part of the management.

It is clearly time for a change in how our public lands are managed on the NPRS so that the endangered elk are treated humanely. We are not asking for anything beyond what would normally be expected of competent, intelligent managers of our public lands.

Thank you for considering my comments and taking action to rectify the past and continuing mismanagement of our public lands and animals.

**Correspondence ID:3096**

Correspondence: If a visitor experience is needed to learn about "dairy history" (doubtful) Pierce Point Ranch has been made into an interpretive center -with NO livestock. If indeed this history is necessary - use it as a model for the other dairies & beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from this Park.

Frankly rather than setting up water tanks & trucking water to the elk reserve, better management for this wildlife would consist of removing the fence! The fence itself is a danger to the elk and there is much old and downed fence that needs to be removed.

Considering the fact that 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness it already makes the NPS management of the tule elk herds more difficult during the times of drought & the mortality of the NATIVE elk during drought is unacceptable.

To put it plainly - these BUSINESS operations were bought out decades ago - WHY ARE THEY STILL THERE?

**Correspondence ID:3097**

Correspondence: Confining wild animals behind fencing is counter to every principle of conservation of a species. You are denying them food water and space for natural activities. Bringing in supplies is not an adequate solution. Moreover it is being done at the behest of ranching, something definitely not part of a national park, the elk are part of a national park, therefore they belong to citizens and taxpayers and we want them free and not confined for corporate and profit making enterprise.

Take down and remove all fencing,

**Correspondence ID:3098**

Correspondence: I just hiked to the end of Pt Reyes last week and observed the Tule Elk there. They should not be confined to an area so limited in fresh water sources. Please take the fence down and give them more area to roam.

**Correspondence ID:3099**

Correspondence: Please include the following questions/issues as part of the new Tomales Point Elk Management Plan EIS and appropriate related and necessary updates to the PRNS General Management Plan.

These comments focus, in part, on encouraging the NPS to define the healthy carrying capacity of elk populations on the PRNS under different scenarios and to the comments ask how those healthy carrying capacities will be managed.

- Include broader geographic areas within the PRNS rather than focusing exclusively on the existing Tomales Point area. Consideration of larger geographic areas will be critical to understanding impacts on the PRNS Elk populations particularly under an alternative in which the existing Elk exclusion fence is removed and the three herds may co-mingle as well as share habitat with cattle.

- include consideration of UC Santa Barbara's McCauley Lab satellite imagery tracking study of interactions between cattle and elk at PRNS. This study concluded that elk generally avoid cow pastures and choose separate foraging sites when elk and cattle find themselves in proximity .

- The following alternatives should be analysed: (a) carrying capacity and environmental impacts of the Elk populations in the PRNS in a scenario where the exclusion fence is maintained and cattle ranching continues at its present intensity (b) in which cattle ranching continues as at present and the exclusion fence is removed (c) with continued ranching and extension of elk range(s) (d) in which ranching is discontinued and the Elk range is expanded.

Finally, how does the NPS plan to manage the carrying capacity of the elk population(s) under the above scenarios. Here, a description of how elk, caribou, white-tailed deer etc are managed in and near other National Park Service units where exclusion fencing is not used would be useful information for the public and the NPS to examine.

**Correspondence ID:3100**

Correspondence: Please do the right thing and remove the fencing!

- The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.
- Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.
- Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.
- 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

**Correspondence ID:3101**

Correspondence: To Whom It May Concern,

I am very strongly opposed to the National Park Service rounding up the Tulle elk when they should have full and free range on Point Reyes. The cattle, all of them, need to leave.

No more welfare ranchers, above no big agriculture involved. It is dreadful. The National Park Service is only concerned with large corporations and their big, monied ranchers.

You should all be ashamed of yourselves, doing this is not serving the American people even adequately, its robbing them.

Sincerely,  
Alison James

**Correspondence ID:3102**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3103**

Correspondence: Regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan pre-NEPA document that is being prepared: In order to ameliorate the issues of drought on wild elk herd the fences need to come down to enable the

elk to roam free and find water. Since grazing of domestic cattle has ended the area needs to be managed to help out the wildlife.

85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, fences should not be part of the wilderness, where signs of man should be kept minimal. I grew up in Northern California and often visited Point Reyes and would love to see it be able to return to a more natural wild place. The tule elk are a unique part of California history and need to be given every advantage possible. Tearing down fences is better than plastic water troughs and feeders.

**Correspondence ID:3104**

Correspondence: Parks should be dedicated to NATIVE animals. Cows and horses are not native. I am repulsed by going to a park and seeing more darn cows. Get rid of them asap however you can.

Were buffalo here before? try that. Ask the local tribes what was here. I favor Tule Elk, the local variety.

Restore fisheries. Prevent pollution. Make this place CLEAN and natural. Get rid of fences within the park.

Restrict human access if necessary. Keep the views.

Aside from all that, you should prevent climate change and overpopulation of humans, existential threats. Don't pull a James Watt and holler that "Jesus is coming soon so why bother to save anything.... that you seen one tree you seen them all (Reagan?)." I Say: We were supposed to be stewards of nature, not mad robbers and exploiters of it. Watt was morally incoherent in that case.

**Correspondence ID:3105**

Correspondence: The tule elk almost disappeared from the face of the earth and it is beyond belief that Pt Reyes National Park has proved to be such a tragic home for these spectacular native megafauna. The fence should have gone down long ago, for their own sake, for humaneness, for the ecosystem, and for the visitors. And so said all your elk experts, but you didn't listen. Finally, the specter of drastic climate change and lawsuits appear to have a chance of making a dent in your misguided policies. Marin and Sonoma are literally covered in the European grass of methane-and-manure, water-intensive dairy and ranching operations, and there is no need for them in a National Park by the ocean and wilderness areas, almost completely obliterating the native plants and animal of the PR peninsula and shunting the elk to a remote, mineral-, water-, and forage-poor peninsula pen. The power of the ranching lobby and its myriad tentacles has been terrible to learn about in recent years, from the corrupt MALT that exists to funnel money to wealthy ranchers, to the never-set-foot-in-the-Park Ms. Haaland. I have so much enjoyed the elk over the years, and learned so much about animals from them. The Pierce Point Trail is now an overcrowded superhighway of city slickers, and I find myself going less and less. I rarely see any elk in the Limantour area. The elk need to be all over Pt Reyes to help make a tiny remnant of the pre-commercial Park come alive. You guys hold the history of providing butter and eggs to gold mining men in way too much esteem - was it such a truly amazing feat and conducted with hardly any negative impacts? Why don't you add things like hunting whales, sea otters, pinnipeds, mustelids and beavers to extinction or near-extinction, clear-cutting, and collecting murre eggs to the wonderful historical things you want to extol in the Park? Mr Kenkel - tear down that wall! That's the start and then let's figure out how the elk should be living in the Park.

**Correspondence ID:3106**

Correspondence: For years, I hiked to and through Pt. Reyes. One of my fondest memories is seeing elk in the meadows above the ocean. Stately, and representing what the area looked like generations ago, they were--and are--the creatures who deserve to live there. It's way past time to stop feeding the commercial ranching and other businesses off the public dole. I want my tax dollars to help preserve natural species, not destructive livestock operations.

**Correspondence ID:3107**

Correspondence: Take the fences down now, let the native tule elk be given the priority to roam and live free, that a majority of Californians and other Americans who have been paying attention to the abuse and neglect of the tule elk on Point Reyes. Honor the will of the majority, finally.

**Correspondence ID:3108**

Correspondence: The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable and I strongly urge you to remove the exclusion fence to allow elk herds room to roam, so they can find adequate water and forage across the National Seashore.

As a California tax payer I demand this because:

Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.

· 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

Thank you for removing the fence.

- Therese Ducay

**Correspondence ID:3109**

Correspondence: Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk.

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3110**



Correspondence: The fence confining the Tule Elk on Tomales Point must be removed. It is killing the elk, and it is a horrible experience for visitors (I have visited Pt Reyes many times)

- The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.
- Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.
- Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.

Wildlife should come first at Pt. Reyes, followed by the many visitors who love this park. The interests of businesses occupying the park should come last.

Thanks for your consideration

**Correspondence ID:3111**

Correspondence: Tule Elk Issue:

I have spent a lot of time hiking in the Point Reyes National Seashore. I recall the huge ruckus and how long it took to get rid of the oyster beds within the park. Now we have commercial/private interests interfering with the Tule Elk herds survive-ability.

It frustrates and amazes me when park entities don't prioritize nature and animals and actually support actions that are detrimental to an area's "protected" status.

Do your jobs. All private land ownership or grazing rights, farming rights, etc. should be banned from ostensibly protected public lands. I get BLM and National Forest lands may have to compromise on this. But National Parks, National Seashores and other lands set specifically aside for public enjoyment should not be subject to compromise or deals with people that only have profit in mind.

Harry E Antoniou

**Correspondence ID:3112**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I don't understand why the ranchers are even there.

I urge you to take down the fence. The wildlife have more right to be there than the cattle. Let the rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness survive by taking down the fence so the elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3113**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence so the elk may graze. The elk belong there. Cattle can graze many places.

**Correspondence ID:3114**

Correspondence: Please Bring Down the Exclusion Fences so the Elk can Roam Freely on the National Shore.

Thank You  
John McGill

**Correspondence ID:3115**

Correspondence: The National Park Service's proposal to manage Pt. Reyes, a National Park unit with a mission under the Organic Act to prioritize non-impairment of resources, directly contradicts everything the National Park Service stands for and was created to represent.

a. Prioritizing destructive and unsustainable livestock grazing over native wildlife is unfathomable to me, especially when climate change urgently requires that land managers to increase the landscape's resilience and resistance to the environmental perturbations that are upon us and that are predicted to worsen. Native, diverse ecosystems with a variety of plant and animal species can withstand drought and reduced precipitation better than non-native plants and animals that are currently there.

b. Fencing is not the best way to manage this problem, which is caused by the persistence of a ranching operation that should have ended as originally intended. Fences prevent movement of elk and other wildlife, is expensive, difficult, inefficient, unsightly, and deadly to wildlife. Remove the ranch and you remove the need for fences.

c. Tule elk are rare and indigenous to the region. Cattle are non-native and introduce ecosystem degradation from introduction of exotic plants, increase in bare soil and erosion, and pollution of water sources from E. coli. How is this consistent with management of a national park unit?

d. Animal welfare is not a topic the NPS is required to address, and this document does not mention it. Nonetheless, I will register here for posterity the appalling cruelty that Pt. Reyes is visiting upon tule elk by preventing their access to water. Thirsting to death is a horrible way for the NPS to kill living creatures in its care.

e. The majority of public opinion does not support this management.

Laura Fertig

**Correspondence ID:3116**

Correspondence: BE HUMANE to the TULE ELK!!!

- The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.
- Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.
- Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.

- 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

- The Pierce Point Ranch was a working dairy until closed in 1978 and made into an interpretive center, free of livestock (see: <https://www.nps.gov/places/point-reyes-pierce-point-ranch.htm>). Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that is interpreted as to its dairy history. This should serve as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are REMOVED from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

**Correspondence ID:3117**

Correspondence: Allow the Elk to Roam! Remove or open the Elk Prison Fence! That fence killed half the elk at the Reserve! Free roaming herds did not have a die-off. People come to PRNS to see elk and other wildlife, not cattle.

**Correspondence ID:3118**

Correspondence: After reading various news report about the trapped elk, it is clear the best solution is to tear down the fence!

**Correspondence ID:3119**

Correspondence: The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable. Managing the extinction of natural wildlife for the sake of domestic cattle or sheep on public lands is contrary to the objectives of the tax paying majority whose taxes support the management of wildlife over domestic special interest funded rancher interests on public lands.

- Removing the fence and allowing a natural migration and foraging, rather than domesticating wildlife and making it reliant on public funds, plastic water tanks and troughs for survival is better management for wildlife., and trucking water up to the elk reserve is largely unsustainable, unreliable, and enormously more expensive to taxpayers...that's how domestic stock should be handled and should be paid for by the owners of such livestock and should not be funded with taxpayer monies.

- 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down. Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die

- The Pierce Point Ranch was a working dairy until closed in 1978 and made into an interpretive center, free of livestock (see: <https://www.nps.gov/places/point-reyes-pierce-point-ranch.htm>). Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that is interpreted as to its dairy history. This should serve as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

**Correspondence ID:3120**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,  
I would like to comment on the Tamales Point Area Plan, would you please consider and implement the following:

These points I would like emphasize to you.

- The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.

· Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

· Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die. Not to mention humans walking in the area. Last year deer hunting in the Sierras I got tangled up in some discarded barbed wire left behind by a leaser of Public Lands, it frightened me I can imagine what it would do to an animal that does not have dexterity, they would most certainly die from such a trap.

· 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

· The Pierce Point Ranch was a working dairy until closed in 1978 and made into an interpretive center, free of livestock (see: <https://www.nps.gov/places/point-reyes-pierce-point-ranch.htm>). Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that is interpreted as to its dairy history. This should serve as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Thank you for considering my comments please incorporate these into the parks operations.

I would love to volunteer to remove the fence and locate any discarded wire or posts to bring back the land to its natural state for free.

Thank you,

Sheri Jean Rossi de Guevara

**Correspondence ID:3121**

Correspondence: Please listen to the people you serve and protect the wildlife you are charged with protecting. Take down the fences and allow the tule elk to get water and forage for food. Cattle are not your priority.

**Correspondence ID:3122**

Correspondence: The national park should be a place where wild native species both plant and animal can survive unhindered by fences. We don't need cattle grazing in a national park instead we need a place of refuge for the few remaining wild native animals to live. Take down the fences and let the Tule elk survive and thrive.

**Correspondence ID:3123**

Correspondence: The elk are so cool in point Reyes and the fences should be removed I support the removal of the fence keeping the elk lock in

**Correspondence ID:3124**

Correspondence: Hello,  
The preservation of the environment and the Tule Elk are vital. The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.

Develop plans for removing fencing, which is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve. Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die. this is 100% unacceptable.

85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

As Dumbledore said "Do the right thing, not the easy way out."

Thank you,  
Gwen Schneider,

**Correspondence ID:3125**

Correspondence: Via Online Form

Tomales Point Area Plan  
c/o Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

May 5, 2022

Re: Scoping Comments on Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore

Dear Superintendent:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these scoping comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes National.

I am a regular visitor to Point Reyes National Seashore who has hiked its incredible beaches and trails multiple times each month for more than 20 years. I am drawn to Point Reyes for its natural beauty, its wildness, and its abundant wildlife. It is not an exaggeration to say that Point Reyes National Seashore is the reason I still live in California, and it is the resource in California that I cherish most. I believe that the Park should be managed to preserve and enhance its wildness and its wildlife for the benefit of the public at large.

**GENERAL COMMENTS**

As you develop the new Tomales Point Area Plan and environmental impact statement (EIS), I urge you to focus on alternatives that protect and restore the Seashore's natural habitats and wildlife populations, including the Tule Elk. At a minimum, these alternatives should include prompt removal of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve Fence (the "elk fence") to allow the Tule Elk herd to roam freely throughout the Park. Removing the elk fence would also facilitate recovery of the highly degraded habitat and forage in the Philip Burton Wilderness, which includes more than 85% of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve, increasing the Park's resilience to climate change.

For decades, the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd--the largest elk herd at the Seashore--has been confined behind an 8-foot fence to prevent the elk from foraging on park grasslands that a handful of highly

subsidized ranchers say they need for their cattle. The elk fence has limited the herd's access to just a few fresh water sources, which have gone dry in recent droughts. It has also limited the herd's access to high quality forage and habitat.

In 2015, the population behind the elk fence declined from 540 to 286, according to the Park Service. In 2020, the population behind the elk fence declined by more than one third, from 445 elk to 293. Notably, during 2020, the Park's free-ranging herds fared much better. The free-ranging Limantour herd declined by just 5%, from 164 to 155 individuals and the Drakes Beach herd stabilized and increased by one from 138 to 139 individuals, according to the Park Service. In the prior three years, the Drakes Beach herd has otherwise increased by an average of 14% per year.

Confining the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd behind the elk fence undermines well-recognized, critical biological needs of the species. This is particularly true in the face of the ongoing impacts of climate change, which are expected to lead to more intense and frequent droughts that will further limit water availability and further degrade plant species vital to Tule Elk survival. For example, as acknowledged by the Park Service, Tule Elk require access to drinking water and "are usually located within four miles of an open water source (Hobbs, 2007)." The Park Service also recognizes that Tule Elk "are an example of genetic bottleneaking" that "can lead to minimal variation and can cause the species to become vulnerable to diseases" and that "management strategies involving transplants among all tule elk herds appear to be the most beneficial for the maintenance of nuclear variation in this species (Williams, Lundrigan and Rhodes, 2004)."

Critically, confining the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd behind the elk fence to protect grassland for highly subsidized ranching violates the very purpose of the Park, which is to save and preserve a portion of the nation's diminishing seashore for the public benefit "without impairment of its natural values" and in a manner that is "supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment." 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6 (emphasis added).

#### SPECIFIC COMMENTS

I urge the Park Service to ensure that the EIS for the Tomales Point Area Plan complies fully with the National Environmental Policy Act by comprehensively assessing a full range of reasonable alternatives and the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of each alternative. Among other key issues, it is critical that the Park Service fully examine:

1. An alternative that includes the prompt removal of the elk fence to allow the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd to roam freely throughout the Park, and restoring the 29,000-acre Tomales Point Elk Reserve with a focus on increasing resilience to climate change.
2. The compatibility of each alternative with the Park's purpose and authorizing legislation. Point Reyes National Seashore was created "to save and preserve, for the purposes of public recreation, benefit, and inspiration" a portion of the nation's diminishing seashore. 16 U.S.C. § 459c. The Seashore's 1962 authorizing legislation requires the Park Service to administer the Seashore "without impairment of its natural values" and in a manner that is "supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment." 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6 (emphasis added). The Park Service should reject alternatives that are not compatible with this purpose and authorizing legislation.
3. The compatibility of each alternative with the goals, objectives and purpose of the Philip Burton Wilderness, which includes more than 85% of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve. Pub. Law 94-544.

The Wilderness Act defines wilderness as “an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions.” *Id.* (emphasis added).

To ensure continued protection of wilderness, the Wilderness Act directs that wilderness areas “shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, and so as to provide for the protection of these areas, the preservation of their wilderness character, and for the gathering and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness areas.” Pub. Law 88-577 (16 U.S.C. 1131-1136) (emphasis added).

4. The implications of each alternative on the ability of the Park's wildlife to thrive in the face of climate change. The Park has already lost a significant amount of high quality habitat due to erosion, extensive farming and dairy operations in the Park, and invasive species among other things. The Park also faces the likely significant loss of additional vital habitat and habitat corridors from erosion and other climate-change induced impacts.

The Park Service should reject alternatives that do not increase the resilience of the Park and its wildlife to climate change as contrary to the fundamental goals of the Park Service. Implementing “adaptation strategies that promote ecosystem resilience and enhance restoration, conservation, and preservation of park resources” is a key goal of the Park Services' Climate Change Response Strategy. That strategy also requires the Park Service to “incorporate climate change considerations and responses in all levels of NPS planning” and “implement adaptation strategies that promote ecosystem resilience and enhance restoration, conservation, and preservation of park resources.” National Park Service Climate Change Response Strategy. National Park Service Climate Change Response Program, Fort Collins, Colorado at 14-15.

5. The implications of each alternative on the health, resiliency, and viability of the Park's Tule Elk herds and the rich array of other fish and wildlife species that rely on the Park. The Park Service should also assess the implications of each alternative on the long-term viability of California's endemic Tule Elk population (i.e., population-level effects).

In assessing the implications of each alternative on the health and long-term viability of the Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk population and California's endemic Tule Elk population (i.e., population-level effects), the Park Service should also assess the compatibility of each alternative with the following provisions in the California Elk Management Plan (California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Elk Conservation and Management Plan, December 2018):

a. “Long-term viability of California's endemic tule elk is of particular concern because of their precipitous decline in the 1870s and the persistent development and fragmentation of the state's rural landscape. . . . Maintaining long-term viability of California's elk herds requires sustaining individual herd numbers and genetic diversity. If there is minimal or no movement of individuals between herds, they can become genetically isolated (Franklin 1980, O'Brien et al. 1985, Partridge and Bruford 1994). California Elk Management Plan at 36.

b. To sustain the long-term viability of California's tule elk, the Elk Management Plan states that conservation efforts: "should concentrate on maintaining connectivity between remaining populations and translocations of tule elk between herds should continue. . . .Fragmented populations, populations on marginal habitat, dense populations, or populations that overlap significantly with livestock may be at increased risk for disease outbreaks and could potentially serve as sentinel populations for initiating enhanced surveillance plans. California Elk Management Plan at 38.

c. The Elk Management Plan acknowledges that fencing at Tomales Point prevents this critical connectivity between the Tomales Point herd and the other tule elk herds at Pont Reyes. California Elk Management Plan at 451. The Management Plan also recognizes that the Tomales Point herd has suffered significant losses as a result of being fenced in, and thus unable to access other areas of the Park: "Between 2012 and 2015 the population at Tomales Point declined by approximately 50% dropping from 540 to 283. The loss of animals is believed to be related to drought conditions, mineral deficiencies, and a population level above carrying capacity within the enclosure. Id at 454. As noted above, the Park Service has also acknowledged that losses within the Tomales Point herd continue, even as the Park's free-roaming herds remain relatively stable. In 2020, 152 tule elk, one-third of the fenced-off Tomales Point herd died. By contrast, the free-roaming elk in the park at Limantour declined only 5% while the Drakes Beach herd population remained stable, according to the Park Service.

d. The Elk Management Plan has a goal of enhancing or increasing elk habitat by at least 5% by 2028 and of maintaining a minimum ratio of 15 bulls per 100 cows. California Elk Management Plan, Objectives 1.3 and 1.7.

6. The implications of each alternative on improving or degrading the ecological health of the 2,900-acre Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve.

7. The implications of each alternative on water quantity and quality within the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve, and in the Park as a whole.

8. The implications of each alternative on native plant species, the introduction or spread of invasive plant species, and the quality of forage for wildlife. As part of this analysis, the Park Service should fully consider the ability, and potentially significant benefits, of native Tule Elk grazing (versus cattle grazing) to create conditions that will assist in the restoration of native plant species and the management of invasive plant species.

9. The cumulative impacts--including the cumulative impacts of management activities under the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan, ranching and dairy activities in the Park since the Park's inception, and climate change--of each alternative on the Park's Tule Elk population, the full array of fish and wildlife species that utilize the Park, the quality of wildlife habitat in the Park, water quantity and quality in the Park, the Park's resilience to climate change, the visitor experience, and population-level impacts to California's Tule Elk population. Understanding these cumulative impacts is essential for accurately determining the full scope of impacts from each alternative.

The EIS must provide "quantified or detailed information" on the cumulative impacts (and on the direct and indirect impacts), so that the courts and the public can be assured that the agency has taken the mandated hard look at the environmental consequences of the Project. *Neighbors of Cuddy Mountain v. U. S. Forest Service*, 137 F.3d 1372, 1379 (9th Cir. 1998); *Natural Resources Defense Council v. Callaway*, 524 F.2d 79, 87 (2d Cir. 1975). The cumulative impacts analysis is essential for ensuring that the agency



will not “treat the identified environmental concern in a vacuum.” *Grand Canyon Trust v. FAA*, 290 F.3d 339, 346 (D.C. Cir. 2002).

10. In analyzing the cumulative effects of climate change on each alternative, it is critical that the Park Service assess the additive and magnifying effects of climate change on both resident and migratory fish and wildlife species that utilize Point Reyes National Seashore, including: (a) climate-changed induced impacts to habitat, including loss of connectivity between habitats, loss of access to critical water supplies, or loss of food sources; (b) climate-changed induced diseases or parasite infestations; and (c) climate-changed induced disasters including increased wildfires. Assessing the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts on both resident and migratory species is critically important. As recognized by the United Nations Environment Program and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, migratory wildlife is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change:

“As a group, migratory wildlife appears to be particularly vulnerable to the impacts of Climate Change because it uses multiple habitats and sites and use a wide range of resources at different points of their migratory cycle. They are also subject to a wide range of physical conditions and often rely on predictable weather patterns, such as winds and ocean currents, which might change under the influence of Climate Change. Finally, they face a wide range of biological influences, such as predators, competitors and diseases that could be affected by Climate Change. While some of this is also true for more sedentary species, migrants have the potential to be affected by Climate Change not only on their breeding and non-breeding grounds but also while on migration.”

“Apart from such direct impacts, factors that affect the migratory journey itself may affect other parts of a species' life cycle. Changes in the timing of migration may affect breeding or hibernation, for example if a species has to take longer than normal on migration, due to changes in conditions en route, then it may arrive late, obtain poorer quality breeding resources (such as territory) and be less productive as a result. If migration consumes more resources than normal, then individuals may have fewer resources to put into breeding . . . .”

\* \* \*

“Key factors that are likely to affect all species, regardless of migratory tendency, are changes in prey distributions and changes or loss of habitat. Changes in prey may occur in terms of their distributions or in timing. The latter may occur though differential changes in developmental rates and can lead to a mismatch in timing between predators and prey (“phenological disjunction”). Changes in habitat quality (leading ultimately to habitat loss) may be important for migratory species that need a coherent network of sites to facilitate their migratory journeys. Habitat quality is especially important on staging or stop-over sites, as individuals need to consume large amounts of resource rapidly to continue their onward journey. Such high quality sites may [be] crucial to allow migrants to cross large ecological barriers, such as oceans or deserts.”

UNEP/CMS Secretariat, Bonn, Germany, *Migratory Species and Climate Change: Impacts of a Changing Environment on Wild Animals* (2006) at 40-43 (available at [http://www.cms.int/publications/pdf/CMS\\_CimateChange.pdf](http://www.cms.int/publications/pdf/CMS_CimateChange.pdf)). Migratory birds are at particular risk from climate change. Migratory birds are affected by changes in water regime, mismatches with food supply, sea level rise, and habitat shifts, changes in prey range, and increased storm frequency. Id.

CONCLUSION

I strongly oppose the continued confinement of the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd behind the elk fence. It is long past time to remove the elk fence and allow the Tule Elk herd to roam freely throughout the Park. Removing the elk fence would vastly improve the visitor experience. Removing the elk fence would facilitate recovery of the highly degraded habitat and forage in the Park and its Philip Burton Wilderness, increasing the Park's resilience to climate change. Removing the elk fence is the humane thing to do, and essential for supporting the Tule Elk's critical biological needs. Removing the elk fence is mandated by the Park's very purpose of saving and preserving a portion of the nation's diminishing seashore for the public benefit "without impairment of its natural values" and in a manner that is "supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment." 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6 (emphasis added).

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Melissa Samet, Esq.

**Correspondence ID:3126**

Correspondence: As we move into another year without adequate water, it is cruel and unfair to allow native elk to die in fenced areas at Point Reyes. We must do what we can to allow them access to roam as they should.

Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.

**Correspondence ID:3127**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3128**

Correspondence: The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.

· Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

· Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.

· 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

· The Pierce Point Ranch was a working dairy until closed in 1978 and made into an interpretive center, free of livestock (see: <https://www.nps.gov/places/point-reyes-pierce-point-ranch.htm>). Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that is interpreted as to its dairy history. This should serve as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

**Correspondence ID:3129**

Correspondence: I'm writing in reference to the Tomales Elk Reserve and the 8 foot tall exclusion fence that locks the native elk inside the narrow Tomales Point without fresh water supply. I do not understand the logic of this, locking the native elk behind fencing that requires trucking water to plastic water tanks for an animal that precedes white man's presence on their own land.

With large numbers of elk dying off during the last extreme drought, with worse drought predicted, is this what the National Park Service stands for in your "management plan?" With so many other animal species going extinct at the hands of human intervention, will the Tule elk be just one more species to disappear because of human management?

**Correspondence ID:3130**

Correspondence: We fought to save the tule elk from being hunted for their antlers many years ago. We are shocked to learn they are facing so many human-caused attacks.

Get the cattle off this land! Allow the elk to have full access to space and water.

It is unbelievable that a species that has recovered due to caring people has now been threatened, and many have died, due to cattle on our National Park lands!

We expect this to be resolved very soon.

Thank you.

Edward L. and Beatrice J. Simpson

**Correspondence ID:3131**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3132**

Correspondence: Hello,

I believe the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. Therefore the NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago Thank you!

**Correspondence ID:3133**

Correspondence: I have lived in Bolinas for 25 years and have hiked throughout the point Reyes National Seashore for the last 45 years. While living in Bolinas my wife and I hike and kayak weekly. What we have both noticed is the growing number of cattle at many of the ranches going out to Pierces point, Abbots Lagan and the many other wonderful places to hike or kayak in those areas. We understand that the elk population needs to be managed but we strongly disagree with thinning the elk herd or reducing there grazing area for extending the area for cattle. Ranchers have already exceeded the number on cattle that graze from there original lease agreement. Also if I am correct, that once were purely dairy ranches are now both dairy and beef cattle. Herds of beef cattle I don't believe we're originally in the contract with the dairy ranchers. Again, to either thin the elk herds or reduce there grazing area for the sake of expanding the the area or number of cattle, we are highly against.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

**Correspondence ID:3134**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service, Dept of Interior, and Jared Huffman,

Fencing the the wild and free roaming Tule Elk off of our public lands that have been leased to ranchers and dairy farmers is a travesty. They have died from lack of forage and water, and been entangled in fencing... this is inhumane and totally negligent management of our native wildlife for the benefit of a few entitled ranchers and dairy farmers who are polluting the water sources on our public lands.

The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.

- Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

- Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.

- 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

- The Pierce Point Ranch was a working dairy until closed in 1978 and made into an interpretive center, free of livestock (see: <https://www.nps.gov/places/point-reyes-pierce-point-ranch.htm>). Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that is interpreted as to its dairy history. This should serve as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Please protect the elk and other wildlife at Point Reyes National Seashore and Tomales Point.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ellie Phipps Price

**Correspondence ID:3135**

Correspondence: Please let the tule elk wander as any other wild animals may. In times of sever drought, policies such as this need to be adapted. Thanks, Cathy

**Correspondence ID:3136**

Correspondence: Every effort should be made to ensure the health and safety of tule elk. This should include removal of the problematic fence, interfering with elk movement to water. This is a national park....not a CAF. It's more than time to remove domestic animals from this park. The grace period is long over.

**Correspondence ID:3137**

Correspondence: I notice there's a Tule Elk Management Plan but I haven't read anything about a Cow/cattle ranch management plan. My statement is simply this: It seems wildlife is always the problem, i.e. the elk problem. The real problems are the cows and ranches. They do not belong in any national park, let alone Pt. Reyes. So get rid of the ranches, cows and leave the park alone. Let the wildlife be free. No bicycles, no dogs should be anywhere in Pt. Reyes. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:3138**

Correspondence: Below are my comments on Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore management plan update.

As a frequent PRNS visitor, I see the main priority for NPS is focus on maximum protection of the park's resources for the benefit of the public, now and into the future. It is my understanding that per NEPA and NPS policy, the correct sequence of planning activities is to have a General Management Plan, and then one or more detailed implementation plans to execute on the goals of the General plan. The GMP should focus on the purpose of the Park, guided by foundational documents such as the 1916 NPS Organic Act. All NPS plans and management decisions should be guided by the need to preserve, enhance and restore the natural biodiversity found in PRNS before commercial cattle and dairy ranching.

In NPS's request for comments, it is stated that the impetus for this planning process are impacts to the Tule Elk population and other resources within the Reserve arising from the historic drought conditions over the past eight years. However I believe that while the issues around the NPS's management of the Tule Elk are exacerbated by the ongoing drought, they go well beyond this one factor. Specifically, the fact that the elk are confined behind artificial barriers: 1) the 8' fence elk fence, and 2) the surrounding commercial ranching operations.

To address the Tule Elk issues, I think that the elk fence should be permanently dismantled. This fence prevents the Tomales Point herd from natural roaming to forage for feed and water. Rather than artificially supplying water and forage, the NPS should allow the elk to be free to roam and access to the water and forage necessary to the herd's healthy existence.

To meet the goals stated, the NPS must work out a plan to end for-profit ranch operations in PRNS. PRNS covers a large area with many resources, however it's not an "open pantry" that can provide for the natural wildlife and habitat while also being subject to commercial ranching. As has been shown by

your own GMP environmental impact statement and recent water quality analysis by private citizens, the ranching operations are doing measurable harm to PRNS (polluted creeks, streams, lagoons and shore waters, a number of illegal garbage dumps, bulldozed stream banks and riparian habitat; raw human sewage dumped in fields and under ranch worker housing, and more.

NPS should also consider establishing a prairie preserve, initially within the Tomales Point area but with a comprehensive plan to expand this to areas now occupied with commercial ranching. Prior to any ranching, PRNS used to have vast resources of native deep-rooted grasses that have been supplanted by non-native annuals and noxious weeds either brought in by ranch plantings or spread by the use of imported feed containing seeds of invasive species. seeds. A prairie preserve would allow the restoration of the native grasses, which would in turn encourage the re-establishment of the native flora and fauna, thus increasing the healthier biodiversity that has been so badly degraded. This would benefit insect life, birds, small mammals, fish and eventually might even help bring back some of the larger indigenous predators.

Around the topic of "historical" ranching in PRNS, I think this is part of the park's history and should be recognized. However I think this should be restricted to the actual historic Pierce Point Ranch. In its current state, I see little benefit of this area as it's become a "pass-through" area on the trail with little to offer other than the sight of the buildings. It has much more potential value and could for example be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century demonstrating practices of that time. Volunteers or docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place in historical times. The Pierce Point Ranch should also incorporate elements of the history of indigenous people in this area. This should include the impacts caused by expansion of western culture and how this affected the indigenous people over time and could link into other exhibits on indigenous culture in PRNS.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I hope my concerns are addressed. PRNS is a special place and I would like to see it managed in a manner that preserves and enhances it now and into the future. I look forward to seeing what improvements the NPS proposes through this process.

**Correspondence ID:3139**

Correspondence: For the record: Comments on Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore management plan update.

May 5, 2022

I am writing to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore. I will start out by stating that it is my understanding that the National Park Service (NPS) is legally required by the General Management Plan (GMP) statute to start at the GMP level in this planning process. I find it confusing that NPS is starting with proposing to update the 1998 Elk Plan which details how to manage elk at Tomales Point. This assumes that keeping the elk held captive behind the fence is an appropriate management practice. I would think you would first decide how the lands and resources of Tomales Point should be managed by updating the 1980 GMP, as is legally required.

I have followed the plight of the Tomales Point Tule Elk since moving back to the Bay Area in 2018. I find it extremely disturbing that they are kept behind a fence that prohibits them from accessing adequate food and water. I also find it unbelievable that NPS allows the prolonged suffering and deaths of elk held behind the fence. The elk outside the Tomales Point Reserve are not suffering these losses. Given the

opportunity, the Tomales Point herds would move to an area where they could find adequate food and water. It required several years of public outcry before NPS provided the elk with water sources. The food source within the reserve continues to be an issue as it does not provide adequate nutrition to the elk, and again they would forage elsewhere if not prohibited by a fence. The fact that NPS finally provided the elk with water and has acknowledged that conditions at Tomales Point have changed because of the drought highlights the need that a GMP must first be completed before updating the 1998 Elk Plan.

The priority for NPS should be the maximum protection of the park's resources for the benefit of the public, now and into the future, as mandated by the Organic Act of 1916. The park should be managed to allow for the preservation and restoration of the natural biodiversity found in PRNS. At this time, I do not see the park being managed in this manner. As mentioned above, the elk in the Tomales Point Reserve are suffering and dying behind a fence to appease the ranching and dairy interests residing within the park. Private, for-profit ranching and dairying does not allow for the maximum protection of the Park's resources. These businesses decimate the coastal prairies, spread excess manure on the land which eventually reaches and pollutes the streams and seashore, and are the largest producers of green house gases within the park. The ranches and dairies also cause the park to be covered in miles of fencing which is not wildlife friendly and makes it difficult for park visitors to access sections of the park. Many of these problems are highlighted in the park's own EIS. In recent months, public citizens have documented and reported on the ranching/dairy businesses bulldozing riparian habitat, spreading raw human sewage onto our park, and having illegal garbage dumps. This is proof that dairies and ranches within a national park unit do not provide for the maximum protection of the park's resources.

Another point to consider is the history of the original people residing on the parkland. The Coast Miwok history should also be included in the GMP for the Tomales Point Reserve. The Coast Miwok history within the park is thousands of years longer than that of ranching and is a history of people living in a sustainable and balanced manner with nature. It appears that the park favors the historical value of the Eurocentric agriculture with its extractive and destructive nature. The Coast Miwok should be included in the planning process.

I encourage NPS to start at the GMP level in this planning process for the Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore, as is legally required. This process will show that ranches and dairies near the area under review or within the entire PRNS do not allow for the preservation and restoration of the natural biodiversity found within PRNS. It will also show that holding the elk behind a fence that keeps them from accessing adequate food and water is not appropriate. I encourage you to start managing PRNS like that national park that it is. Thank you for considering my comments.

**Correspondence ID:3140**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3141**

Correspondence: Please address the following:

1. What is the number of tule elk found elsewhere in California? Number in protected area? Historical range and population of tule elk? Should this be a protected species?
2. Is the range land in PRNS dedicated to the tule elk sufficient for their survival? For their long term health?
3. What are the environmental impacts of free ranging tule elk vs. the environmental impacts of free ranging cattle? This discussion should include water quality, soil erosion, and light pollution.
4. What would the public (the real owners of the land) prefer to inhabit a national park - native tule elk or non-native cattle? Why do people visit this park?
5. Do the cattle ranchers pay their own way? Do what extent are the private businesses subsidized by tax dollars?
6. What other native species, flora and fauna, are negatively impacted by tule elk? By cattle?
7. What are climate change impacts, including release of methane, of the continued cattle ranching in PRNS vs restoration of native habitat?
8. What is the legal purpose of national parks? Is this purpose met by allowing resources to be used for private profit?
9. Why are the ranches considered historic? Is there any real historic fabric remaining or would a sign noting the history of ranching be sufficient?
- 10 Why aren't there more historical markers of Native American villages and homesteads? They have a much deeper history than ranches,

**Correspondence ID:3142**

Correspondence: I am glad to have the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan. My husband and I are very familiar with the trails of Point Reyes National Seashore, having hiked and ridden horseback on many of them since the 1970s. One of our favorite places to ride is Tomales Point, from Pierce Ranch to the end of the peninsula and back, where we are always thrilled to pass tule elk standing on the foggy hillsides.

Yet it is with deep sadness that we realize the plight of these magnificent creatures, confined like zoo animals behind a fence at the behest of cattle ranchers. These cattle owners must, inexplicably, have great political power, for somehow the National Park Service, which the American people expect to be the highest guardian of our precious national parklands, is in thrall to them. The NPS bends over backwards to allow polluting, for profit, industrial scale cattle operations to exist on public lands that the NPS has a duty to preserve and protect for future generations.

It is time for Point Reyes management and NPS higher-ups to listen to the great majority of people you work for, not the twelve or so ranch companies controlling about one-third of Point Reyes parklands. It is time to get out of the cattle ranch leasing business entirely and start truly protecting, preserving and restoring these disturbed lands to their historic naturalness.

The status quo cannot continue. Respectfully I urge you to tear down the elk fence that confines the Tomales Point elk herd and allow them to forage freely. The tule elk belong in Point Reyes National Seashore. Private, polluting cattle ranches that close off much of the park to the nature-loving public do not.



**Correspondence ID:3143**

Correspondence: The General Management Plan which still permits ranching and cows within the boundaries of the Point Reyes National Seashore is environmentally unsound, and should be revised to end ranching and removal of commercial farming operations from the Point Reyes National Seashore. Recent evidence of ranching operations negative environmental impacts include

- 1) Impacts on riparian habitat through cows and fencing on streams
- 2) Trash dumps whose rusting trashes erodes and leaches water into the streams and the coastal zone
- 3) Cows leaving fecal material in streams and ponds.

In addition, the impact of farming and cows has caused death and severe stresses on the Tule Elk, who have been fenced in and supposedly in need of herd culling, to limit impacts on cows and farms. This has resulting in fencing, and deaths of hundreds of Tule Elk limited from access to grazing and water sources.

The ranches have already been paid, and their negative impacts indicate the need to phase out such ranching in the Point Reyes National Seashore. In particular the lease violations at Home Ranch and E Ranch indicate that lease conditions are not effective because they have not been enforced in the past, remediation of disturbed riparian areas should never have been required because the disturbances should not have occurred, and the dumped materials in the silage pit have occurred over years of neglect and lack of enforcement. The GMP should consider the problems revealed by lease violations and lack of enforcement, and conclude that ranching is not and cannot be conducted consistent with the purposes and nature of a national park such as Point Reyes

**Correspondence ID:3144**

Correspondence: Please help protect Tule elk. The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water. The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3145**

Correspondence: That 8-foot-tall exclusion fence locks native tule elk inside the narrow Tomales Point which has few natural supplies of fresh water and is surrounded by Tomales Bay and the Pacific Ocean. Large numbers of elk have died off during recent extreme drought. The exclusion fence must come down to allow these elk herds room to roam, so they can find adequate water and forage across the National Seashore.

Let this beautiful coastal park needs to be managed for native wildlife, coastal prairies, and public access, unhindered by fences.

**Correspondence ID:3146**

Correspondence: Hello, I am writing in support of the REMOVAL of the fencing at pt. reyes. protect our elk and other wildlife. It is so sad how the population has been decreasing each year since the fence has been in place. Act Now before the situation is dire, protect the beautiful biodiversity for future generations. thank you

**Correspondence ID:3147**

Correspondence: Save Our Seashore  
A 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization (EIN 94-3221625)  
Founded in 1993 to Protect Marin County's

Ocean, Coasts, Estuaries, Watersheds and Creeks  
40 Sunnyside Dr, Inverness CA 94956 gbatmuirb@aol.com 415-663-1828

To: Point Reyes National Seashore 5/6/22 Re: Pierce Point Area Plan

Save Our Seashore requests that PRNS remove the Tule elk enclosure fence at Pierce Point and manage all Tule elk in the Seashore (including the Pierce Point Elk) on a Seashore-wide basis.

The elk fence is increasingly irrelevant, given the typical reaction by elk to walk any fence looking for gaps. So now free-range elk look for gaps to break in and fenced elk look for gaps to break out. The cost to maintain the elk fence would be better directed to more effective elk mitigation efforts.

The logic for the fence (to protect ranches in PRNS), is also increasingly outdated, with some ranches subject to impacts from the free-range herd, yet other ranches partially protected by the fence. Removal of the fence would create even-handed conditions for all ranches.

Now that it is known that Pierce Point has a mineral deficiency that results in deformities, it is inhumane to keep the elk fenced in Pierce Point. The recent placement of mineral licks mitigates the mineral deficiency, but at the expense of violating the Wilderness Act that prohibits structures (licks or water tanks) that are eyesores in the Congressionally-designated Pierce Point Wilderness. With the fence down, water and licks should be phased out as the Pierce Point elk begin to roam (unless the Seashore wants to become a zoo and provide water and supplements to all its wildlife).

The elk fence is a public perception problem being leveraged to eliminate ranching at PRNS...but the two issues (ranching and elk) can be more clearly addressed once the fence is removed.

The Seashore's cow-calf operations use unmanaged rangeland for cattle that can be rotated to selected grazing sites, leaving elk to browse elsewhere. The biggest elk impact is to forage on dairies that need highly managed pastureland (a magnet for elk) but that are limited in their ability to move cows that must be milked twice daily. Elk management should be limited to dairies.

With a few hundred cows, these Seashore dairies compete with Central Valley dairies with a few thousand cows and Texas dairies with a few ten thousand cows. Thus, some Seashore dairies may not be willing or able to make the environmental investments required to remain in the Seashore.

There is no point in planning for elk management that may not be needed in the absence of dairies. We would urge PRNS to obtain enforceable commitments from dairies that will make environmental investments to determine to what extent (if any) elk management is warranted.

Elk management warranted on remaining dairies could be enhanced by use of dogs by Seashore staff, as done elsewhere  
[https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2344&context=icwdm\\_usdanwrc](https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2344&context=icwdm_usdanwrc). The GMPA now allows dogs to protect livestock but not forage. This distinction between protecting a species (livestock) but not its habitat (forage) is specious (and was used to justify not harming spotted owls yet cutting down their nesting trees).

The GMPA limits non-lethal elk management to hazing and beanbag rounds, which use #9 lead shot (not beans) in kevlar bags that degrade in sunlight. Thus, beanbag rounds will ultimately release lead shot

that wildlife could mistake for food or grit. NPS recognizes the ingestion threat to wildlife from lead shot and similar caution should apply to beanbag rounds.

Use of dogs by Seashore staff to enhance hazing on dairies could reduce or possibly eliminate the need for both beanbag rounds and for lethal removal (culling) inside the Seashore. The referenced study shows that the public is more accepting of livestock guard dogs than it is of beanbag shotguns and certainly of lethal removal now authorized by the GMPA.

The elk have no natural predators, yet the densely forested Inverness ridge will keep most of the elk inside the Seashore. Elk that leave the Seashore would be managed as elsewhere in the State by CDFW....and PRNS could be out of the elk management business and its current controversies.

Gordon Bennett, President, former GGNRA/PRNA Advisory Commissioner

**Correspondence ID:3148**

Correspondence: May 5, 2022

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

We are thankful for the opportunity to give feedback on the National Park Service's planning process for the Tomales Point area in Point Reyes National Seashore. It is our position that the removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is the only way to accurately address the nutrient and water deficiency and associated Tule Elk population management problems in the Tomales Point area.

The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is neither a radical or new idea. In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

The decline of the Tule Elk Reserve's herd by nearly half over the last few years is not natural self regulation but a direct result of the lack of access to proper nutritional forage and adequate water sources during the increasingly hot summers caused by Climate Change. Because there are no perennial streams in the Tule Elk Reserve, the herd's population has been cruelly limited to which individuals can survive on limited nutrition and water. This is not a natural carrying capacity.

The Tomales Point herd is still relatively new and has very little genetic diversity compared to other natural herds. The entire Tule Elk subspecies experienced a severe bottleneck effect in the 20th century, and the Tule Elk Reserve fence causes further genetic selection limitations for the herd in the Tomales Point area. The loss of genetic diversity across generations can lead to harsh consequences, such as weakness, illness, disease, death and even extirpation if the National Park Service does not actively increase connectivity between the herds in the park and establish more free roaming herds within the Seashore's boundaries.

A study published last year on the genetic diversity of a Tule Elk metapopulation reintroduced in a similar time frame to the Tomales Point herd found that there was lack of migration among the groups, and almost every group was below the threshold to improve or maintain genetic diversity over the next 25 years (Batter, Bush & Sacks, 2021).

Compared to natural Rocky Mountain Elk populations in Idaho, where there has been considerable gene flow between geographically isolated groups, there was little migration among most groups even decades after introduction (Aycrigg & Garton, 2014).

This suggests that genetically isolated populations, like the Tomales Point herd, will likely decline further due to inbreeding and genetic problems unless they are able to move freely and breed with the other free-roaming populations in Point Reyes National Seashore and the state.

A 1987 study conducted in the Tomales Point Reserve backs up this claim. The authors argue that without the ability to increase genetic variation, the Tomales Point herd will suffer from the various problems associated with inbreeding, depression, and genetic drift to the point of extinction (Barrett & Gogan, 1987). Genetic variation in the herd could be improved or at least maintained through natural processes if the herd was able to freely roam throughout the Seashore and breed with the other established free-roaming herds.

Although it is the National Park Service's responsibility to prioritize the natural resources (including the Tule Elk) of the Seashore, it is impossible to ignore agricultural and ranching operations within its boundaries. The National Park Service, among others, often claim that removal of the Tomales Point fence will have significantly harmful impacts on the tenant cattle ranch operations in the Seashore. It is our position that the current population size of the Tule Elk in Point Reyes will have little impact on cattle grazing in the Seashore.

This is backed up by a case study in the Owens Valley in Southern California. A socioeconomic analysis was conducted in 1985 by researchers in the Owens Valley which has had similar competition between various political, agricultural and environmental interests in the last few decades. Additionally, the population size of Tule Elk in the Owens Valley at this time fluctuated roughly between 200 and 300 individuals which is similar to the Tomales Point Herd in Point Reyes today. (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970) Obviously, Owens Valley and Point Reyes are not exactly the same but there are many undeniable similarities especially the central factor of competition between domestic livestock and the native Tule Elk.

The analysis concluded that Tule Elk populations in the Owens Valley could be significantly larger if the state was able to establish more free-roaming herds throughout the region. The social benefits of this would ultimately outweigh the social costs associated with the conflict between Tule Elk and livestock. The authors remark, "The competition between Elk and domestic livestock in the Owens valley is minor even during drought" (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970, p. 26).

The Tomales Point fence is in clear conflict with the National Park Service's directive to protect the natural resources of the Seashore for the countless generations to come. This goal can only be actualized through the removal of the Tomales Point fence, the installation of wildlife corridors to increase connectivity among the Seashore's several Tule Elk herds, and long-term genetic monitoring.

The creation of wildlife corridors specifically is a feasible and realistic goal which would allow the Tomales Point herd to travel to the Southern portions of Point Reyes and alleviate the population density in the North. This was originally proposed in the 1998 Environmental Assessment (Appendix G) as one of the many options to increase connectivity and establish free-roaming herds (National Park Service, 1998). Today, wildlife corridors are still a viable alternative to increase connectivity between the

herds in the Southern part of the Seashore, and allow the Tomales Point herd to stabilize its population size and health.

We are living at a critical moment in time as we are faced with unprecedented loss of biodiversity and wild places on a global scale. The public has set aside Point Reyes as a National Seashore--one of a few rapidly vanishing slices of wilderness in the West to be protected and Preserved. The decisions made today will have a profound impact on innumerable generations of visitors and wildlife. What will visitors see in fifty years if you do not act now? A living landscape and mosaic of wildlife, including the iconic Tule Elk--or a wasted landscape ruined by our own hubris and inaction?

It is your and all of our responsibility to ensure that the bugling Tule Elk are not another silenced instrument in the wild orchestra of the planet's natural world. We ask you to do the right thing, and make Point Reyes a National Seashore that lives up to the values it espouses  
With Gratitude, The ForElk Team

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## Correspondence ID:3149

Correspondence: The policy of accommodating private cattle ranching in The Seashore to the detriment of native tule elk and other wildlands biotic values is long overdue for a complete overhaul.

Perhaps some limited animal agriculture could continue at PRNS, but as things currently stand, the equation is tilted entirely too much against habitat and wilderness values and unduly towards the domestic livestock element -- with the erosion, water pollution, and a punitive, destructive management approach for the tule elk which results. If there is to be containment for the elk, let it be far more closely aligned with the borders of the PRNS itself.

It must be abundantly obvious that the vast weight of public opinion is in favor of a PRNS managed for native wildlife first, with legacy ranching a long second, if it is to exist at all. And as PRNS managers know, originally all ranching enterprises were supposed to have been sunsetted at The Seashore by now. Their extended continuance is an insult to the public will regarding OUR collective National Seashore.

There is enough land surrounding Tomales Bay and the Seashore devoted to grazing as it is. Enough already.

**Correspondence ID:3150**

Correspondence: There is something really shady, incomprehensible, and unacceptable going on at the National Seashore, specifically Tomales Point. NPS, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to the ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Native Tule elk, a rare subspecies nearly extinct across California are rapidly and needlessly dying at the Seashore due to highly questionable NPS management. The NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes keeps elk trapped behind a fence, expands commercial agricultural use, and extends cattle ranch leases for up to 20 years.

Instead of protecting the Wilderness and elk that live there, the NPS has the largest elk herd at the National Seashore fenced into an enclosure at Tomales Point. Not only is there not enough forage for the confined elk, but ongoing drought has caused scant freshwater to dry up, leaving the elk dying of hunger and thirst, as documented by visitor photographs of dead and emaciated elk. That is cruel, heartless, and unacceptable.

The NPS is confining the elk to prevent them from competing for forage and water with the nearly 6,000 cattle that continue to graze at the National Seashore, decades after the government paid fair market value to acquire private ranches and end livestock grazing there. When Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, permitted ranchers were allowed to continue operations for 25 years. In a move that prioritized cattle ranching over the needs of wildlife, some of the ranchers who refused to move after the 25-year time period ending in 1987 were granted new leases by the NPS???

So, some/most? of the ranchers did leave because the 25 years they were allowed to continue operations were up, but those who didn't live up to the agreement were granted new leases because they refused to move? NPS must be the only government agency to fold and reward such incredibly bad behavior. I'm quite sure the IRS would handle a refusal to pay taxes a tad differently. It is outrageous that some 28,000 acres of public land at the National Seashore continue to be grazed by cows despite the original agreement to end this commercial use. Unbelievable! Shame on the NPS for allowing this travesty of justice to continue!

Elk, cut off from needed food and water, are dying at alarming numbers. The elk population behind the fence dropped from 540 to 286 in 2015, then 221 more elk died by 2020, and another 25 percent died more recently.

I am speaking up for the rare Tule Elk who are being sacrificed by NPS for a bunch of fricken domestic cows. NPS, please choose to do the right thing by prioritizing the needs of native wildlife and putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like NPS was supposed to do decades ago. Fences have no

place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

NPS, again please remember, the Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to the ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife. I hope to very soon be able to thank NPS for having chosen to do the right thing for the Tule elk and the American people the NPS is suppose to be serving.

**Correspondence ID:3151**

Correspondence: WildCare has advocated for humane treatment of the captive herd of Tule Elk on Tomales Point for many years. We appreciate the Park Service's ongoing work to provide additional water for the animals during severe drought conditions, and the efforts the Park Service team has made to keep WildCare and our supporters up to date on the elks' welfare.

However, with the opportunity to update the management plan regarding the elk, WildCare and our supporters strongly advocate that the elk fence be removed once and for all, and that a wildlife corridor be established to allow the elk to leave the peninsula as needed.

152 Tule Elk died in Point Reyes National Seashore's Tule Elk Reserve from 2019 to 2020, according to NPS statistics. WildCare and our supporters say it is not right to keep a group of animals captive and then attempt to maintain a hands-off management approach.

More than 20,000 wildlife advocates have signed WildCare's petition in support of removing the fence. These animal advocates and we agree that removing the fence is the only humane way to manage the Tule Elk on Tomales Point that cannot escape their enclosed peninsula, and are thus at the mercy of water and forage availability within that restricted territory.

The public planning process for the Tomales Point area of Point Reyes National Seashore offers an opportunity to rethink management of the elk herd in light of the Park Service's commitment to preserving wildlife and the environment.

Removing the fence that has confined this elk herd since 1978 and allowing the elk (via a wildlife corridor) to find water and food beyond Tomales Point is the only humane way to deal with these once-endangered wild animals.

Please remove the fence and create a wildlife corridor to allow the Tomales Point elk herd to expand their territory to areas that offer consistent sources of forage and water!

**Correspondence ID:3152**

Correspondence: As a regular visitor to Pt Reyes, I have always found it very distressing to learn about the advantages provided to private interests, ranchers and cattle over native and wild elk who consistently suffer from lack of water and access to resources. Why ranchers working on public property should take precedent over the natural systems the Park Service should be protecting has always mystified me, particularly in a region where the vast majority of park are so supportive of the Tule Elk. Please consider the collective needs of our community and stop showing preference to private interests. We only have one shot at saving the Tule Elk in light of ongoing persistent drought which will only intensify with climate change.

**Correspondence ID:3153**

Correspondence: I have always liked the dairy farms in the park, but I think they could do as well in many other nearby places. However the Tule elk are a surviving remnant of historic herds and have no other place. they need enough forage to survive and are not getting enough behind the fence. Take down the fence and allow them to get food .

The elk are a special treat to see in the park and need to be better cared for. Move the dairy farms out of Point Reyes park.

Please save the elk, Jean Struthers

**Correspondence ID:3154**

Correspondence: It is an outrage that tule elk have died of thirst due to the elk fence. Remove it! Until that occurs, supply as much water as the herd needs. the animals which should be thinned at Point Reyes are the cattle, not the elk.

**Correspondence ID:3155**

Correspondence: I have been to this beautiful place and seen the rare Tule elk. This seashore belongs to me and all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. I believe that fences have no place in wilderness. The National Park Service must protect the Seashore and end the awful, ongoing deaths of these rare animals at Point Tomales in the Philip Burton wilderness by removing the fence so these elk can get food and water. Please prioritize the needs of this native wildlife by putting an end, at long last, to commercial ranching at Point Reyes. Do the right thing. Thanks for the consideration of my comments.

**Correspondence ID:3156**

Correspondence: The Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must make the preservation and restoration of the park's natural values, its native wildlife, archeological resources, and public use and enjoyment its highest priority.

The Tomales Point Area Plan must set standards and conduct monitoring to ensure that ranching does not damage park ecosystems or negatively impact wildlife habitat, endangered species, archeological sites, water quality, native vegetation, public recreation or the aesthetic natural beauty of the park.

Tule Elk are an ecologically important part of the landscape of Point Reyes National Seashore. Their recovery should be a success story for restoring native ecosystems, consistent with the mission of the National Park Service.

Ongoing private cattle grazing is incompatible with the purposes for which the Point Reyes National Seashore was established. Commercial lease holders should not dictate wildlife removal or exclusion policies. Confinement, fencing, removal, hazing, and killing of wildlife in the national park for the benefit private ranch operators is unacceptable. The existing ranch operations are plundering taxpayers' rightful heritage by operating large, industrialized dairy operations that ruin the beauty and potential of the national seashore: they overgraze the sensitive grasslands turning them into mud and erode the topsoil, place the value of cows over a well-managed Tule elk introduction program, use silage cutting practices that destroy endangered owl habitat during nesting, and cause large scale cattle manure and urine pollution of the surface ground water and ocean.

The people responsible for running the Point Reyes parklands have demonstrated a travesty of stewardship of these precious public lands that should be a crown jewel park for those in the bay area and beyond to experience unspoiled natural seashore. The farm corporations should be held financially and morally responsible for the environmental damage the ranches have inflicted on our public land.



In summary, the only way to stop impairing nature at Point Reyes would be for the National Park Service to stop ranching and manage Point Reyes like national parks are supposed to be managed, with the overarching duty being the protection and restoration of natural resources, not the destruction of them.

**Correspondence ID:3157**

Correspondence: I support Elks!

**Correspondence ID:3158**

Correspondence: As a recent full time home owner on the Inverness Ridge, I am writing to support the PRNS plan to manage the elk so that ranching can continue in the Park. The Park demonstrates how to support sustainable (and historical) agriculture along side other visitor activities. Witness the many selfie taking visitors with cows.

Too many people in the US have no idea where their food comes from. The ranching community provides an educational opportunity to scores of visitors who do not subscribe to the minority vegan and PETA world view that zero animal husbandry in any and all circumstances is the most desirable outcome for the majority. There are many of us who disagree with the emotional and autocratic imposition of this minority world view. Whipped up by self proclaimed "activists" and "environmental" lawyers who don't hesitate to tie up the courts with specious and expensive lawsuits. Enough.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:3159**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

Protect the Tule Elk !

**Correspondence ID:3160**

Correspondence: Dear Administrators,  
Please remove the fencing that traps the Tule Elk in the area that is too small to ensure a viable genetic mix.

That is an easy partial solution to the plight of the elk. Many citizens will volunteer to do the work. We do not need more feed and water trucked to this herd if you just allow the fencing to be taken down.

Martha S. Bibb

**Correspondence ID:3161**

Correspondence: Despite public opinion being against extending the ranching leases in Point Reyes National Seashore, the park service extended them. It put the interests of a handful of ranchers above the welfare of the park. Even when the ranchers truck in water and hay for the cattle, their ranching practices contaminate natural water sources, cause erosion, and destroy biodiversity. Every summer I

am horrified by the sight of our top soil blowing away with the wind. What should be a living soil ecosystem has been turned to dust. The constant disturbance of mowing favors invasive annual plants, and the ranches are frighteningly large sources of thistles, mustard, wild radish, and various invasive grasses. How can we expect the native animals and plants to compete in such a compromised ecosystem without a little help from us. We're the ones who caused these problems, and we should do what we can to alleviate them. That might include providing water for the elk and other animals during our increasingly long dry seasons. It should include restoring native habitat so that tule elk and other animals can survive without our constant input. After all, this is a park, not a zoo. Most visitors come to the park to see wild animals, especially the tule elk, not poorly managed livestock.

Please stop pandering to the ranchers. They got their money. They signed the leases and had plenty of notice to leave. Extending their leases again was a mistake.

Please take down the fences. Please take care of the elk. Their health is an indication of the health of the ecosystem, and maintaining the health of the ecosystem should be the main priority of the park service.

**Correspondence ID:3162**

Correspondence: The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.

Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.

85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

The Pierce Point Ranch was a working dairy until closed in 1978 and made into an interpretive center, free of livestock (see: <https://www.nps.gov/places/point-reyes-pierce-point-ranch.htm>). Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that is interpreted as to its dairy history. This should serve as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

**Correspondence ID:3163**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3164**

Correspondence: I am disappointed that you have extended cattle leases beyond their scheduled expiration. You have a responsibility to manage the resource in a manner that best benefits its natural values. Also, cattle are a major source of methane, which contributes substantially to the existential threat of global warming.

**Correspondence ID:3165**

Correspondence: As members of both the National Park Foundation and Western Watersheds Project, we submit these comments regarding the Tomales Point Area Plan.

Drought mortality of the native Tule Elk is an issue of grave concern to us and to many other concerned citizens. Because of the 8-foot-tall exclusion fence, these native elk are locked inside the narrow Tomales Point, which has few natural supplies of fresh water, and is surrounded by Tomales Bay and the Pacific Ocean. Large numbers of elk have died off during recent extreme drought. This is simply unacceptable. Furthermore, all indications are that the drought conditions are becoming more severe.

Moreover, as if drought mortality weren't enough, old and downed fencing is hazardous to the elk, that become entangled in the fencing and die tragically and painfully.

The Philip Burton Wilderness constitutes 85% of Tomales Point. We're aware that this makes NPS management of tule elk herds there much more difficult during times of drought. Supplemental water and minerals were supplied to Tomales Elk Reserve elk only after public protests that drew media attention. Removing the fencing is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the Reserve.

It is imperative that all the fencing comes down. The free-roaming elk herds did not suffer drought mortality, and apparently have access to better water resources. These trapped elk must be allowed to roam into the larger Seashore area and find water and food.

As you know, the Pierce Point Ranch was a working dairy until closed in 1978 and made into an interpretive center, free of livestock. Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that showcases its dairy history. This should serve as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

This beautiful coastal park needs to be managed for native wildlife, coastal prairies, and public access, unhindered by fences. We ask that you give our concerns and recommendation your most serious and thoughtful consideration as you construct the Tomales Point Area Plan.

**Correspondence ID:3166**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

As a local resident and frequent user of the trails at Point Reyes National Seashore, I welcome the opportunity to respond to your invitation for comments regarding the updating of management procedures at the Tomales Point area of PRNS, the primary focus being elk herd management.

The area under consideration is predominantly in lands designated by Congress as wilderness, and included within a national park. A fence intended to restrict the range of native inhabitants (tule elk) does not belong in a wilderness park. Fencing inhibits the elk herd's natural ability to forage for food and water and excludes the elk from its native habitat in favor of private commercial dairies and their cattle. The cattle operations take up about a third of the national park, which by definition should be set aside for the use of its natural inhabitants and the public. The "dairy" part of the park should be largely coastal prairie in which wildlife, including the elk, roam freely. Under such a scenario, the park would exemplify

coastal wilderness. As it exists today, that part of the park leased to ranchers is heavily polluted and unhealthy for inhabitants, the immediate environment, and the planet in general.

The ranchers have been poor stewards of the environment at PRNS. The streams are polluted and native vegetation is denuded by trampling and the spreading of cow manure, and they are directly at fault for these conditions. There is open sewage at ranch dwellings and blatant dumping of trash. This is not acceptable in a national park, and for the elk it is a disaster. In recent drought years fenced in animals perished in large numbers, likely due to being inhibited by fencing in their search for water and food. Inside the enclosure they were dependent on service by park personnel that was not always forthcoming. These were, and are still, hard times made worse by being enclosed in an area low in water and forage.

Therefore, without a doubt, a healthy wild ecosystem that supports wildlife and the public alike is incompatible with cattle operations. The fence should come down. Cattle ranching should be phased out. Those should be the primary concerns in the upcoming planning process at PRNS.

As an aside, included in your recent news release is the intention to collaborate with the Federation Indians of Graton Rancheria in this process. That, of course, is commendable. However, I wonder if there could be some collaboration with our local Miwoks, who inhabited the land long before others, and also have tribal views and traditional ecological knowledge of the planning area.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this upcoming planning process.

Sincerely,

Mel Wright

**Correspondence ID:3167**

Correspondence: In the name of compassion and decency and humanity, for God's sakes please take down that fence of death for the Tule Elk. Your job is to protect and take care of Wildlife, not to starve these animals on behalf of the dairy ranchers. These poor, voiceless, defenseless animals are suffering and dying for the greed of the dairy industry. Shame! Shame on you all! How can you look at yourself in the mirror every morning while those animals are suffering and dying. Take down that fence!!!

**Correspondence ID:3168**

Correspondence: Please tear down man-erected fences to allow these indigenous animals, like Tule Elk, to roam free and unobstructed , provide year round water, and corral cattle away from the National park lands.

National seashores are Not Places to allow cattle the freedom to ruin the land, devastate the vegetation, and pollute the ground with urine and cow pies.

This land is for us to enjoy.

I do not enjoy the smells of cattle.

Please consider if this was in your backyard.

Thank you

jp

**Correspondence ID:3169**

Correspondence: I'm writing in support of the Point Reyes National Seashore, preservation of the natural environment, resources, habitats and wildlife, especially the Tule Elk. I urge you to read Kenneth Brower's letters of the PRNS and it's founding. His father, David Brower, director of the Sierra Club, was present at the signing of the Law in 1962. Ranching was not included in the Law and was to be phased out over time. Increased commercialism was never intended until Rancher Lunny met with Trump in 2017. Then the 20 year lease was proposed with expanded farming, varied stock, even tourism and lodging. The ranchers had already received healthy compensation for the land. Ranchers have become overconfident, careless, even entitled in their commercial pursuits and have taken advantage of a more than generous arrangement.

Tule Elk were reintroduced as part of the natural environment. Their conditions should not be relegated by the those of cattle. The Park has a responsibility to protect and support Tule Elk not favor cattle and ranch commerce at the expense of the Elk. The Elk are being dismissed and treated abusively. The Elk deserve the expanse of the parkland without fences. They need free access to water and grazing land. Tule Elk are the natural inhabitants of the Seashore not the cattle.

Ranches damage soil, water, air and parkland.

Agricultural runoff, manure, pesticides, nutrients with a variety of toxins contaminate water systems, ponds, streams and ultimately the ocean. This affects the food source, seagrass, plankton and small organisms that feed larger fish and marine mammals.

A 20 year lease with expanded commercial ventures has given ranchers license to abuse and ignore environmental protection. They must be held accountable with frequent, ongoing investigation and review of ranch policies.

Ranchers should never have been allowed to renegotiate the terms of the original agreement. The NPS should gradually decrease, not increase, ranching in the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Thank you.

Jayne Cerny

**Correspondence ID:3170**

Correspondence: The elk fence should be removed, along with all the damaged sections of fencing scattered throughout the park. I have personally seen dead elk wrapped in fence wire on multiple occasions inside the elk reserve. This fence is causing damage to the ecosystem and hurting the wildlife at PRNS. It would also be wise to remove the cattle ranching operations inside our national seashore. They are causing severe degradation to the ecology and the environment as a whole. The people do not want private for profit businesses in our national seashore. Please listen to the people, this is our land!

**Correspondence ID:3171**

Correspondence: Lets get on board with the original intent of the Park and stop allowing ranchers and way too many cows to damage the land, and water.

The Elk are rare - originally from this area and a unique treasure.

Stop taking ranching \$ and pressure from politicians who take ranching \$ and get on board with the job you are supposed to be doing!

**Correspondence ID:3172**

Correspondence: Tomales Point Area Plan April 27, 2022

Attn: Superintendent Kenkel

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Rd.

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Fenced Tule Elk Herd at Point Reyes National Seashore

I am one of the great majority of public voices writing to address what you've described in your notification as the "complex wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues at Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore."

As stated in your solicitation for comments, "More than 85% of the Reserve is within the Phillip Burton Wilderness...The impetus for this planning process are the impacts to the tule elk population and other resources within the Reserve arising from the historic drought conditions over the past eight years."

These two lines, summarize the failed perspective of the NPS in understanding the definition of "wilderness" and the continued refusal to take responsibility for the wildlife and resources under its jurisdiction. The misplaced blame on "drought conditions" for the extraordinarily high death rates of tule elk unnaturally contained in what is the direct opposite of wilderness has been thoroughly and indisputably exposed to the public and the facts of the PRNS staff's blatant lack of consideration and disregard for the wellbeing of the elk and other wildlife are now widely known.

The National Park Service employees at PRNS have failed to adhere to the mandates in the creation of the park, specifically the NPS Organic Act & the Enabling Legislation which, as you know, states that this land be managed ". . . without impairment of its natural values...consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment." In moving forward, any NPS planning efforts must take into consideration the failure in meeting these criteria and the scope of the planning effort must genuinely address the public's interest in protecting wildlife and restoring the land. For this plan to succeed, there must be a re-evaluation of the GMP that prioritizes wildlife and nature in this park over private profits.

Any plan that does not include the ability for animals to safely roam, forage and seek water and shelter in the entirety of the park will be in violation of the laws on which this park was founded. To stay the current course would be a further violation of the law.

The survival of all flora and fauna in this park and especially of this endemic elk species entrusted to your care remains your responsibility. We are at this juncture because thus far, the staff at PRNS has failed to fully take on this responsibility and instead placed allegiances elsewhere.

You have the data, you know the issues: Restore this park and remove the elk fence to change course before more of our precious resources and wildlife are destroyed and the PRNS becomes the epitome of failed management.

Diane E. Gentile

**Correspondence ID:3173**

Correspondence: Please do the right thing. PLEASE REMOVE THE TOMALES POINT FENCE.

The Tule Elk will thank you. Support for biodiversity is critical - especially right now. Please do your part to make sure that this beautiful, sacred species not only survives, but thrives.

We thank you. Our children thank you. Our children's children will thank you.

And our entire fragile and interconnected planet will thank you.

**Correspondence ID:3174**

Correspondence: I am commenting to ask the National Park Service to please remove the Tomales Point Fence at Pt. Reyes National Seashore to allow the tule elk to roam freely at Point Reyes.

thank you.

**Correspondence ID:3175**

Correspondence: Take the fences down, get the cattle out, clean up the waters and give the Elk their room please!

**Correspondence ID:3176**

Correspondence: I fully support the FORELK's stance and commentary re: Tule elk population in PRNP. I'm unable to address any more eloquently than they have done. Personally Experiencing the sight and sound of these magnificent animals at PRNP is a priceless opportunity. It certainly doesn't compare with being stopped on the roadway while herds of domesticated cattle are crossing. Please give this herd a chance!

Sincerely,  
Jane Hartman

**Correspondence ID:3177**

Correspondence: I fully support the FORELK's stance and commentary re: Tule elk population in PRNP. I'm unable to address any more eloquently than they have done. Personally Experiencing the sight and sound of these magnificent animals at PRNP is a priceless opportunity. It certainly doesn't compare with being stopped on the roadway while herds of domesticated cattle are crossing. Please give this herd a chance!

Sincerely,  
Jane Hartman

**Correspondence ID:3178**

Correspondence: Dairy cows have PLENTY of options.  
The ELK have ONE!

---&gt;this is an absolute CRUEL, \$\$\$GREEDY, DISGRACE!

PLEASE get that insane dairy GREED out of Elk land.  
(!!!!!!!!)

Thank you,  
Diana j. Reis

(born at marin general hospital, 1960.)

**Correspondence ID:3179**

Correspondence: I am writing to you on behalf of myself, as well as my nonprofit organization Plant-Based Advocates

In Los Gatos, CA. Thank you for the opportunity to give feedback on the National Park Service's planning process for the Tomales Point area in Point Reyes National Seashore. I am urging you to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence so that the elk can have access to adequate food and water in order to thrive.

The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is neither a radical or new idea. In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

The decline of the Tule Elk Reserve's herd by nearly half over the last few years is not natural self regulation but a direct result of the lack of access to proper nutritional forage and adequate water sources during the increasingly hot summers caused by Climate Change. Because there are no perennial streams in the Tule Elk Reserve, the herd's population has been cruelly limited to which individuals can survive on limited nutrition and water. This is not a natural carrying capacity.

The tule elk are the "bison" of the west, and once number half a million strong on the west coast. The tule elk are the dominant herbivore in this ecosystem and are necessary to preserve and restore our ecosystem.

It's time for NPS to stop putting commercial cattle industry wants ahead of human, animal and ecosystem needs. Please remove the fence and allow the tule elk to roam free, allowing them to grow stronger and help restore this precious ecosystem.

**Correspondence ID:3180**

Correspondence: To the National Park Service, Marin County officials and local population of the Point Reyes National Seashore, most importantly the population of the Tule Elk:

It seems the emphasis in the management of the natural wildlife and encroaching ranching lifestyle has taken a very disturbing turn away from a humane direction.

I am shocked and deeply disturbed to see how this is actually happening.....

I am in disbelief that in Marin, of all places, such a inhumane act is taking place.

It is so sad and so wrong. fencing in Wildlife and preventing the Elk from ranging and finding water and food???? Really?

I have grown up in this beautiful place and so amazed by the natural wildlife and landscape.

But now, I am disheartened by the actual people in power that are letting this take place.

Stop it. Stop it now..... The Elk are not prisoners..... SET THEM FREE NOW.

Sue Sullivan

**Correspondence ID:3181**

Correspondence: (Some info copied/edited from the Elk Team letter)



The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence needs to be done. In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

The decline of the Tule Elk Reserve's herd by nearly half over the last few years is not natural but is put there because a fence keeps them from good forage and any reliable water sources.

The Tule Elk Reserve fence causes disturbing genetic selection limitations for the herd in the Tomales Point area. The loss of genetic diversity across generations can lead to harsh consequences, such as weakness, illness, disease, death and even extirpation if the National Park Service does not actively increase connectivity between the herds in the park.

A study published last year on the genetic diversity of a Tule Elk metapopulation reintroduced in a similar time frame to the Tomales Point herd found that there was lack of migration among the groups, and almost every group was below the threshold to improve or maintain genetic diversity over the next 25 years (Batter, Bush & Sacks, 2021).

This suggests that genetically isolated populations, like the Tomales Point herd, will likely decline further due to inbreeding and genetic problems unless they are able to move freely and breed with the other free-roaming populations in Point Reyes National Seashore and the state and a 1987 study conducted in the Tomales Point Reserve backs up this claim. The authors argue that without the ability to increase genetic variation, the Tomales Point herd will suffer from the various problems associated with inbreeding, depression, and genetic drift to the point of extinction (Barrett & Gogan, 1987). They need to be able to freely roam and breed with the other established free-roaming herds.

The National Park Service, among others, often claim that removal of the Tomales Point fence will have significantly harmful impacts on the tenant cattle ranch operations in the Seashore. From what I understand the Tule elk were there before cattle ranching and the cattle are ruining the land and causing dead zones in the shoreline. The current population size of the Tule Elk in Point Reyes will have little impact on cattle grazing in the Seashore. This is backed up by a case study in the Owens Valley in Southern California. A socioeconomic analysis was conducted in 1985 by researchers in the Owens Valley which has had similar competition between various political, agricultural and environmental interests in the last few decades. "The competition between Elk and domestic livestock in the Owens valley is minor even during drought" (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970, p. 26).

The Tomales Point fence is in clear conflict with the National Park Service's directive to protect the natural resources of the Seashore for the countless generations to come. This goal can only be actualized through the removal of the Tomales Point fence, the installation of wildlife corridors to increase connectivity among the Seashore's several Tule Elk herds, and long-term genetic monitoring.

The creation of wildlife corridors was originally proposed in the 1998 Environmental Assessment (Appendix G) as one of the many options to increase connectivity and establish free-roaming herds (National Park Service, 1998).

It is your and all of our responsibility to ensure that the bugling Tule Elk are not another silenced instrument in the wild orchestra of the planet's natural world. We ask you to do the right thing, and make Point Reyes a National Seashore that lives up to the values it espouses.

**Correspondence ID:3182**

Correspondence: Please support our beautiful Point Reyes park--the wild animals that live there, and the natural habitat..

The Tule Elk Reserve fence should be removed!

Thank You for doing the right thing,

Judy Lindow

**Correspondence ID:3183**

Correspondence: May 07, 2022

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment regarding the National Park Service's planning process for the Tomales Point area in Point Reyes National Seashore.

I ask you to ensure the following:

- 1) Remove the fence currently restricting Tule Elk movement within the Park.
- 2) Facilitate Tule Elk movement to freely breed with other free-roaming elk populations in Point Reyes National Seashore.

For over twenty years I have lived near the Park, hike in the Park. I was born and raised in California. I see the Tule Elk and I see the cattle. Cattle are fenced into their respective ranch locations where ranch operations owners are their caregivers.

With millions of visitors, the Park is the responsible caregiver for the lands, resources and wildlife that live in the Park.

Currently, Tule Elk are restricted inside the fenced area and do not have adequate access to sufficient wilderness nutrients. A severe water deficiency is particularly acute as we have more hot summers.

There are no perennial streams in the Tule Elk Reserve. The lack of water is a cruel limitation.

If this were a neighborhood issue and dogs and cats were noticed by other neighbors to be roaming through the neighborhood without adequate food and water, someone would call Animal Control who would take care of the situation.

You are our public servants for Park issues. Cattle ranch owners are responsible for their issues.

Cattle ranch operations' freedoms to this area stop where the public Park's freedoms for administering public park space start. Honor long standing agreements that have thus far preserved limited space constraints between the Park and ranch operations.

As with Animal Control, the public does not expect that uncared for dogs and cats continue to roam the neighborhood creating a nuisance, or worse, die.

It would be criminal negligence. The Tule Elk situation borders on criminal negligence.

The creation of wildlife corridors specifically is a feasible and realistic goal which would allow the Tomales Point herd to travel to the Southern portions of Point Reyes and alleviate the population density in the North.

What will visitors see in fifty years if you do not act now? A living landscape and mosaic of wildlife, including the iconic Tule Elk--or a wasted landscape ruined by our own hubris and inaction?

I ask you to do the right thing and make Point Reyes a National Seashore the Park that lives up to the values it espouses and takes full responsibility for the land, resources, and wildlife.

Respectfully,  
Eric Boehm

**Correspondence ID:3184**

Correspondence: We feel that the fence should be taken out. The ranches should be also taken out as was the original plan for the area.

**Correspondence ID:3185**

Correspondence: I have been following how the Tule Elk have been blocked from accessing water in the summer and dying. It is shocking. I can't believe this is allowed. Elks need the freedom to move. Also by dividing herds you risk inbreeding and this reduces their resilience.

Please remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence!!! In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

**Correspondence ID:3186**

Correspondence: I am a regular visitor to the park and I am asking for the REMOVAL OF THE TOMALES POINT FENCE!! I have seen the elk stuck behind the fence for years and it's heartbreaking and cruel. Please do the right thing! REMOVE THE FENCE!!

**Correspondence ID:3187**

Correspondence: I'm writing to add my voice to those requesting that your new management plan for the Tomales Point area consider the welfare of the Tule Elk. As you know, currently a fence separates two herds, isolating each and resulting in inbreeding and genetic decline. The fence prevents access to forage and water, already in short supply due to drought conditions and climate change. The spectacle of volunteers bringing water to elk who have been cut off from it is both heroic and sad.

I remember when the Tomales Point area was included in the Point Reyes National Seashore. At the time, it was expected that the dairy farms would be eliminated over a limited period of time. In the interim since then, dairy farms have not disappeared and climate change and the role played in it by

cows and methane have become scientific facts. It is more important than ever that National Park decisions consider climate change in land and wildlife policies.

Please create a Tomales Point management plan that takes down the fence which separates Tule elk from the water and forage they need and replace this barrier with wildlife corridors that enable co-mingling and sustenance.

Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:3188**

Correspondence: Please remove the Tomales Point fence To help address the water and food efficiency for the Thule elk.

Thank you for your consideration

**Correspondence ID:3189**

Correspondence: From what I have seen and come to understand it seems that removing the fence to allow the native tule elk more access to water in their native terrain is the best thing to do . I strongly encourage you to remove the fence!

**Correspondence ID:3190**

Correspondence: May 5, 2022

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

We are thankful for the opportunity to give feedback on the National Park Service's planning process for the Tomales Point area in Point Reyes National Seashore. It is our position that the removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is the only way to accurately address the nutrient and water deficiency and associated Tule Elk population management problems in the Tomales Point area.

The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is neither a radical or new idea. In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

The decline of the Tule Elk Reserve's herd by nearly half over the last few years is not natural self regulation but a direct result of the lack of access to proper nutritional forage and adequate water sources during the increasingly hot summers caused by Climate Change. Because there are no perennial streams in the Tule Elk Reserve, the herd's population has been cruelly limited to which individuals can survive on limited nutrition and water. This is not a natural carrying capacity.

The Tomales Point herd is still relatively new and has very little genetic diversity compared to other natural herds. The entire Tule Elk subspecies experienced a severe bottleneck effect in the 20th century, and the Tule Elk Reserve fence causes further genetic selection limitations for the herd in the Tomales Point area. The loss of genetic diversity across generations can lead to harsh consequences, such as weakness, illness, disease, death and even extirpation if the National Park Service does not actively increase connectivity between the herds in the park and establish more free roaming herds within the Seashore's boundaries.

A study published last year on the genetic diversity of a Tule Elk metapopulation reintroduced in a similar time frame to the Tomales Point herd found that there was lack of migration

among the groups, and almost every group was below the threshold to improve or maintain genetic diversity over the next 25 years (Batter, Bush & Sacks, 2021).

Compared to natural Rocky Mountain Elk populations in Idaho, where there has been considerable gene flow between geographically isolated groups, there was little migration among most groups even decades after introduction (Aycrigg & Garton, 2014).

This suggests that genetically isolated populations, like the Tomales Point herd, will likely decline further due to inbreeding and genetic problems unless they are able to move freely and breed with the other free-roaming populations in Point Reyes National Seashore and the state. A 1987 study conducted in the Tomales Point Reserve backs up this claim. The authors argue that without the ability to increase genetic variation, the Tomales Point herd will suffer from the various problems associated with inbreeding, depression, and genetic drift to the point of extinction (Barrett & Gogan, 1987). Genetic variation in the herd could be improved or at least maintained through natural processes if the herd was able to freely roam throughout the Seashore and breed with the other established free-roaming herds.

Although it is the National Park Service's responsibility to prioritize the natural resources (including the Tule Elk) of the Seashore, it is impossible to ignore agricultural and ranching operations within its boundaries. The National Park Service, among others, often claim that removal of the Tomales Point fence will have significantly harmful impacts on the tenant cattle ranch operations in the Seashore. It is our position that the current population size of the Tule Elk in Point Reyes will have little impact on cattle grazing in the Seashore.

This is backed up by a case study in the Owens Valley in Southern California. A socioeconomic analysis was conducted in 1985 by researchers in the Owens Valley which has had similar competition between various political, agricultural and environmental interests in the last few decades. Additionally, the population size of Tule Elk in the Owens Valley at this time fluctuated roughly between 200 and 300 individuals which is similar to the Tomales Point Herd in Point Reyes today. (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970) Obviously, Owens Valley and Point Reyes are not exactly the same but there are many undeniable similarities especially the central factor of competition between domestic livestock and the native Tule Elk.

The analysis concluded that Tule Elk populations in the Owens Valley could be significantly larger if the state was able to establish more free-roaming herds throughout the region. The social benefits of this would ultimately outweigh the social costs associated with the conflict between Tule Elk and livestock. The authors remark, "The competition between Elk and domestic livestock in the Owens valley is minor even during drought" (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970, p. 26). The Tomales Point fence is in clear conflict with the National Park Service's directive to protect the natural resources of the Seashore for the countless generations to come. This goal can only be actualized through the removal of the Tomales Point fence, the installation of wildlife corridors to increase connectivity among the Seashore's several Tule Elk herds, and long-term genetic monitoring.

The creation of wildlife corridors specifically is a feasible and realistic goal which would allow the Tomales Point herd to travel to the Southern portions of Point Reyes and alleviate the population density in the North. This was originally proposed in the 1998 Environmental Assessment (Appendix G) as one of the many options to increase connectivity and establish free-roaming herds (National Park Service, 1998). Today, wildlife corridors are still a viable alternative to increase connectivity between the herds in the Southern part of the Seashore, and allow the Tomales Point herd to stabilize its population size and health.

We are living at a critical moment in time as we are faced with unprecedented loss of biodiversity and wild places on a global scale. The public has set aside Point Reyes as a National Seashore--one of a few rapidly vanishing slices of wilderness in the West to be protected and

Preserved. The decisions made today will have a profound impact on innumerable generations of visitors and wildlife. What will visitors see in fifty years if you do not act now? A living landscape and mosaic of wildlife, including the iconic Tule Elk--or a wasted landscape ruined by our own hubris and inaction?

It is your and all of our responsibility to ensure that the bugling Tule Elk are not another silenced instrument in the wild orchestra of the planet's natural world. We ask you to do the right thing, and make Point Reyes a National Seashore that lives up to the values it espouses.

Thank you for your time and consideration, be well.

Sincerely,

John Daniel Hanavan

**Correspondence ID:3191**

Correspondence: Please remove the Tule Elk fence. This would allow the Tule Elk to access water during the drought, and to migrate, which would encourage the herd's genetic diversity.

Thank you.

Priscilla Browne

**Correspondence ID:3192**

Correspondence: Remove the Tomales Point fence

**Correspondence ID:3193**

Correspondence: A federal lawsuit in 2016 over the NPS prioritizing commercial ranching to the detriment of the Seashore's natural resources and the public, led to a multi-year planning process. But had little impact on the final GMPA. Thousands of public comments ultimately mattered little. As spokesperson Melanie Gunn said of the public comment process, "This isn't a vote." The scoping document for the Tomales Tule elk, appears another such performative process.

The elk scoping document subordinated the welfare and survival of these native wildlife to perpetuating private ranching. The goal of this process isn't to produce a healthy, sustainable elk population in the only national park where they exist, but to minimize inconvenience to the tenant ranchers.

The elk scoping document presumes the Tomales elk herd will continue to be fenced to protect cattle, and kept separate from the park's other elk herds.

This portends a plan for how animals are to be managed in zoo, not in a national park.

Whether for lack of funds, expertise, or the influence of a politically powerful special interest, the NPS at Point Reyes has proved incapable of managing for the survival of the Tomales Point elk herd. The NPS's failure to manage according to the recommendations of 1998 elk management plan has directed contributed to the loss elk's genetic diversity and ongoing population crashes. The NPS has historically explained the increasing die offs of the Tomales elk herd as "normal." But denying confined wildlife sufficient food and water so as to cause suffering and death is not normal. It's sociopathic. Allocating

scarce public funds and limited staff to the Seashore's commercial dairy and cattle operations is to misapprehend the mission of the National Park Service.

The following should be undertaken by the NPS in its current and future approaches to elk management.

1. Contract with independent outside experts to produce scientifically based, short- and long term management plans for ALL the Seashore's Tule elk (not limited to Tomales Point) with the goal of ensuring the wellbeing of the species and its survival in perpetuity at the Seashore. Include analysis of current and predicted conditions impacting the Tule elk, such as, but not limited to, climate change, drought, fire, fencing, forage, water, genetic diversity, reproduction, disease, mortality, impacts from ranching and the conditions expected by the dissolution of ranching, and other relevant and changing conditions affecting the Seashore and viability of the species.
2. Produce the elk management plan within one year and obtain the necessary resources to implement it.
3. Implement it.

**Correspondence ID:3194**

Correspondence: I've used the seashore since age 5. I learned how to swim there. I strongly support removal of the elk fence. It's inhumane to keep the elk fenced in. The elk are dying due to lack of food and water.

Thank you, Lisa Ridge

**Correspondence ID:3195**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

Thank you for the opportunity to give feedback on the National Park Service's planning process for the Tomales Point area in Point Reyes National Seashore.

I am a resident of Orinda and feel very fortunate to live within visiting distance of Point Reyes. This is a beautiful area that my family and I enjoy, not only for the landscape but for the wildlife and Tule Elk that live there. I am disturbed that the care and protection our National Seashore has been declining and even losing its unique Tule Elk herd as a result of fencing practices which are unsound and of no benefit whatsoever to the public to which the seashore belongs.

It is disturbing to know that the elk are under serious threat through lack of drinking water and proper forage. Furthermore, the fencing prevents them from fleeing approaching fire. There is no justification for allowing the herds to suffer. And certainly we know from experience in 2016 as well as current observed deaths, that this is more than a likely possibility.

Please honor your commitment as guardians of our national parks. Help us protect what is left of our heritage. I strongly urge you to remove the Tomales Point fence.

Thank you,

Kay Sibary

**Correspondence ID:3196**

Correspondence: Please keep PRNS for natural wildlife, tule elk, sea mammals, birds, reptiles, native plants, nature & for us human nature lovers to peacefully enjoy.

Cattle ranches, Dairy ranches, animal ag of any type, slaughter facilities, animal exploitation corporations, have absolutely no reason whatsoever to be polluting & harming the Nation's National Seashore Public Park.

Please consider turning PRNS into a natural & accessible national public park Without millions of pounds of cattle manure, miles of ugly barbed-wire-fence and trampled down polluted National Seashore Public Parkland.

Scott Young

**Correspondence ID:3197**

Correspondence: Respect the elk! Time to wean ourselves off of the dairy and meat products which are destroying our planet!

**Correspondence ID:3198**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent, Kenkel,

We Are All Aware Of The Facts Listed Below. We Know You Are Aware Of All Of The Facts Listed Below. Now Is Time For You To Act In Favor Of The Tule Elk and The Natural World Of Point Reyes.

If You Are Not Able To Represent Our National Park and Elk, In Favor ,Over Private Local Dairies, It Is Time For You To Resign. This Is Now A WORLD Issue!...

Please Remove The Tomales Point Fence So The Tule Elk May Have Access To Life Sustaining Nutrients and Water.

Currently You Are Intentionally Starving The Tule Population To Death! Is This Truly Who YOU Are ??? I Pray Not...

The World Is Watching You, Superintendent Kenkel...

We Thank You In Advance For Your Freeing Of The Tule Elk.

Most Sincerely..

Charlene Kerchevall

May 5, 2022

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

We are thankful for the opportunity to give feedback on the National Park Service's planning process for the Tomales Point area in Point Reyes National Seashore. It is our position that the removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is the only way to accurately address the nutrient and water deficiency and associated Tule Elk population management problems in the Tomales Point area.

The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is neither a radical or new idea. In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

The decline of the Tule Elk Reserve's herd by nearly half over the last few years is not natural self regulation but a direct result of the lack of access to proper nutritional forage and adequate water sources during the increasingly hot summers caused by Climate Change. Because there are



no perennial streams in the Tule Elk Reserve, the herd's population has been cruelly limited to which individuals can survive on limited nutrition and water. This is not a natural carrying capacity.

The Tomales Point herd is still relatively new and has very little genetic diversity compared to other natural herds. The entire Tule Elk subspecies experienced a severe bottleneck effect in the 20th century, and the Tule Elk Reserve fence causes further genetic selection limitations for the herd in the Tomales Point area. The loss of genetic diversity across generations can lead to harsh consequences, such as weakness, illness, disease, death and even extirpation if the National Park Service does not actively increase connectivity between the herds in the park and establish more free roaming herds within the Seashore's boundaries.

A study published last year on the genetic diversity of a Tule Elk metapopulation reintroduced in a similar time frame to the Tomales Point herd found that there was lack of migration among the groups, and almost every group was below the threshold to improve or maintain genetic diversity over the next 25 years (Batter, Bush & Sacks, 2021).

Compared to natural Rocky Mountain Elk populations in Idaho, where there has been considerable gene flow between geographically isolated groups, there was little migration among most groups even decades after introduction (Aycrigg & Garton, 2014).

This suggests that genetically isolated populations, like the Tomales Point herd, will likely decline further due to inbreeding and genetic problems unless they are able to move freely and breed with the other free-roaming populations in Point Reyes National Seashore and the state. A 1987 study conducted in the Tomales Point Reserve backs up this claim. The authors argue that without the ability to increase genetic variation, the Tomales Point herd will suffer from the various problems associated with inbreeding, depression, and genetic drift to the point of extinction (Barrett & Gogan, 1987). Genetic variation in the herd could be improved or at least maintained through natural processes if the herd was able to freely roam throughout the Seashore and breed with the other established free-roaming herds.

Although it is the National Park Service's responsibility to prioritize the natural resources (including the Tule Elk) of the Seashore, it is impossible to ignore agricultural and ranching operations within its boundaries. The National Park Service, among others, often claim that removal of the Tomales Point fence will have significantly harmful impacts on the tenant cattle ranch operations in the Seashore. It is our position that the current population size of the Tule Elk in Point Reyes will have little impact on cattle grazing in the Seashore.

This is backed up by a case study in the Owens Valley in Southern California. A socioeconomic analysis was conducted in 1985 by researchers in the Owens Valley which has had similar competition between various political, agricultural and environmental interests in the last few decades. Additionally, the population size of Tule Elk in the Owens Valley at this time fluctuated roughly between 200 and 300 individuals which is similar to the Tomales Point Herd in Point Reyes today. (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970) Obviously, Owens Valley and Point Reyes are not exactly the same but there are many undeniable similarities especially the central factor of competition between domestic livestock and the native Tule Elk.

The analysis concluded that Tule Elk populations in the Owens Valley could be significantly larger if the state was able to establish more free-roaming herds throughout the region. The social benefits of this would ultimately outweigh the social costs associated with the conflict between Tule Elk and livestock. The authors remark, "The competition between Elk and domestic livestock in the Owens valley is minor even during drought" (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970, p. 26). The Tomales Point fence is in clear conflict with the National Park Service's directive to protect the natural resources of the Seashore for the countless generations to come. This goal can only be

actualized through the removal of the Tomales Point fence, the installation of wildlife corridors to increase connectivity among the Seashore's several Tule Elk herds, and long-term genetic monitoring.

The creation of wildlife corridors specifically is a feasible and realistic goal which would allow the Tomales Point herd to travel to the Southern portions of Point Reyes and alleviate the population density in the North. This was originally proposed in the 1998 Environmental Assessment (Appendix G) as one of the many options to increase connectivity and establish free-roaming herds (National Park Service, 1998). Today, wildlife corridors are still a viable alternative to increase connectivity between the herds in the Southern part of the Seashore, and allow the Tomales Point herd to stabilize its population size and health.

We are living at a critical moment in time as we are faced with unprecedented loss of biodiversity and wild places on a global scale. The public has set aside Point Reyes as a National Seashore--one of a few rapidly vanishing slices of wilderness in the West to be protected and Preserved. The decisions made today will have a profound impact on innumerable generations of visitors and wildlife. What will visitors see in fifty years if you do not act now? A living landscape and mosaic of wildlife, including the iconic Tule Elk--or a wasted landscape ruined by our own hubris and inaction?

It is your and all of our responsibility to ensure that the bugling Tule Elk are not another silenced instrument in the wild orchestra of the planet's natural world. We ask you to do the right thing, and make Point Reyes a National Seashore that lives up to the values it espouses

With Gratitude,  
The ForElk Team

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## Correspondence ID:3199

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaird.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:3200**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:3201**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage and to live like the nomadic animals they are.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native

herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:3202**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They managed that land for thousands of years and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today.

There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk trapped behind the fence at the Tule Elk Reserve. The existing fence should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

Removing the existing fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3203**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

Removing the elk fence is a frugal option, for a Park Service that apparently operates with limited resources.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3204**

Correspondence: I am writing to submit my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tomales Point is a de facto prison or zoo enclosure for several, distinct Tule Elk herds present there. It is a cruel, inhumane, and entirely contrived solution to the real problem: continued beef and cattle ranching across one-third of our Seashore. Please take down the Elk Fence now.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. Tomales Point should be an open area, not fenced in because ranchers use false arguments against Tule Elk. Cattle by the thousands at Point Reyes Seashore cause exponentially more damage than a few hundred Tule Elk. The Park Service should protect and help wildlife and their habitats, not promote private, for-profit ranching. The fence needs to come down, and the ranchers need to stop interfering with wildlife, polluting streams, and hassling Park visitors. The ranchers need to either give up some of their privileges, or get out of the Park. The American people will be watching how you approach what's right for Tomales Point and our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:3205**

Correspondence: I am writing to submit my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tomales Point is a de facto prison or zoo enclosure for several, distinct Tule Elk herds present there. It is a cruel, inhumane, and entirely contrived solution to the real problem: continued beef and cattle ranching across one-third of our Seashore. Please take down the Elk Fence now.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations,

administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. Tomales Point should be an open area, not fenced in because ranchers use false arguments against Tule Elk. Cattle by the thousands at Point Reyes Seashore cause exponentially more damage than a few hundred Tule Elk. The Park Service should protect and help wildlife and their habitats, not promote private, for-profit ranching. The fence needs to come down, and the ranchers need to stop interfering with wildlife, polluting streams, and hassling Park visitors. The ranchers need to either give up some of their privileges, or get out of the Park. The American people will be watching how you approach what's right for Tomales Point and our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:3206**

Correspondence: I want the fence at Tomales Point, which confines tule elk, to be removed. This is a necessary step for the NPS to take for our native elk.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:3207**

Correspondence: Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive grasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:3208**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. If you do only one thing: Remove the godawful eyesore of a fence out there. Would you want to be trapped without enough water or food? You can't say it's a natural process of attrition if you've got them captive. Remove the fence immediately. Create safe and easy wildlife corridors for the elk to move out. Make the ranchers stop harming wildlife and hassling human visitors. The American people in multiple surveys, letters, op-eds, articles, and more want a National Park at Point Reyes. Not a ranch.

**Correspondence ID:3209**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3210**

Correspondence: Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any



environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Removing the elk fence is a frugal option, for a Park Service that apparently operates with limited resources.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:3211**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3212**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3213**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive gasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3214**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:3215**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:3216**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:3217**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service to respectfully request to remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point in order for our iconic Tule elk to roam free in our National Park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3218**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

We are thankful for the opportunity to give feedback on the National Park Service's planning process for the Tomales Point area in Point Reyes National Seashore. It is our position that the removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is the only way to accurately address the nutrient and water deficiency and associated Tule Elk population management problems in the Tomales Point area.

The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is neither a radical or new idea. In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

The decline of the Tule Elk Reserve's herd by nearly half over the last few years is not natural self regulation but a direct result of the lack of access to proper nutritional forage and adequate water sources during the increasingly hot summers caused by Climate Change. Because there are no perennial streams in the Tule Elk Reserve, the herd's population has been cruelly limited to which individuals can survive on limited nutrition and water. This is not a natural carrying capacity.

The Tomales Point herd is still relatively new and has very little genetic diversity compared to other natural herds. The entire Tule Elk subspecies experienced a severe bottleneck effect in the 20th century, and the Tule Elk Reserve fence causes further genetic selection limitations for the herd in the Tomales Point area. The loss of genetic diversity across generations can lead to harsh consequences, such as weakness, illness, disease, death and even extirpation if the National Park Service does not actively increase connectivity between the herds in the park and establish more free roaming herds within the Seashore's boundaries.

A study published last year on the genetic diversity of a Tule Elk metapopulation reintroduced in a similar time frame to the Tomales Point herd found that there was lack of migration among the groups, and almost every group was below the threshold to improve or maintain genetic diversity over the next 25 years (Batter, Bush & Sacks, 2021).

Compared to natural Rocky Mountain Elk populations in Idaho, where there has been considerable gene flow between geographically isolated groups, there was little migration among most groups even decades after introduction (Aycrigg & Garton, 2014).

This suggests that genetically isolated populations, like the Tomales Point herd, will likely decline further due to inbreeding and genetic problems unless they are able to move freely and

breed with the other free-roaming populations in Point Reyes National Seashore and the state. A 1987 study conducted in the Tomales Point Reserve backs up this claim. The authors argue that without the ability to increase genetic variation, the Tomales Point herd will suffer from the various problems associated with inbreeding, depression, and genetic drift to the point of extinction (Barrett & Gogan, 1987). Genetic variation in the herd could be improved or at least maintained through natural processes if the herd was able to freely roam throughout the Seashore and breed with the other established free-roaming herds.

Although it is the National Park Service's responsibility to prioritize the natural resources (including the Tule Elk) of the Seashore, it is impossible to ignore agricultural and ranching operations within its boundaries. The National Park Service, among others, often claim that removal of the Tomales Point fence will have significantly harmful impacts on the tenant cattle ranch operations in the Seashore.

It is our position that the current population size of the Tule Elk in Point Reyes will have little impact on cattle grazing in the Seashore.

This is backed up by a case study in the Owens Valley in Southern California. A socioeconomic analysis was conducted in 1985 by researchers in the Owens Valley which has had similar competition between various political, agricultural and environmental interests in the last few decades. Additionally, the population size of Tule Elk in the Owens Valley at this time fluctuated roughly between 200 and 300 individuals which is similar to the Tomales Point Herd in Point Reyes today. (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970) Obviously, Owens Valley and Point Reyes are not exactly the same but there are many undeniable similarities especially the central factor of competition between domestic livestock and the native Tule Elk.

The analysis concluded that Tule Elk populations in the Owens Valley could be significantly larger if the state was able to establish more free-roaming herds throughout the region. The social benefits of this would ultimately outweigh the social costs associated with the conflict between Tule Elk and livestock. The authors remark, "The competition between Elk and domestic livestock in the Owens valley is minor even during drought" (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970, p. 26). The Tomales Point fence is in clear conflict with the National Park Service's directive to protect the natural resources of the Seashore for the countless generations to come. This goal can only be actualized through the removal of the Tomales Point fence, the installation of wildlife corridors to increase connectivity among the Seashore's several Tule Elk herds, and long-term genetic monitoring.

The creation of wildlife corridors specifically is a feasible and realistic goal which would allow the Tomales Point herd to travel to the Southern portions of Point Reyes and alleviate the population density in the North. This was originally proposed in the 1998 Environmental Assessment (Appendix G) as one of the many options to increase connectivity and establish free-roaming herds (National Park Service, 1998). Today, wildlife corridors are still a viable alternative to increase connectivity between the herds in the Southern part of the Seashore, and allow the Tomales Point herd to stabilize its population size and health.

We are living at a critical moment in time as we are faced with unprecedented loss of biodiversity and wild places on a global scale. The public has set aside Point Reyes as a National Seashore--one of a few rapidly vanishing slices of wilderness in the West to be protected and Preserved. The decisions made today will have a profound impact on innumerable generations of visitors and wildlife. What will visitors see in fifty years if you do not act now? A living

landscape and mosaic of wildlife, including the iconic Tule Elk--or a wasted landscape ruined by our own hubris and inaction?

It is your and all of our responsibility to ensure that the bugling Tule Elk are not another silenced instrument in the wild orchestra of the planet's natural world.

We ask you to do the right thing,  
and make Point Reyes a National Seashore that lives up to the values it espouses

With Gratitude,

Sven Sorge  
(in the name of The ForElk Team)

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**Correspondence ID:3219**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service to respectfully request to remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point in order for our iconic Tule elk to roam free in our National Park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3220**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service to respectfully request to remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point in order for our iconic Tule elk to roam free in our National Park.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

With the public's participation, I expect a greatly improved management plan for Tomales Point and the Tule elk. This is a good way for the Park Service to demonstrate that it can properly manage the public's resources in a way that improves the health and diversity of the park, while improving relations with the general public. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

**Correspondence ID:3221**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

A National Park was created in Point Reyes to protect one of the most scenic and biologically diverse areas in our country. It is being put at risk for the profits of a few private ranchers. This is not acceptable to the people of Marin, the SF Bay Area, and the nation, nor our native wildlife. It is time to remove the Elk fence.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:3222**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.



Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

**Correspondence ID:3223**

Correspondence: The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.

Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.

The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3224**

Correspondence: I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.

The Park Service wastes taxpayer money on the self-fulfilling problems caused by its continued decades-long poor wildlife management choices out on Tomales Point. The already limited funds available should be used to remove the tule elk fence so elk can find sufficient food and water on their own across the Seashore.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:3225**

Correspondence: The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is the only way to accurately address the nutrient and

water deficiency and associated Tule Elk population management problems in the Tomales Point area. The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is neither a radical or new idea. In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

Please consider this plan to save elk.

**Correspondence ID:3226**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3227**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3228**

Correspondence: I am writing in concern for the tule elk in the Tomales Point Area. I am aghast about the treatment of these elk in managed lands around California. I am sincerely asking for the removal of the Tomales Point fence. It's not right to control this legacy species through blatant mistreatment. Please do not prioritize cattle grazing over the thrive of our native elk. Let them roam free. Thank you

**Correspondence ID:3229**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore is to be an area where wildlife are given back their home. Taxpayers and visitors venture out that way to hear the roar of the Pacific Ocean and feel the sun

and wind, and see the land as it was made in its beautiful creation. Taxpayers do not go out to Point Reyes to see miles of wire fences 'keeping Nature in check', and the destructive, exploitive industrial practices of corrupt politically influential parties rule the land.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.”

**Correspondence ID:3230**

Correspondence: “I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

It is unconscionable the National Park Service, who is to protect public lands and natural resources, continues to incur costs for the ugly Elk Fence and supplemental water and nutrients when getting rid of the cattle ranchers and letting Elk roam free in the Park would work free for the rest of time.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:3231**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk

entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3232**

Correspondence: I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:3233**

Correspondence: "I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!"

**Correspondence ID:3234**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources to considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:3235**

Correspondence: "Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

I want to thank Superintendent Craig Kenkel for the opportunity to provide comments on the upcoming plan for our iconic Tule elk. It is of utmost importance for the plan to include numerous alternatives which requires the removal of the unethical fence across Tomales Point. It is time for our native elk to have the ability to freely roam throughout the National Seashore, versus being confined without sufficient sustenance to survive.”

**Correspondence ID:3236**

Correspondence: “Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

The public loves the elk, and are horrified when they learn that due to being penned in, significant numbers have perished due to thirst or lack of sustenance. As seen with the other, free-roaming herds in Pt. Reyes, it seems such needless harm will be eliminated if the herd is allowed to roam at will. If there is conflict between cattle and elk, the Park Service should have ranchers remove their cows, since this is a national park, not a feedlot.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:3237**

Correspondence: “Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton

Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:3238**

Correspondence: As a mother and grandmother, I believe it is our duty to protect and preserve wildlife as precious natural resources held in trust for all future generations. I also feel a deep responsibility as a Steward for all of Earth's Divine Creation. That responsibility will always be more important than politics or profit.

The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3239**



Correspondence: "I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

It is unconscionable the National Park Service, who is to protect public lands and natural resources, continues to incur costs for the ugly Elk Fence and supplemental water and nutrients when getting rid of the cattle ranchers and letting Elk roam free in the Park would work free for the rest of time.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence."

**Correspondence ID:3240**

Correspondence: Thanks for reading this.

I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the welfare ranchers/polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3241**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

An independent, scientific panel provided a recommendation to the NPS, to remove the eight foot fence across Tomales Point, which currently confines the native Tule elk in an environment which does not allow the herds to be large, healthy and free-ranging. Please include numerous alternatives in the upcoming elk management plan that would remove the Tomales Point fence in order for our native wildlife to be free-roaming.

**Correspondence ID:3242**

Correspondence: "Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant wound therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse

the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it's recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.”

**Correspondence ID:3243**

Correspondence: “Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it's recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.”

**Correspondence ID:3244**

Correspondence: “Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:3245**

Correspondence: Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

Dismantling the elk fence will save the NPS money, as it is a less expensive and less invasive option.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:3246**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

Too many park resources are used to cater to the private ranchers. Ranch operations pollute the streams and waterways of the seashore with manure runoff, release methane into the atmosphere from cattle belches and farts, damaging our climate, and have caused the massive spread of invasive plants.

NPS should be putting these resources into restoring the deep-rooted native grasses, wildflowers, mosses and other native plants that cannot survive destructive grazing practices caused by too many cattle on the land.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3247**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service to respectfully request to remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point in order for our iconic Tule elk to roam free in our National Park.

Whatever the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Fence and to provide water towers and mineral supplements--the Tule Elk are dying off because of lack of proper, nutritious, healthy food and forage. The Elk are starving to death and dying of an inadequate supply of water at Tomales Point. The Park Service will never be able to be effective to supplement the Tule Elk food and water supply that is needed. Please do the right thing and take down the elk fence.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3248**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

It's both cheaper and more ecological to let the elk be free, without a fence, than it is to try to manage them unnaturally, with trucked water tanks and salt licks.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. If you do only one thing: Remove the godawful eyesore of a fence out there. Would you want to be trapped without enough water or food? You can't say it's a natural process of attrition if you've got them captive. Remove the fence immediately. Create safe and easy wildlife corridors for the elk to move out. Make the ranchers stop harming wildlife and hassling human visitors. The American people in multiple surveys, letters, op-eds, articles, and more want a National Park at Point Reyes. Not a ranch.

**Correspondence ID:3249**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:3250**

Correspondence: "The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying -

just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

This is critical as all natural existence is at this crisis point in our environment. You know this. Please, please let these elk live unfenced. It is immoral and makes no sense."

**Correspondence ID:3251**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3252**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources to considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:3253**

Correspondence: "Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.



It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.”

**Correspondence ID:3254**

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The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

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**Correspondence ID:3256**

Correspondence: “Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.”

**Correspondence ID:3257**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost

effective, is to stop "managing" the park. Take down the fence, remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:3258**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

I look forward to the next steps in the planning process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this initial phase.

**Correspondence ID:3259**

Correspondence: "I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given

its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:3260**

Correspondence: Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive grasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from

private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:3261**

Correspondence: "Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

Removing the elk fence is a frugal option, for a Park Service that apparently operates with limited resources.

I am extremely disappointed that the National Park Service (NPS) continues to spend our taxpayer money for an unethical fence which traps Elk on Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore. Taxpayers are insisting that the fence come down immediately, that ranchers move out, and wildlife be allowed to live naturally across all of our Park.

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

I want to thank Superintendent Craig Kenkel for the opportunity to provide comments on the upcoming plan for our iconic Tule elk. It is of utmost importance for the plan to include numerous alternatives which requires the removal of the unethical fence across Tomales Point. It is time for our native elk to have the ability to freely roam throughout the National Seashore, versus being confined without sufficient sustenance to survive."

**Correspondence ID:3262**

Correspondence: "Now that the National Park Service is looking at its management of the Tomales Point area of the Pt. Reyes National Seashore, there are a number of items NPS should take into consideration as it updates its plans. Please include consideration of these when scoping your environmental review process. The most critical of these is the permanent removal of the fence that keeps the Tomales Point Tule elk herd imprisoned on land that isn't sufficient to support a captive herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Too many park resources are used to cater to the private ranchers. Ranch operations pollute the streams and waterways of the seashore with manure runoff, release methane into the atmosphere from cattle belches and farts, damaging our climate, and have caused the massive spread of invasive plants. NPS should be putting these resources into restoring the deep-rooted native grasses, wildflowers, mosses and other native plants that cannot survive destructive grazing practices caused by too many cattle on the land.

Removing the Tomales Point elk fence will improve genetic diversity within the elk population.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:3263**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water."

**Correspondence ID:3264**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's

obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3265**

Correspondence: Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

Too many park resources are used to cater to the private ranchers. Ranch operations pollute the streams and waterways of the seashore with manure runoff, release methane into the atmosphere from cattle belches and farts, damaging our climate, and have caused the massive spread of invasive plants. NPS should be putting these resources into restoring the deep-rooted native grasses, wildflowers, mosses and other native plants that cannot survive destructive grazing practices caused by too many cattle on the land.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3266**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution

for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources to considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:3267**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore is to be an area where wildlife are given back their home. Taxpayers and visitors venture out that way to hear the roar of the Pacific Ocean and feel the sun and wind, and see the land as it was made in its beautiful creation. Taxpayers do not go out to Point Reyes to see miles of wire fences 'keeping Nature in check', and the destructive, exploitive industrial practices of corrupt politically influential parties rule the land.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water."

**Correspondence ID:3268**

Correspondence: "I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in



our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3269**

Correspondence: Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

With the public's participation, I expect a greatly improved management plan for Tomales Point and the Tule elk. This is a good way for the Park Service to demonstrate that it can properly manage the public's resources in a way that improves the health and diversity of the park, while improving relations with the general public. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

**Correspondence ID:3270**

Correspondence: "Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land

should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3271**

Correspondence: "You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the

vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3272**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

It is unconscionable the National Park Service, who is to protect public lands and natural resources, continues to incur costs for the ugly Elk Fence and supplemental water and nutrients when getting rid of the cattle ranchers and letting Elk roam free in the Park would work free for the rest of time.

Too many park resources are used to cater to the private ranchers. Ranch operations pollute the streams and waterways of the seashore with manure runoff, release methane into the atmosphere from cattle belches and farts, damaging our climate, and have caused the massive spread of invasive plants. NPS should be putting these resources into restoring the deep-rooted native grasses, wildflowers, mosses and other native plants that cannot survive destructive grazing practices caused by too many cattle on the land.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

Sadly, Point Reyes National Seashore is a landscape dominated by private, for-profit industrial cattle ranching businesses. These private business owners claim stewardship of the lands, waters, and air, and do everything in their power to evade, circumvent, ignore, abuse, and thumb their collective noses at the most basic and sound environmental principles, ethics, practices, and responsibilities. This selfish and unjust behavior should not occur in a National Park. Please take down the Elk fence, and prioritize our native wildlife over private and destructive cattle operations.

**Correspondence ID:3273**

Correspondence: "Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore."

**Correspondence ID:3274**

Correspondence: "Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore."

**Correspondence ID:3275**

Correspondence: "Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore."

**Correspondence ID:3276**

Correspondence: "Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.”

**Correspondence ID:3277**

Correspondence: “Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.”

**Correspondence ID:3278**

Correspondence: “Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.”

**Correspondence ID:3279**

Correspondence: “You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3280**

Correspondence: I am writing to submit my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tomales Point is a de facto prison or zoo enclosure for several, distinct Tule Elk herds present there. It is a cruel, inhumane, and entirely contrived solution to the real problem: continued beef and cattle ranching across one-third of our Seashore. Please take down the Elk Fence now.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that

elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. If you do only one thing: Remove the godawful eyesore of a fence out there. Would you want to be trapped without enough water or food? You can't say it's a natural process of attrition if you've got them captive. Remove the fence immediately. Create safe and easy wildlife corridors for the elk to move out. Make the ranchers stop harming wildlife and hassling human visitors. The American people in multiple surveys, letters, op-eds, articles, and more want a National Park at Point Reyes. Not a ranch.

**Correspondence ID:3281**

Correspondence: "Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point."

**Correspondence ID:3282**

Correspondence: "I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop "managing" the park. Take down the fence, remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence." "I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

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The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.



If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. If you do only one thing: Remove the godawful eyesore of a fence out there. Would you want to be trapped without enough water or food? You can't say it's a natural process of attrition if you've got them captive. Remove the fence immediately. Create safe and easy wildlife corridors for the elk to move out. Make the ranchers stop harming wildlife and hassling human visitors. The American people in multiple surveys, letters, op-eds, articles, and more want a National Park at Point Reyes. Not a ranch.

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**Correspondence ID:3285**

Correspondence: "Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others

do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

The Park Service should be looking at such alternate uses of Tomales Point as creating a wildlife corridor that could run throughout the park, and the removal of the elk pen. The re-establishment of a more balanced ecosystem where the elk thrive could lead to the return of natural predators such as mountain lions, and with our climate in serious trouble, restoration of native grasses, shrubs and trees should be a high priority for the Park Service.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:3286**

Correspondence: "Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results."

**Correspondence ID:3287**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

Why are my taxes paying for a fence to imprison wild elk at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is my money used to pay to ship in water and minerals to supplement insufficient amounts out there? If there is no big fence to surround wild elk, they would just get water and food for free anywhere else they go in the park! Free water and food everywhere already for the Elk! Remove that fence and allow the elk to live a life.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:3288**

Correspondence: "Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. If you do only one thing: Remove the godawful eyesore of a fence out there. Would you want to be trapped without enough water or food? You can't say it's a

natural process of attrition if you've got them captive. Remove the fence immediately. Create safe and easy wildlife corridors for the elk to move out. Make the ranchers stop harming wildlife and hassling human visitors. The American people in multiple surveys, letters, op-eds, articles, and more want a National Park at Point Reyes. Not a ranch.

**Correspondence ID:3289**

Correspondence: I am writing to submit my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tomales Point is a de facto prison or zoo enclosure for several, distinct Tule Elk herds present there. It is a cruel, inhumane, and entirely contrived solution to the real problem: continued beef and cattle ranching across one-third of our Seashore. Please take down the Elk Fence now.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

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**Correspondence ID:3290**

Correspondence: "I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of John's

Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

The public loves the elk, and are horrified when they learn that due to being penned in, significant numbers have perished due to thirst or lack of sustenance. As seen with the other, free-roaming herds in Pt. Reyes, it seems such needless harm will be eliminated if the herd is allowed to roam at will. If there is conflict between cattle and elk, the Park Service should have ranchers remove their cows, since this is a national park, not a feedlot.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.”

**Correspondence ID:3291**

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The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

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Thank you for your attention to my comments. If you do only one thing: Remove the godawful eyesore of a fence out there. Would you want to be trapped without enough water or food? You can't say it's a natural process of attrition if you've got them captive. Remove the fence immediately. Create safe and

easy wildlife corridors for the elk to move out. Make the ranchers stop harming wildlife and hassling human visitors. The American people in multiple surveys, letters, op-eds, articles, and more want a National Park at Point Reyes. Not a ranch.

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With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.”

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**Correspondence ID:3295**

Correspondence: “To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

I want to thank Superintendent Craig Kenkel for the opportunity to provide comments on the upcoming plan for our iconic Tule elk. It is of utmost importance for the plan to include numerous alternatives which requires the removal of the unethical fence across Tomales Point. It is time for our native elk to have the ability to freely roam throughout the National Seashore, versus being confined without sufficient sustenance to survive."

**Correspondence ID:3296**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

If the Park Service is serious about managing Tomales Point, the Tule elk herds, and the rest of the park most effectively, it will follow the science in determining its plan. That means, first and foremost, removing the elk fence, and protecting and restoring the natural habitat that has been destroyed by



cattle and dairy ranching. This is a great opportunity to show enlightened leadership, and I look forward to continuing my engagement in the process.

**Correspondence ID:3297**

Correspondence: "Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval.

We ALL need to work together in order to Protect and SAVE the Wildlife of Pointe Reyes National Seashore! SAVE The TULE ELK!!!

Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results."

**Correspondence ID:3298**

Correspondence: "You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water."

**Correspondence ID:3299**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive gasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

We need a long-range plan the supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:3300**

Correspondence: "I am writing the National Park Service to respectfully request to remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point in order for our iconic Tule elk to roam free in our National Park.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

Park Service money should not be used to trap Elk behind a long tall fence on Tomales Point. Point Reyes Park Service financial resources should be used to get rid of ranchers who pump raw sewage into park lands and waters, build and hide dumps, and prevent public access to the park. Please prioritize native Tule elk over destructive cattle operations on our public land.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few."

**Correspondence ID:3301**

Correspondence: "I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

It's both cheaper and more ecological to let the elk be free, without a fence, than it is to try to manage them unnaturally, with trucked water tanks and salt licks.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

A National Park was created in Point Reyes to protect one of the most scenic and biologically diverse areas in our country. It is being put at risk for the profits of a few private ranchers. This is not acceptable to the people of Marin, the SF Bay Area, and the nation, nor our native wildlife. It is time to remove the Elk fence.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point."

**Correspondence ID:3302**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

Removing the elk fence is a frugal option, for a Park Service that apparently operates with limited resources.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:3303**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.”

**Correspondence ID:3304**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

The Park Service wastes taxpayer money on the self-fulfilling problems caused by its continued decades-long poor wildlife management choices out on Tomales Point. The already limited funds available should be used to remove the tule elk fence so elk can find sufficient food and water on their own across the Seashore.

Removing the Tomales Point elk fence will improve genetic diversity within the elk population.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:3305**

Correspondence: “I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.”

**Correspondence ID:3306**

Correspondence: “Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.”

**Correspondence ID:3307**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Why are my taxes paying for a fence to imprison wild elk at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is my money used to pay to ship in water and minerals to supplement insufficient amounts out there? If there is no big fence to surround wild elk, they would just get water and food for free anywhere else they go in the park! Free water and food everywhere already for the Elk! Remove that fence and allow the elk to live a life.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3308**

Correspondence: "I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!"

**Correspondence ID:3309**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:3310**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point."

**Correspondence ID:3311**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.



The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:3312**

Correspondence: "I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!"

**Correspondence ID:3313**

Correspondence: "I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

It is unconscionable the National Park Service, who is to protect public lands and natural resources, continues to incur costs for the ugly Elk Fence and supplemental water and nutrients when getting rid of the cattle ranchers and letting Elk roam free in the Park would work free for the rest of time.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.”

**Correspondence ID:3314**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Why are my taxes paying for a fence to imprison wild elk at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is my money used to pay to ship in water and minerals to supplement insufficient amounts out there? If there is no big fence to surround wild elk, they would just get water and food for free anywhere else they go in the park! Free water and food everywhere already for the Elk! Remove that fence and allow the elk to live a life.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3315**

Correspondence: "Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!"

**Correspondence ID:3316**

Correspondence: "I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.”

**Correspondence ID:3317**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

What are the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Reserve fence, and to provide water and mineral supplements for the Tule Elk? What is the rationale for these expenditures, when removal of the fenceline across Tomales Point would allow Tule Elk to roam for free for water and forage.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3318**

Correspondence: “Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native

herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed."

**Correspondence ID:3319**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

What are the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Reserve fence, and to provide water and mineral supplements for the Tule Elk? What is the rationale for these expenditures, when removal of the fenceline across Tomales Point would allow Tule Elk to roam for free for water and forage.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3320**

Correspondence: "To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points

are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive gasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.”

**Correspondence ID:3321**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

What are the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Reserve fence, and to provide water and mineral supplements for the Tule Elk? What is the rationale for these expenditures, when removal of the fenceline across Tomales Point would allow Tule Elk to roam for free for water and forage.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given

its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

### **Correspondence ID:3322**

Correspondence: "To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive gasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that

does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk."

**Correspondence ID:3323**

Correspondence: "The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

This is critical as all natural existence is at this crisis point in our environment. You know this. Please, please let these elk live unfenced. It is immoral and makes no sense."

**Correspondence ID:3324**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Why are my taxes paying for a fence to imprison wild elk at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is my money used to pay to ship in water and minerals to supplement insufficient amounts out there? If there is no big fence to surround wild elk, they would just get water and food for free anywhere else they go in the park! Free water and food everywhere already for the Elk! Remove that fence and allow the elk to live a life.



Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3325**

Correspondence: "To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive grasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that

does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.”

**Correspondence ID:3326**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Why are my taxes paying for a fence to imprison wild elk at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is my money used to pay to ship in water and minerals to supplement insufficient amounts out there? If there is no big fence to surround wild elk, they would just get water and food for free anywhere else they go in the park! Free water and food everywhere already for the Elk! Remove that fence and allow the elk to live a life.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

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of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive gasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

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I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk."

#### **Correspondence ID:3328**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Why are my taxes paying for a fence to imprison wild elk at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is my money used to pay to ship in water and minerals to supplement insufficient amounts out there? If there is no big fence to surround wild elk, they would just get water and food for free anywhere else they go in the park! Free water and food everywhere already for the Elk! Remove that fence and allow the elk to live a life.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to

stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3329**

Correspondence: "Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

Thanks so much for your serious attention to my comments. I think the main thing for the Tomales Point scoping plan should be removal of that horrible fence out there. The elk need to roam so they can find water and food. Native plant restoration would be a great starting point to let the American people know you're listening to them (finally!). Please include the general public, and not the ranchers, in your planning and communications."

**Correspondence ID:3330**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Why are my taxes paying for a fence to imprison wild elk at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is my money used to pay to ship in water and minerals to supplement insufficient amounts out there? If there is no big fence to surround wild elk, they would just get water and food for free anywhere else they go in the park! Free water and food everywhere already for the Elk! Remove that fence and allow the elk to live a life.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3331**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3332**

Correspondence: "Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.”

### **Correspondence ID:3333**

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Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

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plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3334**

Correspondence: "You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this."

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Correspondence: "You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

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**Correspondence ID:3337**

Correspondence: "The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park



that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans."

**Correspondence ID:3338**

Correspondence: "You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

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**Correspondence ID:3339**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to submit a comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I advocate to prioritize the biodiversity of the Seashore's natural resources and allow the Tule Elk to inhabit the area unimpaired by removing the Tomales Point elk fence.

Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures. These natural solutions are better in the long term for the public and for the ecosystem as a whole.

**Correspondence ID:3340**

Correspondence: "You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

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**Correspondence ID:3341**

Correspondence: "I am commenting on the process of creating a plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Park. I would hope the National Park Service would not address this area as somehow separate from the park itself but instead view the park in its entirety. As it stands today Tomales Point is more of a zoo within what is suppose to be a park but is in fact seen as private ranch land. And at this particular zoo the wild animals are fenced and the park service personnel let the animals die due to drought and lack of forage. Stop the insanity and take down the elk fence.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

I am extremely disappointed that the National Park Service (NPS) continues to spend our taxpayer money for an unethical fence which traps Elk on Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Taxpayers are insisting that the fence come down immediately, that ranchers move out, and wildlife be allowed to live naturally across all of our Park.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Thanks so much for your serious attention to my comments. I think the main thing for the Tomales Point scoping plan should be removal of that horrible fence out there. The elk need to roam so they can find water and food. Native plant restoration would be a great starting point to let the American people know you're listening to them (finally!). Please include the general public, and not the ranchers, in your planning and communications.”

**Correspondence ID:3342**

Correspondence: I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.

The Park Service wastes taxpayer money on the self-fulfilling problems caused by its continued decades-long poor wildlife management choices out on Tomales Point. The already limited funds available should be used to remove the tule elk fence so elk can find sufficient food and water on their own across the Seashore.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:3343**

Correspondence: We want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3344**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

If the Park Service is serious about managing Tomales Point, the Tule elk herds, and the rest of the park most effectively, it will follow the science in determining its plan. That means, first and foremost, removing the elk fence, and protecting and restoring the natural habitat that has been destroyed by cattle and dairy ranching. This is a great opportunity to show enlightened leadership, and I look forward to continuing my engagement in the process.

**Correspondence ID:3345**

Correspondence: "Why is Tomales Point being treated as if it is separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? It should be interwoven in the rest of the seashore and its ecosystem. A visitor should be able to hike the entire park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences .

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service personnel need not waste time and money bringing water to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbott 's lagoon and other sources down valley.

Ranching interests have claimed that elk damage their facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the cost of any verifiable damage. Also, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from cattle because the elk would eat too much of the forage the cows need. However, elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of what cows weigh, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. When scoping the plan update, NPS should compare the impact of elk foraging to cattle grazing, so they can develop a plan consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate to preserve and protect resources.

The elk fence should be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore: that was the intention of establishing this National Park area to begin with.

Thank you for your consideration.”

**Correspondence ID:3346**

Correspondence: We want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

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**Correspondence ID:3347**

Correspondence: The confined Tule Elk are dying at astronomical rates each year, and the Park Service just keeps them penned up in a cage to suffer and die at Tomales Point. Please stop this. The Tule Elk Reserve fence needs to come down now. If you want a reserve/preserve, remove the 8-foot fence, put in a small wildlife-friendly fence, and turn the land into a Native Coastal Prairie Reserve.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:3348**

Correspondence: "I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive grasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore."

**Correspondence ID:3349**

Correspondence: "The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Point Reyes National Seashore has finite resources and maintaining an 8-foot fence at Tomales Point is not a good use of taxpayer funds.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation."

**Correspondence ID:3350**

Correspondence: Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

Whether in California or elsewhere globally, climate change impacts nearly every aspect of our current and future environmental conditions. The Tule Elk fence across Tomales Point must be taken down in recognition of this. As conditions are now and for the foreseeable future with seasonal warming, megadrought, desertification, water scarcity, the native Tule Elk will have a better chance of surviving the challenges of this climate crisis, instead of being confined without sufficient water, forage and minerals.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:3351**

Correspondence: We want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3352**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

Sadly, Point Reyes National Seashore is a landscape dominated by private, for-profit industrial cattle ranching businesses. These private business owners claim stewardship of the lands, waters, and air, and do everything in their power to evade, circumvent, ignore, abuse, and thumb their collective noses at the most basic and sound environmental principles, ethics, practices, and responsibilities. This selfish and unjust behavior should not occur in a National Park. Please take down the Elk fence, and prioritize our native wildlife over private and destructive cattle operations.

**Correspondence ID:3353**



Correspondence: We want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

#### **Correspondence ID:3354**

Correspondence: "I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

When it comes to Tomales Point our National Park has failed us, the taxpayer, and rightful owners of the land. We should not be paying for the cost of installing and maintaining a fence so wild animals can't roam and forage for food and water in areas preserved for private cattle and dairy ranchers within a National Park.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence."

**Correspondence ID:3355**

Correspondence: We want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3356**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

Sadly, Point Reyes National Seashore is a landscape dominated by private, for-profit industrial cattle ranching businesses. These private business owners claim stewardship of the lands, waters, and air, and do everything in their power to evade, circumvent, ignore, abuse, and thumb their collective noses at the most basic and sound environmental principles, ethics, practices, and responsibilities. This selfish and unjust behavior should not occur in a National Park. Please take down the Elk fence, and prioritize our native wildlife over private and destructive cattle operations.

**Correspondence ID:3357**

Correspondence: We want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3358**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

What are the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Reserve fence, and to provide water and mineral supplements for the Tule Elk? What is the rationale for these expenditures, when removal of the fenceline across Tomales Point would allow Tule Elk to roam for free for water and forage.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to

roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3359**

Correspondence: "I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

When it comes to Tomales Point our National Park has failed us, the taxpayer, and rightful owners of the land. We should not be paying for the cost of installing and maintaining a fence so wild animals can't roam and forage for food and water in areas preserved for private cattle and dairy ranchers within a National Park.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence."

**Correspondence ID:3360**

Correspondence: We want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3361**

Correspondence: Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

The Park Service should be looking at such alternate uses of Tomales Point as creating a wildlife corridor that could run throughout the park, and the removal of the elk pen. The re-establishment of a more balanced ecosystem where the elk thrive could lead to the return of natural predators such as mountain lions, and with our climate in serious trouble, restoration of native grasses, shrubs and trees should be a high priority for the Park Service.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3362**

Correspondence: We want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate,

and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3363**

Correspondence: The following are comments addressing the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service should not be creating a separate plan for this area of the park, or any other area of the park as it should be included in the Park's General Management Plan and the park should be managed as one whole unit. The complex ecosystem within the park should be treated as one entity, and the health of that entire system is the responsibility of the park service. To do otherwise can only be seen as irresponsible and cruel.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3364**

Correspondence: We want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the

National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3365**

Correspondence: "Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

Dismantling the elk fence will save the NPS money, as it is a less expensive and less invasive option.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

Thanks so much for your serious attention to my comments. I think the main thing for the Tomales Point scoping plan should be removal of that horrible fence out there. The elk need to roam so they can find water and food. Native plant restoration would be a great starting point to let the American people know you're listening to them (finally!). Please include the general public, and not the ranchers, in your planning and communications."

**Correspondence ID:3366**

Correspondence: I am writing to submit my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tomales Point is a de facto prison or zoo enclosure for several, distinct Tule Elk herds present there. It is a cruel, inhumane, and entirely contrived solution to the real problem: continued beef and cattle ranching across one-third of our Seashore. Please take down the Elk Fence now.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:3367**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any

environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore is to be an area where wildlife are given back their home. Taxpayers and visitors venture out that way to hear the roar of the Pacific Ocean and feel the sun and wind, and see the land as it was made in its beautiful creation. Taxpayers do not go out to Point Reyes to see miles of wire fences 'keeping Nature in check', and the destructive, exploitive industrial practices of corrupt politically influential parties rule the land.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water."

**Correspondence ID:3368**

Correspondence: I am writing to submit my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tomales Point is a de facto prison or zoo enclosure for several, distinct Tule Elk herds present there. It is a cruel, inhumane, and entirely contrived solution to the real problem: continued beef and cattle ranching across one-third of our Seashore. Please take down the Elk Fence now.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:3369**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.



Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3370**

Correspondence: "Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

It is unconscionable the National Park Service, who is to protect public lands and natural resources, continues to incur costs for the ugly Elk Fence and supplemental water and nutrients when getting rid of the cattle ranchers and letting Elk roam free in the Park would work free for the rest of time.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this."

**Correspondence ID:3371**

Correspondence: The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Point Reyes National Seashore has finite resources and maintaining an 8-foot fence at Tomales Point is not a good use of taxpayer funds.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3372**

Correspondence: "Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

It is unconscionable the National Park Service, who is to protect public lands and natural resources, continues to incur costs for the ugly Elk Fence and supplemental water and nutrients when getting rid of the cattle ranchers and letting Elk roam free in the Park would work free for the rest of time.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this."

**Correspondence ID:3373**

Correspondence: "Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3374**

Correspondence: Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3375**

Correspondence: "Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park

that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.”

**Correspondence ID:3376**

Correspondence: Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3377**

Correspondence: “The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.”

**Correspondence ID:3378**

Correspondence: “Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.”

**Correspondence ID:3379**

Correspondence: “Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.”

**Correspondence ID:3380**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Why are my taxes paying for a fence to imprison wild elk at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is my money used to pay to ship in water and minerals to supplement insufficient amounts out there? If there is no big fence to surround wild elk, they would just get water and food for free anywhere else they go in the park! Free water and food everywhere already for the Elk! Remove that fence and allow the elk to live a life.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3381**

Correspondence: “You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk

fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.”

**Correspondence ID:3382**

Correspondence: “Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.”

**Correspondence ID:3383**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3384**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.



Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.”

**Correspondence ID:3385**

Correspondence: “I am writing to submit my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tomales Point is a de facto prison or zoo enclosure for several, distinct Tule Elk herds present there. It is a cruel, inhumane, and entirely contrived solution to the real problem: continued beef and cattle ranching across one-third of our Seashore. Please take down the Elk Fence now.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.”

**Correspondence ID:3386**

Correspondence: The following are comments addressing the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service should not be creating a separate plan for this area of the park, or any other area of the park as it should be included in the Park's General Management Plan and the park should be managed as one whole unit. The complex ecosystem within the park should be treated as one entity, and the health of that entire system is the responsibility of the park service. To do otherwise can only be seen as irresponsible and cruel.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3387**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed."

**Correspondence ID:3388**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed."

**Correspondence ID:3389**

Correspondence: "I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit

not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.”

**Correspondence ID:3390**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3391**

Correspondence: “Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.”

**Correspondence ID:3392**

Correspondence: “I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

If the Park Service is serious about managing Tomales Point, the Tule elk herds, and the rest of the park most effectively, it will follow the science in determining its plan. That means, first and foremost,

removing the elk fence, and protecting and restoring the natural habitat that has been destroyed by cattle and dairy ranching. This is a great opportunity to show enlightened leadership, and I look forward to continuing my engagement in the process.”

**Correspondence ID:3393**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3394**

Correspondence: “Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well.

More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed."

**Correspondence ID:3395**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3396**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

Whatever the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Fence and to provide water towers and mineral supplements--the Tule Elk are dying off because of lack of proper, nutritious, healthy food and forage.

The Elk are starving to death and dying of an inadequate supply of water at Tomales Point. The Park Service will never be able to be effective to supplement the Tule Elk food and water supply that is needed. Please do the right thing and take down the elk fence.

The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.”

**Correspondence ID:3397**

Correspondence: “Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.”

**Correspondence ID:3398**



Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3399**

Correspondence: "I want the fence at Tomales Point, which confines tule elk, to be removed. This is a necessary step for the NPS to take for our native elk.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore is to be an area where wildlife are given back their home. Taxpayers and visitors venture out that way to hear the roar of the Pacific Ocean and feel the sun and wind, and see the land as it was made in its beautiful creation. Taxpayers do not go out to Point Reyes to see miles of wire fences 'keeping Nature in check', and the destructive, exploitive industrial practices of corrupt politically influential parties rule the land.

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place."

**Correspondence ID:3400**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3401**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

**Correspondence ID:3402**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

What are the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Reserve fence, and to provide water and mineral supplements for the Tule Elk? What is the rationale for these expenditures, when removal of the fenceline across Tomales Point would allow Tule Elk to roam for free for water and forage.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3403**

Correspondence: ""Tomales Point"" is a, stunningly, precious place and, our family appreciates the chance to provide input for your, planning, process! Biodiversity MUST be prioritized over, private, cattle operations in ""Point Reyes National Seashore""!

It is beyond the time to end the mis-management of our, native, Tule elk in “Point Reyes National Seashore”! Please follow the, scientific, advice, provided in 1993, and, remove the fence across “Tomales Point”! It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water!

The National Park Service is accepting public comments for the, management, plan of “Tomales Point” in “Point Reyes National Seashore”, where wildlife do NOT have enough access to food, or, water! Even though “Point Reyes National Seashore” is the, only, “National Park”, on the West Coast, and, is one of the, most, bio-diverse regions in the country, your, land, management revolves around protecting, private, ranching profits, and, NOT the well-being of the ecosystem! The, native, Tule elk are confined to, limited, space behind a fence, and, the NPS MUST hear from us, and, the rest of the, environmental, community to change this!

Private ranching operations graze, freely, across the Park's, public, lands, which belong to all of us, while the Tule elk cannot! Our family members are telling the NPS to free Tule elk, and, to protect “Point Reyes” for, native, wildlife!

We keep reading that the Park Service does NOT care about the Elk out on “Tomales Point” at “Point Reyes National Seashore”! What is going on? Why does the Park Service spend, taxpayer, money for a fence, and, water, and, mineral, supplements when it is cheaper to just let the Elk go live free, and, wild? Take down the fence, and, STOP wasting our money for cruelty on, innocent, native, wildlife!

It is requested to STOP using, taxpayers', money to pay for the, visual, blight of the “Elk Fence” out on Tomales Point”! Please STOP trucking in, water, and minerals, and, whatever else, to try to sustain a, native, herd in a, non-native, environment! Take down the fence, and, use our, taxpayers', money to, actually, turn the “Seashore” into a “National Park” that it deserves! Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and, public, access MUST be the, primary, forces the Park Service supports - NOT a, small, group of, politically-connected, ranchers, and, their, hoofed, methane-operations!

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the “Tomales Point” scoping plan MUST include, complete, removal of the “Tule Elk Reserve” fence combined with an, entirely, new, and, enforced, ranch succession plan! It MUST commit to ceasing, continued, ranch lands succession of, leased, parcels to ranchers, and, restoration of, native, coastal prairie, and, wildlife, habitat! It MUST emphasize the roles of Indigenous Coast Miwok's, ecological, and, scientific, cultural knowledge, and, practices, and, the importance of wildlife, and, natural, forces in the, restoration, process!”

#### **Correspondence ID:3404**

Correspondence: “Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications,

negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

**Correspondence ID:3405**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

**Correspondence ID:3406**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3407**

Correspondence: "Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter."

**Correspondence ID:3408**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

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**Correspondence ID:3409**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

**Correspondence ID:3410**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any

environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

**Correspondence ID:3411**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3412**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any



environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

**Correspondence ID:3413**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3414**

Correspondence: "I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.”

**Correspondence ID:3415**

Correspondence: “Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.”

**Correspondence ID:3416**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3417**

Correspondence: "Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

The Park Service wastes taxpayer money on the self-fulfilling problems caused by its continued decades-long poor wildlife management choices out on Tomales Point. The already limited funds available should be used to remove the tule elk fence so elk can find sufficient food and water on their own across the Seashore.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS."

**Correspondence ID:3418**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

I look forward to the next steps in the planning process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this initial phase.

**Correspondence ID:3419**

Correspondence: "Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk."

**Correspondence ID:3420**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

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Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

I look forward to the next steps in the planning process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this initial phase.

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Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.”

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How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

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Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

I look forward to the next steps in the planning process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this initial phase.

**Correspondence ID:3423**

Correspondence: I am writing to submit my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tomales Point is a de facto prison or zoo enclosure for several, distinct Tule Elk herds present there. It is a cruel, inhumane, and entirely contrived solution to the real problem: continued beef and cattle ranching across one-third of our Seashore. Please take down the Elk Fence now.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3424**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

**Correspondence ID:3425**

Correspondence: "I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and

other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.”

**Correspondence ID:3426**

Correspondence: “Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

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Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.”

**Correspondence ID:3427**

Correspondence: I am writing to submit my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Tomales Point is a de facto prison or zoo enclosure for several, distinct Tule Elk herds present there. It is a cruel, inhumane, and entirely contrived solution to the real problem:



continued beef and cattle ranching across one-third of our Seashore. Please take down the Elk Fence now.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3428**

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**Correspondence ID:3429**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

**Correspondence ID:3430**

Correspondence: "Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

When it comes to Tomales Point our National Park has failed us, the taxpayer, and rightful owners of the land. We should not be paying for the cost of installing and maintaining a fence so wild animals can't roam and forage for food and water in areas preserved for private cattle and dairy ranchers within a National Park.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources to considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park.”

**Correspondence ID:3431**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3432**

Correspondence: “I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop "managing" the park. Take down the fence, remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.”

**Correspondence ID:3433**

Correspondence: “Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Dismantling the elk fence will save the NPS money, as it is a less expensive and less invasive option.

The Park Service should be looking at such alternate uses of Tomales Point as creating a wildlife corridor that could run throughout the park, and the removal of the elk pen. The re-establishment of a more balanced ecosystem where the elk thrive could lead to the return of natural predators such as mountain lions, and with our climate in serious trouble, restoration of native grasses, shrubs and trees should be a high priority for the Park Service.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.”

**Correspondence ID:3434**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3435**

Correspondence: "I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop "managing" the park. Take down the fence, remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence."

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**Correspondence ID:3438**

Correspondence: "The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

What are the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Reserve fence, and to provide water and mineral supplements for the Tule Elk? What is the rationale for these expenditures, when removal of the fence line across Tomales Point would allow Tule Elk to roam for free for water and forage.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore the 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources into considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park."

**Correspondence ID:3439**

Correspondence: "I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

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**Correspondence ID:3442**

Correspondence: “Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.”

**Correspondence ID:3443**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.



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The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

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Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.”

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**Correspondence ID:3450**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:3451**

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**Correspondence ID:3452**

Correspondence: “Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

Financial resources should not be spent on an Elk enclosure at Tomales Point, nor on trucking in water and minerals all the way out there, when the Elk are dying of thirst, malnutrition, and starvation. Financial resources should be spent to free the Elk so they can live a natural and healthy life across the entire Park.

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.”

**Correspondence ID:3453**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

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Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

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Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

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Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

The National Park Service was created to conserve the scenery and leave our public lands unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Based on the NPS' mission, the NPS must remove the unnatural eight foot fence, for the sake of our native wildlife and for the enjoyment of future generations.

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Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

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**Correspondence ID:3502**

Correspondence: Fenced Elk: We strongly support the elk remain in the fenced acreage within predetermined numbers in order to have a healthy herd. There aren't enough mountain lions to reduce the herd. The park will need to continue to maintain and monitor the fencing for any damage caused by rot or strong winds or by the anti-ranching activists who want the elk to be free-range.

We support all the other 4 listed issues the park intends to address as part of the up dating planning effort.

The historic Pierce Ranch is very informative and educational to visitors from all over the world and for locals. Excellent interpretative signs and well-maintained buildings in a harsh climate. We suggest a 2nd picnic table or bench within the ranch area since we have observed people bringing a picnic lunch while others want to sit and enjoy the beauty and silence around them. The ranch and all of Pt. Reyes NS is a very special place for all the diverse visitors and for us locals.

Thank you.

Susan and John Van Der Wal

**Correspondence ID:3503**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Dismantling the elk fence will save the NPS money, as it is a less expensive and less invasive option.

The Park Service should be looking at such alternate uses of Tomales Point as creating a wildlife corridor that could run throughout the park, and the removal of the elk pen. The re-establishment of a more balanced ecosystem where the elk thrive could lead to the return of natural predators such as mountain lions, and with our climate in serious trouble, restoration of native grasses, shrubs and trees should be a high priority for the Park Service.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

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Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into

a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.”

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We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's

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**Correspondence ID:3519**

Correspondence: "I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

The National Park Service is spending taxpayer money for a foolish Elk fence on Tomales Point. The leased ranching operations cause way more environmental harm and damage with thousands of cattle everywhere in the Park. The Park Service should spend money to educate the public about the damage cattle and ranchers cause on what should be a true National Park.

Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence."

**Correspondence ID:3520**

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The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3523**

Correspondence: v

**Correspondence ID:3524**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly



outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

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Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

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The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

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**Correspondence ID:3527**

Correspondence: "Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations. In addition, it must include immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.”

**Correspondence ID:3528**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

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**Correspondence ID:3531**

Correspondence: "I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes."

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Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

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We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

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The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

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This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:3534**

Correspondence: "I am commenting on the process of creating a plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Park. I would hope the National Park Service would not address this area as somehow separate from the park itself but instead view the park in its entirety. As it stands today Tomales Point is more of a zoo within what is suppose to be a park but is in fact seen as private ranch land. And at this particular zoo the wild animals are fenced and the park service personnel let the animals die due to drought and lack of forage. Stop the insanity and take down the elk fence.

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Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

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**Correspondence ID:3538**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands.

Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:3539**

Correspondence: "Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

Sadly, Point Reyes National Seashore is a landscape dominated by private, for-profit industrial cattle ranching businesses. These private business owners claim stewardship of the lands, waters, and air, and do everything in their power to evade, circumvent, ignore, abuse, and thumb their collective noses at the most basic and sound environmental principles, ethics, practices, and responsibilities. This selfish and unjust behavior should not occur in a National Park. Please take down the Elk fence, and prioritize our native wildlife over private and destructive cattle operations."

**Correspondence ID:3540**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:3541**

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Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:3542**

Correspondence: "Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

Dismantling the elk fence will save the NPS money, as it is a less expensive and less invasive option.

The National Park Service is spending taxpayer money for a foolish Elk fence on Tomales Point. The leased ranching operations cause way more environmental harm and damage with thousands of cattle

everywhere in the Park. The Park Service should spend money to educate the public about the damage cattle and ranchers cause on what should be a true National Park.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed."

### **Correspondence ID:3543**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3544**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

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Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

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The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3546**

Correspondence: "You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

It is unconscionable the National Park Service, who is to protect public lands and natural resources, continues to incur costs for the ugly Elk Fence and supplemental water and nutrients when getting rid of the cattle ranchers and letting Elk roam free in the Park would work free for the rest of time.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS."

**Correspondence ID:3547**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

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The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3548**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

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**Correspondence ID:3550**

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The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip



Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:3551**

Correspondence: "I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action."

**Correspondence ID:3552**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

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The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

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How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

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Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

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It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

The National Park Service is spending taxpayer money for a foolish Elk fence on Tomales Point. The leased ranching operations cause way more environmental harm and damage with thousands of cattle everywhere in the Park. The Park Service should spend money to educate the public about the damage cattle and ranchers cause on what should be a true National Park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The National Park Service was created to conserve the scenery and leave our public lands unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Based on the NPS' mission, the NPS must remove the unnatural eight foot fence, for the sake of our native wildlife and for the enjoyment of future generations."

**Correspondence ID:3556**

Correspondence: "I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

The National Park Service is spending taxpayer money for a foolish Elk fence on Tomales Point. The leased ranching operations cause way more environmental harm and damage with thousands of cattle everywhere in the Park. The Park Service should spend money to educate the public about the damage cattle and ranchers cause on what should be a true National Park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The National Park Service was created to conserve the scenery and leave our public lands unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Based on the NPS' mission, the NPS must remove the unnatural eight foot fence, for the sake of our native wildlife and for the enjoyment of future generations."

**Correspondence ID:3557**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:3558**

Correspondence: "The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative

ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.”

**Correspondence ID:3559**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3560**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications,

negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:3561**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore is to be an area where wildlife are given back their home. Taxpayers and visitors venture out that way to hear the roar of the Pacific Ocean and feel the sun and wind, and see the land as it was made in its beautiful creation. Taxpayers do not go out to Point Reyes to see miles of wire fences 'keeping Nature in check', and the destructive, exploitive industrial practices of corrupt politically influential parties rule the land.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water."

**Correspondence ID:3562**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And

the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

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The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

### **Correspondence ID:3563**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

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Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to



cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:3564**

Correspondence: "Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore is to be an area where wildlife are given back their home. Taxpayers and visitors venture out that way to hear the roar of the Pacific Ocean and feel the sun and wind, and see the land as it was made in its beautiful creation. Taxpayers do not go out to Point Reyes to see miles of wire fences 'keeping Nature in check', and the destructive, exploitive industrial practices of corrupt politically influential parties rule the land.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water."

**Correspondence ID:3565**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

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We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

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The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3566**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:3567**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

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**Correspondence ID:3568**

Correspondence: "I am commenting on the process of creating a plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Park. I would hope the National Park Service would not address this area as somehow separate from the park itself but instead view the park in its entirety. As it stands today Tomales Point is more of a zoo within what is suppose to be a park but is in fact seen as private ranch land. And at this particular zoo the wild animals are fenced and the park service personnel let the animals die due to drought and lack of forage. Stop the insanity and take down the elk fence.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and

natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.”

**Correspondence ID:3569**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

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The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3570**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:3571**

Correspondence: "Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven

science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.”

**Correspondence ID:3572**

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**Correspondence ID:3573**

Correspondence: “Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Dismantling the elk fence will save the NPS money, as it is a less expensive and less invasive option.

The Park Service should be looking at such alternate uses of Tomales Point as creating a wildlife corridor that could run throughout the park, and the removal of the elk pen. The re-establishment of a more balanced ecosystem where the elk thrive could lead to the return of natural predators such as mountain lions, and with our climate in serious trouble, restoration of native grasses, shrubs and trees should be a high priority for the Park Service.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.”

**Correspondence ID:3574**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer and I want you to remove the fence confining the tule elk.

It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat. They should never be unnaturally confined behind a fence. Especially when this blocks the elk from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop over- "managing" the park. Take down the fence and remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan the prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will give the Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mating. This will improve the general health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my public comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore with you. Your duty is to let spirit of wilderness preservation and protection guide your choices. You owe this to the huge majority of Americans who insist that this iconic place be free from private, for-profit, commercial business interests!

We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:3575**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:3576**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer and I want you to remove the fence confining the tule elk.

It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat. They should never be unnaturally confined behind a fence. Especially when this blocks the elk from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop over- "managing" the park. Take down the fence and remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan the prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will give the Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mating. This will improve the general health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my public comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore with you. Your duty is to let spirit of wilderness preservation and protection guide your choices. You owe this to the huge majority of Americans who insist that this iconic place be free from private, for-profit, commercial business interests!

We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

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**Correspondence ID:3578**

Correspondence: "I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan



for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore."

**Correspondence ID:3579**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

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**Correspondence ID:3583**

Correspondence: "I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant wound therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few."

**Correspondence ID:3584**

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We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

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**Correspondence ID:3589**

Correspondence: I am writing to share my comments on the National Park Services intended update of the management plan for the Tule elk in the Tule elk reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore.

To start, I question why there would be a separate management plan for just one of the 3 elk herds in the National Park. The elk are a whole in this National Park and should be managed through the general management plan that is required to be in place for this National Park unit. Excluding this area and these elk from the GMPA process recently performed by the NPS is questionable. The NPS should consider an approach to the elk management as a whole and not have separate management plans for a subset of elk.

The tule elk have been behind an 8ft fence for decades, their population halving twice in the recent past. This is unethical and a disgrace to proper wildlife management. The NPS has repeatedly said these are natural ebbs and flows in population, but that can not be said when the animals are fenced out of plentiful water and essential minerals needed for their survival. The free ranging herds do not suffer these ebbs and flows and the Tomales Point herd would likely not have these without the fence. The fence should be removed and data should be collected on this herd to understand the effect of the fence on the herd, their health and populations.

The droughts the area has been under should clearly show that there is not ample water to sustain the elk population behind the fence. The NPS has supported this by placing water troughs in the elk reserve this past year. They have also confirmed the lack of selenium and copper in the reserve and noted that after a necropsied elk showed some of the lowest levels of these essential minerals ever recorded after its death.

How the National Park Service can justify the elk population falling by 50% while cows on the other side of the fence have access to perennial streams and ponds is repugnant. The NPS is legally required to protect the elk and by allowing them to perish painful deaths behind this fence is a violation of law and of the public trust.

It is time for the National Park Service to take responsibility for its mistakes and to prioritize the protection of the elk over special interests of the ranch leases. It is time to remove the barrier and allow a free roaming Tomales Point elk population in this National Park.

**Correspondence ID:3590**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

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Thank you for the opportunity to share my public comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore with you. Your duty is to let spirit of wilderness preservation and protection guide your choices. You owe this to the huge majority of Americans who insist that this iconic place be free from private, for-profit, commercial business interests!

We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:3595**

Correspondence: "I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands.

Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few."

**Correspondence ID:3596**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3597**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer and I want you to remove the fence confining the tule elk.

It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat. They should never be unnaturally confined behind a fence. Especially when this blocks the elk from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop over- "managing" the park. Take down the fence and remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan the prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will give the Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mating. This will improve the general health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my public comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore with you. Your duty is to let spirit of wilderness preservation and protection guide your choices. You owe this to the huge majority of Americans who insist that this iconic place be free from private, for-profit, commercial business interests!

We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:3598**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

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Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3599**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS)

best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit."

**Correspondence ID:3600**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer and I want you to remove the fence confining the tule elk.

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Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

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**Correspondence ID:3601**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

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Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3602**

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**Correspondence ID:3603**

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Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit."

**Correspondence ID:3604**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer and I want you to remove the fence confining the tule elk.

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**Correspondence ID:3605**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

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**Correspondence ID:3606**

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**Correspondence ID:3607**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3608**

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Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.”

**Correspondence ID:3609**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer and I want you to remove the fence confining the tule elk.

It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat. They should never be unnaturally confined behind a fence. Especially when this blocks the elk from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop over- "managing" the park. Take down the fence and remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

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We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:3610**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to

stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

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**Correspondence ID:3611**

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**Correspondence ID:3613**

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We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:3614**

Correspondence: "Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to

compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.”

**Correspondence ID:3615**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

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**Correspondence ID:3616**

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It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat. They should never be unnaturally confined behind a fence. Especially when this blocks the elk from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop over- "managing" the park. Take down the fence and remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan the prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will give the Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mating. This will improve the general health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my public comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore with you. Your duty is to let spirit of wilderness preservation and protection guide your choices. You owe this to the huge majority of Americans who insist that this iconic place be free from private, for-profit, commercial business interests!

We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:3617**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3618**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer and I want you to remove the fence confining the tule elk.

It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat. They should never be unnaturally confined behind a fence. Especially when this blocks the elk from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost

effective, is to stop over- "managing" the park. Take down the fence and remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

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**Correspondence ID:3619**

Correspondence: "Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

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I want to thank Superintendent Craig Kenkel for the opportunity to provide comments on the upcoming plan for our iconic Tule elk. It is of utmost importance for the plan to include numerous alternatives which requires the removal of the unethical fence across Tomales Point. It is time for our native elk to have the ability to freely roam throughout the National Seashore, versus being confined without sufficient sustenance to survive."

**Correspondence ID:3620**

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The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

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**Correspondence ID:3622**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer and I want you to remove the fence confining the tule elk.



It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat. They should never be unnaturally confined behind a fence. Especially when this blocks the elk from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop over- "managing" the park. Take down the fence and remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan the prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will give the Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mating. This will improve the general health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

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I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3625**

Correspondence: "Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

A National Park was created in Point Reyes to protect one of the most scenic and biologically diverse areas in our country. It is being put at risk for the profits of a few private ranchers. This is not acceptable to the people of Marin, the SF Bay Area, and the nation, nor our native wildlife. It is time to remove the Elk fence.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed."

**Correspondence ID:3626**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

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**Correspondence ID:3627**

Correspondence: "Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!"

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**Correspondence ID:3629**

Correspondence: "I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.”

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**Correspondence ID:3632**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

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**Correspondence ID:3635**

Correspondence: "Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

**Correspondence ID:3636**

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**Correspondence ID:3637**

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Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3638**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3639**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying -

just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

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**Correspondence ID:3640**

Correspondence: "Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

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Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

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Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

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The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

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Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

**Correspondence ID:3648**

Correspondence: "To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points

are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.”

**Correspondence ID:3649**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

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The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

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**Correspondence ID:3652**

Correspondence: "Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS."

**Correspondence ID:3653**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

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**Correspondence ID:3655**

Correspondence: "Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS."

**Correspondence ID:3656**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

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Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

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The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

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and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together!  
Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3659**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

The Park Service should be looking at such alternate uses of Tomales Point as creating a wildlife corridor that could run throughout the park, and the removal of the elk pen. The re-establishment of a more balanced ecosystem where the elk thrive could lead to the return of natural predators such as mountain lions, and with our climate in serious trouble, restoration of native grasses, shrubs and trees should be a high priority for the Park Service.

Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

Sadly, Point Reyes National Seashore is a landscape dominated by private, for-profit industrial cattle ranching businesses. These private business owners claim stewardship of the lands, waters, and air, and do everything in their power to evade, circumvent, ignore, abuse, and thumb their collective noses at the most basic and sound environmental principles, ethics, practices, and responsibilities. This selfish and unjust behavior should not occur in a National Park. Please take down the Elk fence, and prioritize our native wildlife over private and destructive cattle operations."

**Correspondence ID:3660**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

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Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

**Correspondence ID:3665**

Correspondence: "To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

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The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.



The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.”

**Correspondence ID:3666**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

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**Correspondence ID:3670**

Correspondence: Californians LOVE their wildlife. They are sacred. Cattle are a commercial enterprise. Do the Tule Elk a favor and Please Remove the Fence!

Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should

be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3671**

Correspondence: "Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

I am extremely disappointed that the National Park Service (NPS) continues to spend our taxpayer money for an unethical fence which traps Elk on Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore. Taxpayers are insisting that the fence come down immediately, that ranchers move out, and wildlife be allowed to live naturally across all of our Park.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons."

**Correspondence ID:3672**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

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Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3674**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3675**

Correspondence: Californians LOVE their wildlife. They are sacred. Cattle are a commercial enterprise. Do the Tule Elk a favor and Please Remove the Fence!

Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

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**Correspondence ID:3676**

Correspondence: "Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation."

**Correspondence ID:3677**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

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**Correspondence ID:3678**

Correspondence: Californians LOVE their wildlife. They are sacred. Cattle are a commercial enterprise. Do the Tule Elk a favor and Please Remove the Fence!

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It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

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**Correspondence ID:3680**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this

approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few."

**Correspondence ID:3681**

Correspondence: Californians LOVE their wildlife. They are sacred. Cattle are a commercial enterprise. Do the Tule Elk a favor and Please Remove the Fence!

Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

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It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

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**Correspondence ID:3683**

Correspondence: "Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are

numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.”

**Correspondence ID:3684**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3685**

Correspondence: Californians LOVE their wildlife. They are sacred. Cattle are a commercial enterprise. Do the Tule Elk a favor and Please Remove the Fence!

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How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

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How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

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**Correspondence ID:3690**

Correspondence: "The following are comments addressing the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service should not be creating a separate plan for this area of the park, or any other area of the park as it should be included in the Park's General Management Plan and the park should be managed as one whole unit. The complex ecosystem within

the park should be treated as one entity, and the health of that entire system is the responsibility of the park service. To do otherwise can only be seen as irresponsible and cruel.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.”

**Correspondence ID:3691**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has



several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3692**

Correspondence: Californians LOVE their wildlife. They are sacred. Cattle are a commercial enterprise. Do the Tule Elk a favor and Please Remove the Fence!

Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3693**

Correspondence: "Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive gasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs

of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

Too many park resources are used to cater to the private ranchers. Ranch operations pollute the streams and waterways of the seashore with manure runoff, release methane into the atmosphere from cattle belches and farts, damaging our climate, and have caused the massive spread of invasive plants. NPS should be putting these resources into restoring the deep-rooted native grasses, wildflowers, mosses and other native plants that cannot survive destructive grazing practices caused by too many cattle on the land.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk."

**Correspondence ID:3694**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

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**Correspondence ID:3695**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

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**Correspondence ID:3696**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3697**

Correspondence: "I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit."

**Correspondence ID:3698**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

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**Correspondence ID:3699**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

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and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together!  
Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3700**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

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**Correspondence ID:3701**

Correspondence: "I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

Whether in California or elsewhere globally, climate change impacts nearly every aspect of our current and future environmental conditions. The Tule Elk fence across Tomales Point must be taken down in recognition of this. As conditions are now and for the foreseeable future with seasonal warming, megadrought, desertification, water scarcity, the native Tule Elk will have a better chance of surviving the challenges of this climate crisis, instead of being confined without sufficient water, forage and minerals.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results."

**Correspondence ID:3702**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

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**Correspondence ID:3703**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

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**Correspondence ID:3704**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

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**Correspondence ID:3705**

Correspondence: "Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Removing the elk fence is a frugal option, for a Park Service that apparently operates with limited resources.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few."

**Correspondence ID:3706**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

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**Correspondence ID:3707**

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**Correspondence ID:3708**

Correspondence: "I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

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All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

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As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results."

**Correspondence ID:3709**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

A National Park was created in Point Reyes to protect one of the most scenic and biologically diverse areas in our country. It is being put at risk for the profits of a few private ranchers. This is not acceptable to the people of Marin, the SF Bay Area, and the nation, nor our native wildlife. It is time to remove the Elk fence.

If the Park Service is serious about managing Tomales Point, the Tule elk herds, and the rest of the park most effectively, it will follow the science in determining its plan. That means, first and foremost, removing the elk fence, and protecting and restoring the natural habitat that has been destroyed by cattle and dairy ranching. This is a great opportunity to show enlightened leadership, and I look forward to continuing my engagement in the process.

**Correspondence ID:3710**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3711**

Correspondence: Foremost, remove the eight foot fence blocking the free flow of the tule elk herd on Tomales point. This particular herd finds itself trapped in a blocked area with no reliable water source or forage. This strip of land is blocked by fencing, Tomales Bay and the Pacific ocean. Other elk herds find water and food sources for survival because they are not blocked by a fence. The tule elk deserve free access to roam unhindered.

Park visitors come just to see these famous elk. Other elk find adequate food and water sources naturally since they are not fenced in. Allow the tule elk to get out of their dead-end stait trap. Give them a fence free thru access. Unfenced land where they can roam freely for food and water. Park visitors come just to see these popular elk herds roam in the wild living on natural resources which belong to the wildlife. Thank you. I look forward to visiting the free roaming tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:3712**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

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Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

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**Correspondence ID:3714**

Correspondence: "I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations. In addition, it must include immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed."

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The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.”

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**Correspondence ID:3728**

Correspondence: "I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

Whether in California or elsewhere globally, climate change impacts nearly every aspect of our current and future environmental conditions. The Tule Elk fence across Tomales Point must be taken down in recognition of this. As conditions are now and for the foreseeable future with seasonal warming, megadrought, desertification, water scarcity, the native Tule Elk will have a better chance of surviving the challenges of this climate crisis, instead of being confined without sufficient water, forage and minerals.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results."

**Correspondence ID:3729**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3730**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

A National Park was created in Point Reyes to protect one of the most scenic and biologically diverse areas in our country. It is being put at risk for the profits of a few private ranchers. This is not acceptable to the people of Marin, the SF Bay Area, and the nation, nor our native wildlife. It is time to remove the Elk fence.

If the Park Service is serious about managing Tomales Point, the Tule elk herds, and the rest of the park most effectively, it will follow the science in determining its plan. That means, first and foremost, removing the elk fence, and protecting and restoring the natural habitat that has been destroyed by cattle and dairy ranching. This is a great opportunity to show enlightened leadership, and I look forward to continuing my engagement in the process.

**Correspondence ID:3731**

Correspondence: "I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations. In addition, it must include immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed."

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Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

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Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

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Correspondence: "I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence."

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**Correspondence ID:3748**

Correspondence: "The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans."



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I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:3752**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:3753**

Correspondence: "I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence."

**Correspondence ID:3754**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

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The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

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**Correspondence ID:3762**

Correspondence: "I am commenting on the process of creating a plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Park. I would hope the National Park Service would not address this area as somehow separate from the park itself but instead view the park in its entirety. As it stands today Tomales Point is more of a zoo within what is suppose to be a park but is in fact seen as private ranch land. And at this particular zoo the wild animals are fenced and the park service personnel let the animals die due to drought and lack of forage. Stop the insanity and take down the elk fence.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and

natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.”

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Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

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The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

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**Correspondence ID:3772**

Correspondence: "The following are comments addressing the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service should not be creating a separate plan for this area of the park, or any other area of the park as it should be included in the Park's General Management Plan and the park should be managed as one whole unit. The complex ecosystem within the park should be treated as one entity, and the health of that entire system is the responsibility of the park service. To do otherwise can only be seen as irresponsible and cruel.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity."

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Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the

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The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:3775**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

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The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:3777**

Correspondence: "Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point."

**Correspondence ID:3778**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

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Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

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Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:3783**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few."

**Correspondence ID:3784**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

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I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

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Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:3786**

Correspondence: "Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

Removing the Tomales Point elk fence will improve genetic diversity within the elk population.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.”

**Correspondence ID:3787**

Correspondence: “The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.”

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**Correspondence ID:3789**

Correspondence: "I am writing the National Park Service to respectfully request to remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point in order for our iconic Tule elk to roam free in our National Park.

Point Reyes National Seashore has finite resources and maintaining an 8-foot fence at Tomales Point is not a good use of taxpayer funds.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thanks so much for your serious attention to my comments. I think the main thing for the Tomales Point scoping plan should be removal of that horrible fence out there. The elk need to roam so they can find water and food. Native plant restoration would be a great starting point to let the American people know you're listening to them (finally!). Please include the general public, and not the ranchers, in your planning and communications."

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leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

Removing the Tomales Point elk fence will improve genetic diversity within the elk population.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.”

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**Correspondence ID:3795**

Correspondence: “I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.”

**Correspondence ID:3796**

Correspondence: “Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food.



And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

Removing the Tomales Point elk fence will improve genetic diversity within the elk population.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.”

**Correspondence ID:3797**

Correspondence: “We are writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of Tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food! Unacceptable and cruel!

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food! This is their natural habitat, not that of cattle ranchers' herds of cattle foraging on public lands!!!

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery!

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark! The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park!

Thank you for your attention to our public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore! Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests! We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence!

This fence, placed at the behest of cattle ranchers, goes against any semblance of humanity for native animals, the Tule elk! This is all about greed and certainly not the protection of our environment and its fragile ecosystem! Please, we implore you to take the humane approach and take down this cruel fence that is killing our Tule elk NOW!

With our serious gratitude!”

**Correspondence ID:3798**

Correspondence: “I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.”

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**Correspondence ID:3800**

Correspondence: “Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.”

**Correspondence ID:3801**

Correspondence: “Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

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**Correspondence ID:3804**

Correspondence: "Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process."

**Correspondence ID:3805**

Correspondence: "Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter."

**Correspondence ID:3806**

Correspondence: I am a frequent visitor of point Reyes National Seashore. I visit almost every weekend for solitude and exposure to nature. I consider myself very fortunately to have such a resource near my home. I am somewhat perplexed at how dairy ranching can coexist with a protected natural area. I'm also very concerned about the heard of elk that lived there as well as other wildlife that I often see struggling, and I imagine competing for food water and space. I've heard the arguments that grazing cattle helps maintain the balance of a natural area but I cannot agree with this at all. I've been to the natural areas I frequent the natural areas and there is much more diversity of both of plants and animal specie. Having a background in ecology I can assure you that a grays cattle field is a much less diverse and unhealthy environment than a naturally grazed coastal scrub area or mixed forest. Please do what is best for our elk and other wildlife and our beautiful natural areas. This park is a resource for these beings as well as for the people of our country. Both the beef and dairy industries are on the decline as of late. Regardless our national park should not be used for commercial enterprises such as the dairy industry which is also destructive to this environment. Thank you for your attention.

**Correspondence ID:3807**

Correspondence: Some things are just obvious. Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve. Using fences to manage wildlife at a National Seashore is national embarrassment. You can do extremely better.

**Correspondence ID:3808**

Correspondence: The Tule Elk BELONG there! Cattle, probably not... The NPS's priority must be protecting the Natural World. It's time, well past time, for man made priorities to be reconsidered!

**Correspondence ID:3809**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm

sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3810**

Correspondence: The confined Tule Elk are dying at astronomical rates each year, and the Park Service just keeps them penned up in a cage to suffer and die at Tomales Point. Please stop this. The Tule Elk Reserve fence needs to come down now. If you want a reserve/preserve, remove the 8-foot fence, put in a small wildlife-friendly fence, and turn the land into a Native Coastal Prairie Reserve.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3811**

Correspondence: The confined Tule Elk are dying at astronomical rates each year, and the Park Service just keeps them penned up in a cage to suffer and die at Tomales Point. Please stop this. The Tule Elk Reserve fence needs to come down now. If you want a reserve/preserve, remove the 8-foot fence, put in a small wildlife-friendly fence, and turn the land into a Native Coastal Prairie Reserve.

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**Correspondence ID:3812**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.



This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park. This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:3813**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service to respectfully request to remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point in order for our iconic Tule elk to roam free in our National Park.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive gasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:3814**

Correspondence: The confined Tule Elk are dying at astronomical rates each year, and the Park Service just keeps them penned up in a cage to suffer and die at Tomales Point. Please stop this. The Tule Elk Reserve fence needs to come down now. If you want a reserve/preserve, remove the 8-foot fence, put in a small wildlife-friendly fence, and turn the land into a Native Coastal Prairie Reserve.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources to considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:3815**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

A National Park was created in Point Reyes to protect one of the most scenic and biologically diverse areas in our country. It is being put at risk for the profits of a few private ranchers. This is not acceptable to the people of Marin, the SF Bay Area, and the nation, nor our native wildlife. It is time to remove the Elk fence.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:3816**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3817**

Correspondence: Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:3818**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:3819**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:3820**

Correspondence: Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

The Park Service should be looking at such alternate uses of Tomales Point as creating a wildlife corridor that could run throughout the park, and the removal of the elk pen. The re-establishment of a more balanced ecosystem where the elk thrive could lead to the return of natural predators such as mountain lions, and with our climate in serious trouble, restoration of native grasses, shrubs and trees should be a high priority for the Park Service.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:3821**

Correspondence: Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live

more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. If you do only one thing: Remove the godawful eyesore of a fence out there. Would you want to be trapped without enough water or food? You can't say it's a natural process of attrition if you've got them captive. Remove the fence immediately. Create safe and easy wildlife corridors for the elk to move out. Make the ranchers stop harming wildlife and hassling human visitors. The American people in multiple surveys, letters, op-eds, articles, and more want a National Park at Point Reyes. Not a ranch.

**Correspondence ID:3822**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

When it comes to Tomales Point our National Park has failed us, the taxpayer, and rightful owners of the land. We should not be paying for the cost of installing and maintaining a fence so wild animals can't roam and forage for food and water in areas preserved for private cattle and dairy ranchers within a National Park.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations,

something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:3823**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3824**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands.

Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:3825**

Correspondence: Now that the National Park Service is looking at its management of the Tomales Point area of the Pt. Reyes National Seashore, there are a number of items NPS should take into consideration as it updates its plans. Please include consideration of these when scoping your environmental review process. The most critical of these is the permanent removal of the fence that keeps the Tomales Point Tule elk herd imprisoned on land that isn't sufficient to support a captive herd.

It's both cheaper and more ecological to let the elk be free, without a fence, than it is to try to manage them unnaturally, with trucked water tanks and salt licks.

The National Park Service should be spending all resources on restoring the natural habitat of the park, rather than fighting the public's will to protect our land, and our native Tule elk.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:3826**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.



It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:3827**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

With the public's participation, I expect a greatly improved management plan for Tomales Point and the Tule elk. This is a good way for the Park Service to demonstrate that it can properly manage the public's resources in a way that improves the health and diversity of the park, while improving relations with the general public. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

**Correspondence ID:3828**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling

Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3829**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3830**

Correspondence: I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat

them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:3831**

Correspondence: Please see that the fence at Tomales is removed. The Elk need water to survive.

**Correspondence ID:3832**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm

sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3833**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:3834**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3835**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

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**Correspondence ID:3836**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

Removing the Tomales Point elk fence will improve genetic diversity within the elk population.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3837**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3838**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3839**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land

should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3840**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations. In addition, it must include immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the

right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:3841**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3842**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!



**Correspondence ID:3843**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this. This is one of my favorite places in the multiverse.

**Correspondence ID:3844**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate,

and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3845**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:3846**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3847**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3848**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3849**

Correspondence: Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:3850**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

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The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3851**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:3852**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

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specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:3853**

Correspondence: 1) Prohibit renewal of leases to private ranches, dairy farms within Point Reyes National Seashore, no exceptions.

Early environmentalists like Huey Johnson and Marty Griffin have publicly stated it was never the intention to lease to private ranches/dairies in perpetuity, within the Seashore. These landowners have been paid for their property and many own land outside the Seashore.

They should not be subsidized by taxpayer money and use up precious Seashore operating money and personnel to shore up and maintain their property.

These private landowners are terrible stewards of the land and contribute to it's degradation, through soil erosion and compaction, polluting the water, illegal dumping, degradation of stream banks and overgrowth of streams from their nutrient runoff, manure spreading with it's pathogens on Seashore land, killing of native wildlife when they cut their pastures, contributing to the decline of the endangered Snowy Plover who are preyed upon by the overabundance of crows who feed off the private landowners farming practices, methane production from their cattle contributing to global warming, and on and on. This is John Sansing's legacy, who should never have been kept in the position of Park Superintendent for 20 years but should have been rotated out. No wonder everyone says he was in bed with the ranchers!

There is no need to preserve private ranches/dairies within the Seashore when there are many others outside these boundaries that can provide for local agriculture.

Establish a demonstration ranch/dairy for educational purposes and put a plaque up about the history of these within the Seashore, period.

2) Allow and encourage Tule Elk to access the entire park and begin by taking down the fence at Pierce Point.

If not concerned about deer proliferating within the park then don't be concerned about Tule Elk proliferating. No hunting, culling, of Tule Elk within the Seashore.

Cattle cause brucellosis, not Tule Elk and they spread it to the Tule Elk.

It is the utmost cruelty to keep Tule Elk behind a fence with limited water and feed and to watch them die off in the drought, (more droughts will happen) with the resulting attrition of half the herd. That is not self-regulation in this pseudo outside zoo that you have created. It's starvation and dying of thirst. These native Tule Elk were almost completely extirpated and are unique to the Seashore. They should be appreciated for the unique native species that they are, rather than treated as pests. If the Interior Department cannot protect native species within a National Seashore, then what is your purpose? Recreational opportunities for the public-maybe you should build another Disneyland there!

**Correspondence ID:3854**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3855**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3856**

Correspondence: I want the fence at Tomales Point, which confines tule elk, to be removed. This is a necessary step for the NPS to take for our native elk.

Whatever the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Fence and to provide water towers and mineral supplements--the Tule Elk are dying off because of lack of proper, nutritious, healthy food and forage. The Elk are starving to death and dying of an inadequate supply of water at Tomales Point. The Park Service will never be able to be effective to supplement the Tule Elk food and water supply that is needed. Please do the right thing and take down the elk fence.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:3857**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).



Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3858**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:3859**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3860**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations. In addition, it must include immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure.

If the Park Service is serious about managing Tomales Point, the Tule elk herds, and the rest of the park most effectively, it will follow the science in determining its plan. That means, first and foremost, removing the elk fence, and protecting and restoring the natural habitat that has been destroyed by cattle and dairy ranching. This is a great opportunity to show enlightened leadership, and I look forward to continuing my engagement in the process.

**Correspondence ID:3861**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3862**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3863**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

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The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3864**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3865**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:3866**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:3867**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let

elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:3868**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:3869**

Correspondence: The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

An independent, scientific panel provided a recommendation to the NPS, to remove the eight foot fence across Tomales Point, which currently confines the native Tule elk in an environment which does not allow the herds to be large, healthy and free-ranging. Please include numerous alternatives in the upcoming elk management plan that would remove the Tomales Point fence in order for our native wildlife to be free-roaming.

**Correspondence ID:3870**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park. This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:3871**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant wound therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3872**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy



that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3873**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3874**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species. A national park shouldn't have invasive species like sheep and cattle. Especially when it replaces native wildlife. Shame on you.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:3875**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3876**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or

food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3877**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

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This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park. This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:3878**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:3879**

Correspondence: Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:3880**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:3881**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3882**

Correspondence: Now that the National Park Service is looking at its management of the Tomales Point area of the Pt. Reyes National Seashore, there are a number of items NPS should take into consideration as it updates its plans. Please include consideration of these when scoping your environmental review process. The most critical of these is the permanent removal of the fence that keeps the Tomales Point Tule elk herd imprisoned on land that isn't sufficient to support a captive herd.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

**Correspondence ID:3883**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters! Thanks again for caring for our precious wildlife.

**Correspondence ID:3884**

Correspondence: This scoping planning process represents improper segmentation of the NEPA analysis. This planning could and should have been done as a part of the recent GMP planning. There are many connected and interrelated management actions and associated environmental impacts. NPS has allowed crass politics to supersede common sense and fidelity to law and science. This behavior was expected during the openly corrupt Trump era but it is now incredibly disappointing during the Biden administration. NPS should replace the bad GMP with a good one that removes the harmful commercial livestock grazing, eliminates the fence, and allows tule elk to roam freely.

**Correspondence ID:3885**

Correspondence: I want the fence at Tomales Point, which confines tule elk, to be removed. This is a necessary step for the NPS to take for our native elk.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Thank you for paying attention to my comments. Please include them in the official record. The Park Service, if nothing else, needs to remove the fence at Tomales Point so the Elk can find food, water, and live a more normal, healthy, wild life. The elk are literally dying behind that fence. Between the Park Service, the public, scientists, and Native American ecologists, there is a solution to making things better out at Point Reyes. Please listen to the public, and use their input....not just do what the ranchers want to make their money and ruin the place.

**Correspondence ID:3886**

Correspondence: Remove the Tomales Point Fence!!

**Correspondence ID:3887**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:3888**

Correspondence: Dear Supervisor Kenkel,

Thank you for providing a forum for input regarding the future Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore.

In 1998, the Park Service's own environmental assessment concluded that the fence at Elk Reserve at Tomales Point must be removed. This removal would allow our native elk to have access to sufficient, healthy forage and water as well as be able to find mates outside the fence that would increase genetic diversity and resilience

The rapidly changing climate demands planning and vision. Wildlife corridors travelled by unfenced tule elk and visitors alike at the Seashore would be a positive step in meeting the challenges of our uncertain future.

Thank you,  
Carol Soto

**Correspondence ID:3889**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area



within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park. This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

#### **Correspondence ID:3890**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given

its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3891**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3892**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3893**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3894**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land

should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3895**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations.

In addition, it must include immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:3896**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

Whether in California or elsewhere globally, climate change impacts nearly every aspect of our current and future environmental conditions. The Tule Elk fence across Tomales Point must be taken down in recognition of this. As conditions are now and for the foreseeable future with seasonal warming, megadrought, desertification, water scarcity, the native Tule Elk will have a better chance of surviving the challenges of this climate crisis, instead of being confined without sufficient water, forage and minerals.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:3897**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

The Park Service wastes taxpayer money on the self-fulfilling problems caused by its continued decades-long poor wildlife management choices out on Tomales Point. The already limited funds available should be used to remove the tule elk fence so elk can find sufficient food and water on their own across the Seashore.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3898**

Correspondence: I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

Whatever the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Fence and to provide water towers and mineral supplements--the Tule Elk are dying off because of lack of proper, nutritious, healthy food and forage. The Elk are starving to death and dying of an inadequate supply of water at Tomales Point. The Park Service will never be able to be effective to supplement the Tule Elk food and water supply that is needed. Please do the right thing and take down the elk fence.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

A National Park was created in Point Reyes to protect one of the most scenic and biologically diverse areas in our country. It is being put at risk for the profits of a few private ranchers. This is not acceptable to the people of Marin, the SF Bay Area, and the nation, nor our native wildlife. It is time to remove the Elk fence.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:3899**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park. This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:3900**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

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**Correspondence ID:3901**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3902**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).



Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

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**Correspondence ID:3903**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

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**Correspondence ID:3904**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being

free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters! Get rid of those in the BLM who work for the ranchers. Let us have REAL rangers who love wildlife!!!

**Correspondence ID:3905**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:3906**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:3907**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3908**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being

free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3909**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

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**Correspondence ID:3910**

Correspondence: Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

Removing the elk fence is a frugal option, for a Park Service that apparently operates with limited resources.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

If the Park Service is serious about managing Tomales Point, the Tule elk herds, and the rest of the park most effectively, it will follow the science in determining its plan. That means, first and foremost, removing the elk fence, and protecting and restoring the natural habitat that has been destroyed by cattle and dairy ranching. This is a great opportunity to show enlightened leadership, and I look forward to continuing my engagement in the process.

**Correspondence ID:3911**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

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The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a

plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3912**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

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**Correspondence ID:3913**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:3914**

Correspondence: As a naturalist leading classes for Point Reyes Field Institute and classes that were fundraisers for PRNSA for almost 20 years, I have had to opportunity to introduce guests from around the globe to PRNS. I have also taken College of Marin Community Education students to learn about the tule elk annually for 24 years I have NEVER has a visitor or student who traveled to Point Reyes to see cows, but I have had many who came to see the tule elk. This special piece of land is not only for locals, it is a treasure to be enjoyed by people outside CA and outside the US. I recommend immediated ceasing culling the tule elk, and removing the fence which was only put in the benefit commercial interests, not visitors to the National Park. Ultimately I would like to see the ranches removed and the land restored and returned to coastal prairie habitat for all native species. Ranch operations negatively impact many species including endandered species like the Snowy Plover which the Park has an obligation to protect. The increase in ravens due to ranch feeding practices increases predation on nests and fledglings. Mowing kills ground nesting birds. Native species have enough adversity with climate change and invasive plant species without adding additional human-caused problems.

**Correspondence ID:3915**

Correspondence: Here are my viewpoints on this topic:

- The Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to all Americans, not just to ranchers who profit from its use. The NPS must protect the Seashore and its wildlife.
- Fences have no place in Wilderness. The NPS needs to end the tragic, ongoing deaths of rare Tule elk at Point Tomales in the Phillip Burton Wilderness by taking down the fence so elk can access food and water.
- The NPS needs to prioritize the needs of native wildlife by putting an end to commercial ranching at Point Reyes like it was supposed to do decades ago.

**Correspondence ID:3916**

Correspondence: May 8, 2022

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

Please remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence and create wildlife corridors. It is extremely important to do this to maintain the Point Reyes National Seashore for the enjoyment of people, the elk and other wildlife in the years to come, as it was intended. To me, the elk are the highlight of the seashore. Knowing that they cannot freely roam to graze, find water and mate with elk in other herds so that they can maintain healthy and necessary genetic diversity breaks my heart. It is truly tragic. Removing the fence and establishing wildlife corridors will not hurt the ranchers, which have absolutely no place in a national park in the first place. The rancher's leases should not be renewed. You have the power to help make this right. The letter, included below, which was provided by ForElk, summarizes my opinion on this matter and provides more details and references.

Please do the right thing by removing the Tule Elk Reserve fence, providing wildlife corridors and not renewing the rancher's leases.

Thank you.

We are thankful for the opportunity to give feedback on the National Park Service's planning process for the Tomales Point area in Point Reyes National Seashore. It is our position that the removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is the only way to accurately address the nutrient and water deficiency and associated Tule Elk population management problems in the Tomales Point area.

The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is neither a radical or new idea. In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

The decline of the Tule Elk Reserve's herd by nearly half over the last few years is not natural self-regulation but a direct result of the lack of access to proper nutritional forage and adequate water sources during the increasingly hot summers caused by Climate Change. Because there are no perennial streams in the Tule Elk Reserve, the herd's population has been cruelly limited to which individuals can survive on limited nutrition and water. This is not a natural carrying capacity.

The Tomales Point herd is still relatively new and has very little genetic diversity compared to other natural herds. The entire Tule Elk subspecies experienced a severe bottleneck effect in the 20th century, and the Tule Elk Reserve fence causes further genetic selection limitations for the herd in the Tomales Point area. The loss of genetic diversity across generations can lead to harsh consequences, such as weakness, illness, disease, death and even extirpation if the National Park Service does not actively increase connectivity between the herds in the park and establish more free roaming herds within the Seashore's boundaries.

A study published last year on the genetic diversity of a Tule Elk metapopulation reintroduced in a similar time frame to the Tomales Point herd found that there was lack of migration among the groups, and almost every group was below the threshold to improve or maintain genetic diversity over the next 25 years (Batter, Bush & Sacks, 2021).

Compared to natural Rocky Mountain Elk populations in Idaho, where there has been considerable gene flow between geographically isolated groups, there was little migration among most groups even decades after introduction (Aycrigg & Garton, 2014). This suggests that genetically isolated populations, like the Tomales Point herd, will likely decline further due to inbreeding and genetic problems unless they are able to move freely and breed with the other free-roaming populations in Point Reyes National Seashore and the state. A 1987 study conducted in the Tomales Point Reserve backs up this claim. The authors argue that without the ability to increase genetic variation, the Tomales Point herd will suffer from the various problems associated with inbreeding, depression, and genetic drift to the point of extinction (Barrett & Gogan, 1987). Genetic variation in the herd could be improved or at least maintained through natural processes if the herd was able to freely roam throughout the Seashore



and breed with the other established free-roaming herds.

Although it is the National Park Service's responsibility to prioritize the natural resources (including the Tule Elk) of the Seashore, it is impossible to ignore agricultural and ranching operations within its boundaries. The National Park Service, among others, often claim that removal of the Tomales Point fence will have significantly harmful impacts on the tenant cattle ranch operations in the Seashore. It is our position that the current population size of the Tule Elk in Point Reyes will have little impact on cattle grazing in the Seashore.

This is backed up by a case study in the Owens Valley in Southern California. A socioeconomic analysis was conducted in 1985 by researchers in the Owens Valley which has had similar competition between various political, agricultural and environmental interests in the last few decades. Additionally, the population size of Tule Elk in the Owens Valley at this time fluctuated roughly between 200 and 300 individuals which is similar to the Tomales Point Herd in Point Reyes today. (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970) Obviously, Owens Valley and Point Reyes are not exactly the same but there are many undeniable similarities especially the central factor of competition between domestic livestock and the native Tule Elk.

The analysis concluded that Tule Elk populations in the Owens Valley could be significantly larger if the state was able to establish more free-roaming herds throughout the region. The social benefits of this would ultimately outweigh the social costs associated with the conflict between Tule Elk and livestock. The authors remark, "The competition between Elk and domestic livestock in the Owens valley is minor even during drought" (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970, p. 26). The Tomales Point fence is in clear conflict with the National Park Service's directive to protect the natural resources of the Seashore for the countless generations to come. This goal can only be actualized through the removal of the Tomales Point fence, the installation of wildlife corridors to increase connectivity among the Seashore's several Tule Elk herds, and long-term genetic monitoring.

The creation of wildlife corridors specifically is a feasible and realistic goal which would allow the Tomales Point herd to travel to the Southern portions of Point Reyes and alleviate the population density in the North. This was originally proposed in the 1998 Environmental Assessment (Appendix G) as one of the many options to increase connectivity and establish free-roaming herds (National Park Service, 1998). Today, wildlife corridors are still a viable alternative to increase connectivity between the herds in the Southern part of the Seashore, and allow the Tomales Point herd to stabilize its population size and health.

We are living at a critical moment in time as we are faced with unprecedented loss of biodiversity and wild places on a global scale. The public has set aside Point Reyes as a National Seashore--one of a few rapidly vanishing slices of wilderness in the West to be protected and Preserved. The decisions made today will have a profound impact on innumerable generations of visitors and wildlife. What will visitors see in fifty years if you do not act now? A living landscape and mosaic of wildlife, including the iconic Tule Elk--or a wasted landscape ruined by our own hubris and inaction?

It is your and all of our responsibility to ensure that the bugling Tule Elk are not another silenced instrument in the wild orchestra of the planet's natural world. We ask you to do the right thing, and make Point Reyes a National Seashore that lives up to the values it espouses

With Gratitude,

The ForElk Team

## References

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## Correspondence ID:3917

Correspondence: Please read the fact filled statement:

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

We are thankful for the opportunity to give feedback on the National Park Service's planning process for the Tomales Point area in Point Reyes National Seashore. It is our position that the removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is the only way to accurately address the nutrient and water deficiency and associated Tule Elk population management problems in the Tomales Point area.

The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is neither a radical or new idea. In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

The decline of the Tule Elk Reserve's herd by nearly half over the last few years is not natural self regulation but a direct result of the lack of access to proper nutritional forage and adequate water sources during the increasingly hot summers caused by Climate Change. Because there are no perennial streams in the Tule Elk Reserve, the herd's population has been cruelly limited to which individuals can survive on limited nutrition and water. This is not a natural carrying capacity.

The Tomales Point herd is still relatively new and has very little genetic diversity compared to other natural herds. The entire Tule Elk subspecies experienced a severe bottleneck effect in the 20th century, and the Tule Elk Reserve fence causes further genetic selection limitations for the

herd in the Tomales Point area. The loss of genetic diversity across generations can lead to harsh consequences, such as weakness, illness, disease, death and even extirpation if the National Park Service does not actively increase connectivity between the herds in the park and establish more free roaming herds within the Seashore's boundaries.

A study published last year on the genetic diversity of a Tule Elk metapopulation reintroduced in a similar time frame to the Tomales Point herd found that there was lack of migration among the groups, and almost every group was below the threshold to improve or maintain genetic diversity over the next 25 years (Batter, Bush & Sacks, 2021).

Compared to natural Rocky Mountain Elk populations in Idaho, where there has been considerable gene flow between geographically isolated groups, there was little migration among most groups even decades after introduction (Aycrigg & Garton, 2014).

This suggests that genetically isolated populations, like the Tomales Point herd, will likely decline further due to inbreeding and genetic problems unless they are able to move freely and breed with the other free-roaming populations in Point Reyes National Seashore and the state. A 1987 study conducted in the Tomales Point Reserve backs up this claim. The authors argue that without the ability to increase genetic variation, the Tomales Point herd will suffer from the various problems associated with inbreeding, depression, and genetic drift to the point of extinction (Barrett & Gogan, 1987). Genetic variation in the herd could be improved or at least maintained through natural processes if the herd was able to freely roam throughout the Seashore and breed with the other established free-roaming herds.

Although it is the National Park Service's responsibility to prioritize the natural resources (including the Tule Elk) of the Seashore, it is impossible to ignore agricultural and ranching operations within its boundaries. The National Park Service, among others, often claim that removal of the Tomales Point fence will have significantly harmful impacts on the tenant cattle ranch operations in the Seashore. It is our position that the current population size of the Tule Elk in Point Reyes will have little impact on cattle grazing in the Seashore.

This is backed up by a case study in the Owens Valley in Southern California. A socioeconomic analysis was conducted in 1985 by researchers in the Owens Valley which has had similar competition between various political, agricultural and environmental interests in the last few decades. Additionally, the population size of Tule Elk in the Owens Valley at this time fluctuated roughly between 200 and 300 individuals which is similar to the Tomales Point Herd in Point Reyes today. (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970) Obviously, Owens Valley and Point Reyes are not exactly the same but there are many undeniable similarities especially the central factor of competition between domestic livestock and the native Tule Elk.

The analysis concluded that Tule Elk populations in the Owens Valley could be significantly larger if the state was able to establish more free-roaming herds throughout the region. The social benefits of this would ultimately outweigh the social costs associated with the conflict between Tule Elk and livestock. The authors remark, "The competition between Elk and domestic livestock in the Owens valley is minor even during drought" (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970, p. 26).

The Tomales Point fence is in clear conflict with the National Park Service's directive to protect the natural resources of the Seashore for the countless generations to come. This goal can only be actualized through the removal of the Tomales Point fence, the installation of wildlife corridors to increase connectivity among the Seashore's several Tule Elk herds, and long-term genetic monitoring.

The creation of wildlife corridors specifically is a feasible and realistic goal which would allow the Tomales Point herd to travel to the Southern portions of Point Reyes and alleviate the

population density in the North. This was originally proposed in the 1998 Environmental Assessment (Appendix G) as one of the many options to increase connectivity and establish free-roaming herds (National Park Service, 1998). Today, wildlife corridors are still a viable alternative to increase connectivity between the herds in the Southern part of the Seashore, and allow the Tomales Point herd to stabilize its population size and health.

We are living at a critical moment in time as we are faced with unprecedented loss of biodiversity and wild places on a global scale. The public has set aside Point Reyes as a National Seashore--one of a few rapidly vanishing slices of wilderness in the West to be protected and Preserved. The decisions made today will have a profound impact on innumerable generations of visitors and wildlife. What will visitors see in fifty years if you do not act now? A living landscape and mosaic of wildlife, including the iconic Tule Elk--or a wasted landscape ruined by our own hubris and inaction?

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With Gratitude,  
The ForElk Team

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### **Correspondence ID:3918**

Correspondence: I strongly urge you to remove the fence cutting the elk off from the natural resources they depend on.

### **Correspondence ID:3919**

Correspondence: From: Matthew Polvorosa Kline

To: Superintendent Craig Kenkel  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Tomales Point Area Plan in Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS)

Date: May 8th, 2022

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit comments on this planning process for the Tomales Point Area Plan. The National Park Service (NPS) invitation found here:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOINPS/bulletins/3105906> is not only an important step for public engagement regarding public land, it can be an essential tool for park staff to potentially gain more insight from people such as myself, who have spent an extensive amount of time in the area under consideration or with the subject being discussed.

The Tomales Point Area, commonly known as the Tomales Point Tule Elk Preserve or Reserve has always been a very special place for me ever since I started hiking and photographing there many years ago. I have had an incredible amount of wonderful experiences along this beautiful and unique stretch of the Point Reyes Peninsula. More specifically, the majestic, iconic, and native Tule Elk in this area have had and continue to have a profound impact on my life. I would ask you to consider visiting the Mission Rewild website here - [www.missionrewild.org](http://www.missionrewild.org) to learn a little bit more for yourself.

Nevertheless, while I just stated that the Reserve has always been a very special place for me, I must share with you that it has also unfortunately become a source of lasting depression and distress - words I do not use lightly. Even now, nearly two years after I started documenting and sharing my observations publicly of dead and dying Tule Elk within the Reserve, I struggle through the anger, sadness, and disbelief of what I witnessed there. Even now, when I visit the Reserve, I have to be careful that I do not think too deeply about my experiences, both good and bad, for fear of losing my composure (for lack of a better word).

There is a reason I get attached to the wildlife I spend considerable amounts of time with. As a human being, I value such things as empathy, learning, growing, understanding, as well as curiosity about the natural world all around us and curiosity about those we share this planet with. As a professional wildlife photographer, I focus on immersing myself deeply into my craft. When one observes the ways of wildlife closely or has the privilege to be allowed into their space, it does not take long to see how much we share in common. Connecting with other sentient beings and wildlife like the Tule Elk is not a challenge for me.

I have concerns that this process for a Tomales Point Area Plan is not being sincerely undertaken for the betterment of the Tule Elk within the Reserve and is perhaps being used to justify past courses of action and failures by park service staff. I have concerns that private agriculture leaseholders within PRNS will yet again be prioritized over the wildlife and environmental health in the area under discussion. I am also very concerned that, even if another Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is undertaken, the scientific findings detailing the best course of action will be ignored like they were in the latest General Management Plan (GMP) amendment, or even potentially limited in scope or to an extent as to justify negative reactions against the Tule Elk.

The NPS just this past year completed a GMP amendment for roughly 28,000 acres of PRNS and Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) lands fenced off for subsidized private commercial agriculture leases. Why is the NPS not starting with a GMP for this Tomales Point Area Plan first before cutting straight to what looks like an Implementation Plan? This Tomales Point Area Plan should under current NPS planning procedures, follow guidelines as developed and set out in NPS "Management Policies 2006" seen here - [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP\\_2006.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP_2006.pdf).

According to the Tomales Point Area Plan press release, "The impetus for this planning process are the impacts to the tule elk population and other resources within the Reserve arising from the historic drought conditions over the past eight years." How can the NPS seemingly point to drought as the main culprit for the Tule Elk die-offs within the Reserve, when the wild free roaming Tule Elk outside of the Reserve do not suffer the same plight during drought years? Deceitfully shifting responsibility, blame, and poor management decisions such as the fence, and conveniently placing it all in the hands of uncontrollable mother nature, or perhaps an act of god is beyond ridiculous, it is dishonorable. The NPS must acknowledge once and for all that the fence put in place to prioritize leaseholder interests is the main culprit leading to Tule Elk die-offs within the Reserve. I ask that the NPS under your guidance please stop skirting around this fact. Furthermore, the word "impacts" does not accurately reflect the tragedy unfolding within the Reserve - these Tule Elk are suffering inhumanely and one could make a strong argument that the die-offs are more like kill-offs when considering all the facts at hand.

Again I invite you to look at our website with a specific section focusing on the Tule Elk here - <https://www.missionrewild.org/save-the-tule-elk> ... Please see for yourself a glimpse of the horror I found while visiting one of my favorite places.

It is crystal clear that taking down the fence is the solution for no fence = no massive Tule Elk die-offs in the Reserve. Removing the fence should be the utmost priority as it remains the most important step the NPS can take to improving the situation for the Tule Elk in the Reserve. It is the most obvious solution and the best overall course of action that happens to also be most in line with the founding mission of the National Parks. Please take down the fence as it has no place in any National Park, let alone, the only National Seashore on the West Coast.

Superintendent Kenkel, I sincerely hope that you have the opportunity to spend some much needed time alone with the Tule Elk in the Reserve, free of the pressures of your job. I would also offer to meet with you to discuss my experiences over the years observing and documenting these specific Tule Elk for I believe that you could come away from such a meeting with a deeper appreciation than you might already have. I know that you have only been in your current leadership role in PRNS for a relatively short time, but I sincerely hope that you have the opportunity to reflect on the unique and powerful position you are in. I hope that the wild ones like the Tule Elk and the many other lifeforms and energies that still exists here within our beloved Seashore speak to you and resonate within you, for if this happens, then we and the others who come after us as well as those wildlife we share this space with will all benefit tremendously from the legacy that you leave behind.

Sincerely,

Matthew Polvorosa Kline

MISSION REWILD  
[www.MissionRewild.org](http://www.MissionRewild.org)

## Correspondence ID:3920

Correspondence: Elk Management Plan

I am a full-time, Inverness resident and homeowner who is invested in making sure that our way of life, as we know it, is not destroyed by extremist views by turning The PRNS into an ELK Park. I am by no means against the elk being here, but I am for a balance of agricultural, pastoral lands, which were created to keep the area pastoral: free from housing developments, and risks of fire; and also for preserving natural resources and the native flora and fauna for all the public to enjoy, which is the role of The Point Reyes National Seashore, AKA The Park. But I don't see it as an all or nothing proposition with only the ranches or only the elk being allowed to remain here. The role of the park is to preserve natural resources, and in so doing, to maintain a reasonable "carrying capacity" of the fenced elk herd at Tomales Point, while the ranchers role is to provide stewardship of the land. The elk are not going to keep up the pastoral zone, which is, in itself, its own eco-system. Seriously, people are being misled and it's just ludicrous if people believe the elk to be responsible for taking on the stewardship of the land! It takes people in the form of 3-6 generations of skilled PRNS ranchers to do that! This is contrary to what many of the anti-ranch activists seem to believe.

Our whole way of life is being threatened here by mostly "outside-of-the-area" anti-ranch special interest groups:

1. Stewardship of the land to prevent The Park from turning into a firebomb as it did from the fuel overload by the vacated ranch lands at Woodard the late summer and early fall of 2020, AKA The Woodard Fire occurred. This very real threat exists out in the PRNS pastoral lands. A recent defunct dairy ranching operation by the Point is now full of highly flammable Coyote Brush.
2. Diminishing our cultural diversity, jobs, businesses that support ranching, and especially school enrollment as it did when a 4th generation rancher had to recently retire his ranch from the PRNS due to the drought and no family members willing to take over the ranch operations.
3. The issues associated with 2.5 million annual visitors literally loving our Park to death causing the myriad of problems associated with over-use by the public, which would be made all the worse if access to rescue from fire and other visitor emergencies (paid by us, the local taxpayers) were blocked by brush overgrowth, all occurring if the stewardship of the land provided by the ranchers were eliminated, not to mention the aesthetic of the ocean views being blocked by brush overgrowth!
4. The elk were imported here in the late 70's to help regain their numbers, which they achieved, and surpassed by the end of the drought in the late 70's and the fenced herd's numbers kept increasing all on their own, so that by the late 90's the herd's population increased to about 550 without intervention by The Park. Statewide they numbered about 3,200, at that time, so roughly 20% of the state's population of elk resided at Tomales Point in the PRNS in the late 90's. But again, the irony is that the elk were moved from other areas of the state, because they interfered with ranching operations; causing such problems as competition for forage thus destroying rancher's fencing, and irrigations systems, and, as in the case of the free range Drake's herd in our Park, these elk have even gorged the cattle! Yet, there is no sympathy for these poor, helpless domesticated animals (cows) for whose welfare the ranchers are responsible, and who would be derelict in their duty if they did not properly care for their (domesticated animals) cows! (Watt 2017)  
<https://www.ptreyeslight.com/article/tule-elk-point-reyes-long-history-relocation>

5. National Parks, State Parks, National Forests and the Point Reyes National Seashore have a Wildlife Management Plan-what I'll call Park Management 101: All manage wildlife in the same way. It is "Survival of the Fittest" or "Let Nature take it's Course." They simply cannot treat wild animals as domesticated ones. Then, what you have is a zoo. The cost recently went from \$10,000 to \$30,000 to 75,000 for one truckload of organic hay. The price of organic grain varies, but costs \$5,000-\$10,000 a truck load, not to mention the \$1,000's upon 1,000's of dollars it takes to bring water trucked in 3 times a day to water a herd of cows in this drought, as it would do so for the elk. It also is a full time 7-8 hour day for someone to truck the water in. Oh, and one might also want to hire a full time veterinarian. The Park simply does not have the money or the staff for such a huge financial undertaking. The Elk Activists should become the real elk supporters by starting an ADOPT AN ELK PROGRAM!

6. The only natural predator in our area to the Elk is the mountain lion. But it is unlikely that there would be enough mountain lions in the area to cull the herd, and they may prefer easier prey. The only other predator is man, the grizzly bear and wolves. Culling of the sick weak or infirm elk is not a popular solution in our area and yet the new GMP allowed for it by enlisting the help of the Graton Ranchero who are consulting with The Park on wildlife management.

7. Grassland is an ecosystem with its own diverse flora and fauna and even threatened and endangered species, and is a perfect habitat for carbon sequestration. If the ranching plan had allowed for more diversification in it, then the ranchers would also be able to start doing this.

• Source: <https://www.fs.fed.us/grasslands/ecoservices/index.shtml>

8. It is important to have more than one industry, or some diversification, in our area and our PRNS ranches do this for us. They bring sustainable and organic food production to us, which is one of our basic necessities of life and yet only about 1 % of our food is grown domestically and the rest is imported food, which is not as highly regulated as our food is here. And yet there are those who wish to eliminate our 20 or so 3-6 generation ranching families from our area. The elk cannot provide us with sustainably produced organic food. As they are certainly not hunted here nor can they raise crops.

9. The problems resulting from an overpopulation of elk are many, some of the more egregious ones are:

\*They can cause severe overgrazing and soil erosion of sensitive habitat.

\*They can cause serious injury to tourists who do not keep a respectful distance away from the elk, particularly the bull elk during the rut.

\*They can tax the water system of the seeps and ponds in their habitat (when overpopulation occurs.)

\*They can cause an imbalanced eco-system causing rare and native plants to be trampled or destroyed, so they vanish and cause severe habitat loss to deer and other animals that compete for grassland.

\*The elk can defecate wherever they want, and the water tests done by the anti-ranch special interest groups in the pouring rain did not test for which animal's feces showed up. In contrast, the ranchers must fence off their cattle from all riparian areas. The ranchers are heavily fined for any water violations.

\*They can get and spread Johne's Disease-so why is it a good idea to have herds of elk running free by cattle ranching operations as in the Drake and Limintour herds.

10. In reviewing the 1998 Elk Management I was horrified to read that eliminating the 2 dozen or so ranches in the PRNS was the main objective in 3 out of the 4 plans, the very ones who are here to steward or care for this land in the first place, but instead of a peaceful co-existence this plan seemed to



favor turning the PRNS into an Elk Park. The point being that the elk and cow it was concluded could not exist together so one of them had to go. So, the elk were favored and the cow, meaning really, the 3-6 generation ranchers that have put their blood, sweat and tears into their ranches, the very ones who are caring for the land-had to go! Does this make any sense at all? It's not like elk can be stewards of the land and care for it the way the ranchers do.

11. The other thing I noticed in the old 1998 Elk Plan was the irony that all of the adverse conditions that were mentioned to be caused by the elk are now being touted as being caused by the cattle by the anti-ranch special interest group activists.

12. So did our brothers and sisters (And yes, we can really say that.) at Graton Rancho cull the sick, weak or infirm elk of the Drakes Beach and Limintour herds, as I thought, was decided in the very newly revised GMP? No, they did not. (This was according to The Point Reyes Light, if it can be trusted.) They let the herds increase. Why was that? Could it be that doing so, along with the new GMP will make life so impossible for the ranchers that the succession plan which allows for the locally recognized tribe (Graton Rancho, perhaps?) to take over the 3-6 generation ranch families' lands. Now that is an irony, particularly when Deb Haaland, our Secretary of Interior is Native American, herself. What is to be made of this? (If the Point Reyes Light can be trusted)

13. Another related question is how could The Secretary of Interior get away with changing the previous GMP, which was favorable to ranching, AFTER the comment period, only to change it to a GMP that makes it nearly impossible for the ranchers in the PRNS to make a living, particularly the 5 remaining organic dairy ranchers that are regulated by no less than 8 agencies and the CA water board. And that the 20-year leases are not being honored and instead the ranchers are only being given 1-2 year leases, currently. How can they manage improvements and upkeep to their ranches with such short-term leases? And yes, I read this whole new GMP with dismay, particularly the part of not allowing the ranchers to grow their own forage. (Again, what wasn't negative in the GMP was in The Point Reyes Light newspaper, if it can be trusted.)

14. Some of the ranches that are located near the defunct Pierce Point Ranch, home to the fenced Tomales Point elk herd as well as, the Drakes herd are particularly vulnerable to the "elk activists" who harass the ranching operations by their protests on the leased-from-The Park-land, and these special interest groups use of surveillance videos trying to incriminate the ranchers when they have no understanding or knowledge of what the ranchers are doing as the ranchers care for their animals and land. They must be passionate about ranching to withstand this level of persecution and harassment, not just by this unfavorable-to-ranching new GMP made without due process, as was the other GMP. Both GMP's do discuss the Elk Plan. It is also interesting that during a Republican administration there was not this outcry against ranching by the anti-ranch special interest groups, but only during a Democratic administration. Keep in mind I am a moderate who likes to see both sides of an issue!

15. In my opinion this surveillance of the ranchers is un-American and very much like "Big Brother" is watching you plying the populace with anti-ranch propaganda, which should not have a place in our "free" American society! How ironic that it even exists here in a supposed bastion of open-mindedness and free-thinkers. Well, this occurs when extreme positions occur on both sides of the political spectrum, as is the case of the divisiveness of these anti-ranch special interest groups! I can only wonder how much of this is by conscience and how much of this is a good fundraiser for these anti-ranch groups to go after some 20 small, family farms who can't fight them the way The Corporate Agricultural-

Complex can. Is it an easy way to garner support to raise more money for their causes, and is this just collateral damage to them? In their wake it will cause an absolute devastation of our area.

16. Another question is, is this anti-ranch sentiment due to people's belief systems about diet. I'd also call this "Food Intolerance," which has a double meaning. One meaning is that one type of diet doesn't fit with everyone's very unique body chemistry and what may work for one person may not work for another. While having a food intolerance, for instance, being gluten intolerant, could mean that one has trouble digesting gluten and it causes a whole host of physical afflictions including weight gain because one's body has difficulty digesting or tolerating gluten. Those who espouse a vegan diet do not eat meat or dairy and so some may place moral arguments against eating meat and dairy. But nutritional expert Donna Gates of The Body Ecology Diet believes that a vegan diet is too high in sugar and carbs to be healthy for those who have to watch their blood sugar or have autoimmune, cardiac or other health related disorders. Probably, the most interesting diet expert is the doctor who wrote the book "Eat Right For Your Type," by Dr. Peter D'Adamo, also known as "The Blood Type Diet." He had done extensive research about one's blood type and how food affects one's immunity, and reactions to food causing intolerances and allergies. After all, the blood is your seat of immunity. He states that roughly ½ the population and the oldest blood type are the O blood types, who benefit from eating red meat. However, the A blood type which is roughly the other ½ of the population benefits from more of a plant based diet, but also benefits from the consumption of chicken and fish. He also describes what works best based on his research for the rare blood types of AB and B blood. So, if those who are vegan are against ranching based on moral grounds, then they are being judgmental to those who cannot tolerate a vegan diet physiologically due to being perhaps an O blood type as roughly half our population is, or to those with blood sugar or other immunity issues. So everyone's body chemistry is unique and trying to force your ethics on someone else is a bit intolerant.

17. Ironically there are feeding programs for elk, which are causing an over-population of elk in some of the western states such as northwest Wyoming, in Yellow Stone and The Grand Tetons. Those animals, (some 20,000 of them), are causing all sorts of environmental problems such as degradation of sensitive habitat, and erosion and suffer from Chronic Wasting Disease or "CWD" due to their over-population: CWD: "an always-fatal neurological disorder that causes stumbling, weight loss and sponge-like brain lesions in deer, elk and moose." The article goes on to say "its more about politics than the animals (welfare)." Because unlike in our immediate area where hunting is frowned upon there is greater economic benefit in selling hunting tags, but as here the elk are also a big tourist attraction because of their majestic size and beauty. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2022/03/16/wyoming-elk-chronic-wasting-disease/>

18. However, because hunting of the elk is a popular sport in these 22 state parks with feeding programs they are getting quite a bit of revenue selling hunting licenses, which in turn does help pay for having elk feeding programs. Although as in the PRNS the elk are also great tourist attractions for their beauty and grandeur. Since hunting is not allowed in the PRNS nor perhaps would we wish to have it in a 100 square mile area in fear of harming people, livestock and other threatened or endangered animals, then perhaps those suing The Park should "Adopt an Elk" to help pay for the cost of the \$75,000 truck load of organic hay and the 3 times a day delivery of water trucks during drought conditions, to come all the way out to the ranch area to feed and water the elk, as they do for the cows. If this were the case The Park would be free to do its own water testing and not rely on just the CA Water Board's tests to satisfy the anti-ranch special interest groups with this redundancy, and if the ranches actually got their 20 year leases renewed some would actually be able to fix their septic systems, while

others could focus on much needed improvements to help them continue their stewardship of the land and to continue their ranching operations with a bit more ease.

19. The ranchers are unable to advocate for themselves. The PRNS Park and the PRNS ranchers don't have the funding to continually fight these special interest groups that keep suing them, whenever they want to move forward with a sustainable business model! But these outside special interest groups use biased information against our ranching community and to divide our community, and to fundraise for their own benefit all the while causing a potential ecological, economic, educational and cultural diversity disaster in our area in their wake.

20. All the ranchers' need is to garner some positive public opinion and support. So many ranch supporters in the community continue to be so intimidated by the very vocal, anti-ranch proponents, (most of whom are not from our area), and the divisiveness that it brings to this community, that they are still too afraid to advocate for the ranchers! The PRNS ranchers need some advocacy, and they need a fair shake, and hopefully they will start getting it very soon.

Respectfully Submitted  
Cathy Richards

**Correspondence ID:3921**

Correspondence: It is my position that the fence needs to be removed. It is the only way to address the nutrient and water deficiencies that the elk have experienced. The fence is both unsuccessful and cruel. Remove the fence!

**Correspondence ID:3922**

Correspondence: It is my position that the fence needs to be removed. It is the only way to address the nutrient and water deficiencies that the elk have experienced. The fence is both unsuccessful and cruel. Remove the fence!

**Correspondence ID:3923**

Correspondence: Commercial Ranching needs to end. This should already have occurred. Take down the fences.

**Correspondence ID:3924**

Correspondence: If the fence is to be removed and the Tomales Point herd of Tule Elk is allowed to move freely, then the spread of Johne's and other potential diseases from the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd to other ungulates should be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Among other topics, the EIS should examine the incidence of Johne's disease in the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd and the other Tule Elk herds at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS); the incidence of Johne's Disease in the Columbian black-tailed deer herd that is behind the Tomales Point Tule Elk fence and within PRNS proper, and the likelihood of an increase in Johne's and other diseases within PRNS and outside of PRNS.

**Correspondence ID:3925**

Correspondence: Point Reyes is a National Seashore, not a National Cattle Ranch. American taxpayers across the nation reasonably expect a National Seashore to be managed for natural values, not for private herds of cattle on public lands.

The ecological damage inflicted by large, non-native ungulates is severe and extensive. The impacts of cattle grazing on native Tule elk are highly antagonistic to the health of this species. The presence of privately-owned cattle on public land is unwelcome and poorly advised. Many millions of acres of public land can be used for cattle grazing.

The presence of cattle at PNNS is incompatible with the mission and purpose of the National Seashore. The continued presence of cattle on Point Reyes NS can not be justified.

**Correspondence ID:3926**

Correspondence: Marin Audubon Society Scoping Comments on Tomales Bay Area Plan

Marin Audubon Society appreciates the opportunity to submit scoping comments on the EIS and Management Plan for the Tomales Point wilderness area and Environmental Impact Statement that will be prepared for the Plan. Marin Audubon Society requests that the following questions and issues be addressed in the Management Plan and the EIS::

What has the NPS learned in the years since the current Management Plan was adopted that would change their management practices? What lessons are there from the CDFW and other entities that manage elk herds, that can guide the NPS in managing the Tule Elk?

Address the potential genetic impacts of keeping the Tomales Point herd isolated. The current situation allows for inbreeding and potential for genetic issues within the confined population. Wouldn't it be beneficial to the elk population to allow the herds to intermingle? -

Discuss other benefits to the elk of removing the fence, such as more available forage, water, minerals. Identify and discuss other potential adverse impacts of keeping the Elk isolated.

Describe and evaluate the forage vegetation, mineral sources and water sources available on Tomales Point for the elk during normal and dry years. Describe how the vegetation and water sources change during periods of drought.

How is the carrying capacity of a habitat determined? What is the carrying capacity of Tomales Point as defined in the current management plan? What is the estimated carrying capacity in the time frame of the revised plan? Discuss carrying capacity under normal weather years, dry years and projected ion rainfall estimates with climate change

Describe the Tule Elk confined population, including number of herds, areas occupied, movement patterns, interaction between herds, etc.

What is expected the elk would do if the fence were removed? Where is it predicted they would move? Is it expected they would connect with the existing unconfined herds or continue separate herds?

Some mortality related to drought conditions might be expected in any elk herd and actually any wildlife population. Compare the mortality during drought conditions of the confined and unconfined herds, at Point Reyes and herds in other parts of the state, during drought conditions.

Discuss predation on young elk in the unconfined herds and in the confined herds? Are there mountain lions within the Tomales Point fence enclosure that prey on young elk?

Identify and discuss other wildlife species that the fence confines, fox, mountain lions, bob cats, etc.)  
What is the impact on each of these species of being trapped in this enclosure?

Discuss anticipated management problems if the fence is removed and methods NPS would use to address them. Is it expected the elk would move onto private lands adjacent to the park, onto nearby highways?

Discuss the impacts visitors have on the elk? Does the presence of visitors limit elk use of any parts of the habitat? Do the elk avoid certain areas that are frequented by people? If so, what impact does this have on the population, if any?

What factors will the NPS consider in deciding whether or not to remove the fence? What is the purpose of retaining the fence when there are two free ranging herds? What are the concerns/risk?

**Correspondence ID:3927**

Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

Please make the Point Reyes elk a priority as you formulate the next management plan. The elk belong on this beautiful piece of California. The ranchers have been very well compensated and it's time for their full removal. Point Reyes is one of the most magnificent places on the west coast. It must be protected.

Thank you,  
Ron Letourneau

**Correspondence ID:3928**

Correspondence: It is my strong opinion that the NPS should return the park to as close to the natural state as possible. This would mean removing the fence separating not only the elk from grazing the entire park but other animals as well. The presence of commercial dairies has been demonstrated beyond a doubt to be having a detrimental effect on the environment both the land and ocean of Point Reyes. Those should be phased out as was the intention at the founding of the park. They have been expanded far beyond what existed at the Park's inception. Removing the fence, providing water for the elk and not killing them would be first steps in regaining the public's support for the NPS, which at this point is highly critical of its management.

**Correspondence ID:3929**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments for the pre-NEPA process re Tomales Point Tule Elk Preserve, specifically: maintenance or removal of the tule elk fence; population management of the Tomales Point tule elk herd; supplemental water for the elk in time of need; wilderness management and visitor use and infrastructure management at Pierce Point Ranch.

The Tule Elk at the Tomales Point Tule Elk Preserve represents all the elements of an imbalance of National Park policy and practice, tied to the history of the creation of national park lands by driving Indigenous peoples out of their homelands through violent actions and food source destruction, e.g., Tule Elk (see David Treuer's "Return the National Parks to the Tribes"). Now the Tule Elk at the Tule Elk Preserve are held behind fencing and left without needed water and food sources to survive. They are held for the benefit of dairy and beef cattle. If the Tule Elk are symbolic of Indigenous people, then dairy

and beef cattle are symbolic of the colonial settlers who drove Coast Miwok people out of the Point Reyes Peninsula, inserting themselves as the rightful landowners and heirs.

My question for the National Park Service is “Will you choose to fix this imbalance and change history?” My recommendation is to look to Indigenous ecological science and knowledge practices to explore solutions to fix this imbalance. Invite Indigenous scientists and cultural practitioners as decision makers and not just for a listening session. The Biden Administration has held discussions with Indigenous leaders all across the nation, use these broad consultation sessions to bring in Indigenous scientists. This planning process has the potential to actualize the goals of NEPA, White House Environmental Justice Policy, the National Park Service, the Biden Administration's America the Beautiful and California's 30 x 30 Initiative-- if there is a committed effort to include Indigenous scientists and cultural practitioners as decision makers.

For example, the Karuk Tribe has worked extensively on Roosevelt Elk management with UC Berkeley and state and federal agencies. This work addresses social and environmental injustice and goes further to “restoring local ecosystems and watersheds, expanding access to cultural foods and fibers, supporting local subsistence economies and community health, revitalizing cultural and ceremonial practices and enhancing self-governance and tribal sovereignty.” (<https://sipnuuk.karuk.us/digital-heritage/selected-topics-federal-indian-law-final-paper-karuk-sovereignty-elk-habitat-and> and <https://nature.berkeley.edu/karuk-collaborative/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Sowerwine-et-al.-2019-JAFSCD-Enhancing-Food-Sovereignty.pdf>)

Imagine what we would learn, as Indigenous peoples, environmental advocates, park visitors, park employees and local community residents, if the Tule Elk are understood as a significant animal and relative. A relative that could teach all of us about how life is interconnected to all things. For thousands of years the life cycles of Tule Elk and human moved in synchronicity. A time to burn, to ensure Tule Elk grazed on nourishing grasses. A time to prepare and teach young hunters. Human, animal, plant and waters--contributed to the ecology of life.

Indigenous science was in place for thousands of years on the Point Reyes Peninsula and also at past Strawberry Festivals at Kule Loklo. Indigenous people gathered for ceremony of song, dance and prayer at the round house. Part of the ceremony was the pit roasting of a deer. This cultural practice of hunting to feed the community signified and renewed Indigenous relationships with the animal world-- sustenance for body and spirit. The community prayed and gave thanks to the deer for giving its life.

Tule Elk at the PRNS Preserve are suffering from malnutrition and lack of water. It's time to renew an Indigenous relationship with the Tule Elk by providing a healthy environment of native grasses and clean waters so our relatives can be healthy and strong. It's time to bring in Indigenous scientists and tear the fence down.

Artist and Yurok traditionalist Charlie Burns urged, “We cannot abandon our relationship to the animal world. I pray that aboriginal peoples will survive and that they fight the modern struggle of apathy. I always pray the modern empire will come to its senses and stop the destruction of our only Earth. Nature is giving early warning about the state of the planet, and it's not good.” (p 36, When I Remember I See Red: American Indian Art and Activism in California, editors, Frank LaPena, Mark Dean Johnson with Kristina Perea Gilmore, published by Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento and University of California Press, Oakland, 2019)

Theresa Harlan, Alliance for Felix Cove

**Correspondence ID:3930**

Correspondence: May 5, 2022

Tomales Point Area Plan  
Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

To Whom It May Concern:

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP). Tomales Point is an area that has remarkable wilderness qualities. The area is also highly used by the public for solitude and access to the western shore of Tomales Bay. We appreciate being able to comment on this pre-scoping of the proposed area plan.

The Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) legislation and National Park Service (NPS) Policies provide guidance for development of the TPAP and for our comments regarding the proposed plan.

§ 459c-6. Administration of property

(a) Protection, restoration, and preservation of natural environment

Except as otherwise provided in sections 459c to 459c-7, . . . the property . . . shall be administered by the Secretary without impairment of its natural values, in a manner which provides for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with ... the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area, subject to the provisions of sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this title ... and in accordance with other laws of general application relating to the national park system as defined by sections 1b and 1d of this title....5

NPS Management Policies (2006; 6.3.4.2 Wilderness Management Planning)

These policies state: "The superintendent of each park containing wilderness resources will develop and maintain a wilderness management plan or equivalent planning document to guide the preservation, management, and use of these resources. The wilderness management plan will identify desired future conditions, as well as establish indicators, standards, conditions, and thresholds beyond which management actions will be taken to reduce human impacts on wilderness resources. In evaluating environmental impacts, the National Park Service will take into account (1) wilderness characteristics and values, including the primeval character and influence of the wilderness; (2) the preservation of natural conditions (including the lack of man-made noise); and (3) assurances that there will be outstanding opportunities for solitude, that the public will be provided with a primitive and unconfined type of recreational experience, and that wilderness will be preserved and used in an unimpaired condition. Managers will be expected to appropriately address cultural resources management considerations in the development and review of environmental compliance documents impacting wilderness resources."

54 U.S.C. § 100502

"General management plans for the preservation and use of each System unit, including areas within the national capital area, shall be prepared and revised in a timely manner by the Director. On January 1 of each year, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a list indicating the current status of completion or

revision of general management plans for each System unit. General management plans for each System unit shall include--

(1) measures for the preservation of the area's resources;(2)indications of types and general intensities of development (including visitor circulation and transportation patterns, systems, and modes) associated with public enjoyment and use of the area, including general locations, timing of implementation, and anticipated costs;(3)identification of and implementation commitments for visitor carrying capacities for all areas of the System unit; and(4)indications of potential modifications to the external boundaries of the System unit, and the reasons for the modifications."

Director's Order #41: Wilderness Stewardship

## 6.2 Wilderness Character

The Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1133(b)) directs that "each agency administering any area designated as wilderness shall be responsible for preserving [its] wilderness character." Wilderness character is the combination of biophysical, experiential, and symbolic ideals that distinguishes wilderness from other lands. The five qualities of wilderness character are (1) untrammeled, (2) undeveloped, (3) natural, (4) offers outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation, and (5) other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. Accordingly, each wilderness park will integrate the concept of wilderness character into park planning, management, and monitoring in order to preserve the enduring benefits and values of wilderness for future generations. Whenever a park planning process that has the potential to affect wilderness character occurs, the park should determine how wilderness character can be both integrated into the planning effort and presented in the planning document. As a foundation, wilderness parks should develop a wilderness character narrative which describes what is unique and special about a specific wilderness, organized by each of the qualities of wilderness character.

## 6.3 Wilderness Planning

For every designated wilderness, a Wilderness Stewardship Plan will guide management actions to preserve wilderness character. Parks should notify the WASO Wilderness Stewardship Division Chief and work with their Regional Wilderness Coordinator during the Wilderness Stewardship Planning process. Parks with lands determined to be eligible, proposed, or recommended should also develop plans to preserve wilderness character. Wilderness Stewardship Plans should be completed within two years of designation, subject to funding. Preservation of wilderness character will be incorporated into appropriate sections of park planning and management documents. Also see Management Policies 2006, Section 6.3.4.2.

Our specific comments follow:

1. As stated in 54 U.S.C. § 100502, general management plans for the preservation and use of each System unit shall be prepared and revised in a timely manner by the Director. With this statute in mind, we believe the TPAP has segmented the requirement to develop a timely, updated, and comprehensive GMP. Segmentation occurs when an action is broken down into small parts to avoid the appearance of the significance of the total action. An action can be too narrowly defined, minimizing potential impacts to avoid a higher level of impacts. Because the 1980 Point Reyes General Management Plan (GMP) is almost 40 years old (and required by law to be updated), amending this outdated document by focusing primarily on Tomales Point will mislead the public and not meet the requirements of the National Environment Policy Act. For example, visitation, facilities such as parking, historic features, special status species numbers, and abundance, and water quality standards have all dramatically changed since 1980. In turn, the 1980 GMP did not consider NPS Management Policies that were significantly updated in 2006. And, the NPS Director's Order regarding wilderness stewardship was updated in 2013. Because of these issues, the public cannot fully understand what changes are being made to the 1980 GMP because



a complete document with changes has not been produced. A full GMP process would be required to fully understand management direction, based on updated policies, previous park actions such as new facilities, and the impacts of these new actions and their cumulative actions.

2. The PRNS does not have a wilderness plan as required by policy and law. However, overall 85% of the TPAP proposed planning area is designated wilderness and will have direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts on wilderness values throughout the park's 30,000 plus acres of wilderness. We believe additional data and baseline information need to be collected to ensure the overall Philip Burton Wilderness Area is managed to maintain its wilderness character, as required by law. At present, the lack of a comprehensive wilderness plan and baseline information (desired future conditions, measurable and monitored indicators, monitoring plan, wilderness character description, and standards) makes the characterization of cumulative indirect and direct impacts on wilderness values impossible.

3. We are concerned about how cumulative impacts will be addressed. Without baseline data regarding the rest of the park and adjacent areas, it seems impossible to quantify these

impacts from all the changes. The existing GMP data is limited and outdated; thus, the TPAP will have to update baseline data such as economic, air quality, and climate change impacts to fully address cumulative impacts. The CEQ regulations (40 CFR §§ 1500 -1508) define the cumulative impacts and effects that must be addressed and considered by Federal agencies in satisfying the requirements of the NEPA process. This includes direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts: Cumulative impact is the impact on the environment, which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time. (40 CFR § 1508.7)

4. All long-term strategies to manage the elk populations should be in the context of NPS policy and law as are other natural resources within PRNS. It has to be a comprehensive plan covering the entire park, including other wilderness areas outside of Tomales Point. Tule elk at Point Reyes should be managed in the context of the overall population level and not just the Tomales Point area. We strongly believe the continuation of a managed tule elk herd is important ecologically (restores natural processes as directed in NPS policies and park legislation) and provides for enjoyment for park visitors. In addition, we do not believe the park has sufficient data to set a carrying capacity number at this time. The park's legislation directs protection and restoration of the natural environment as the highest priority for park management. Overall carrying capacity for tule elk should be established in the park for the entire park, including areas that do not have elk populations, and scientifically based.

5. As stated NPS policy and law require superintendents to "identify visitor carrying capacities for managing public use. Superintendents will also identify ways to monitor for and address unacceptable impacts on park resources and visitor experiences." We recommend the TPAP address carrying capacity for this area and the entire park. Park visitation increased dramatically from 2020 to 2021, 2.0 to 2.8 million visitors respectively.

6. Recreational use along the shoreline and within the waters of Tomales Bay should be evaluated in the TPAP to see if it's meeting the requirements of the Wilderness Act.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment. Thank you for your public service in maintaining and preserving our precious parks.

Sincerely,

Tom Baty  
President, Public Lands Conservancy  
Box 696  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Michael Murray  
Chair, Coalition to Protect America's National Parks  
2 Massachusetts Ave NE, Unit 77436  
Washington, DC 20013

**Correspondence ID:3931**

Correspondence: We write to submit our public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore.

It is our carefully considered opinion that NPS should remove the fence currently enclosing elk in the so-called preserve. We are not sure what purpose the fence serves, since we have often observed elk grazing on K, L, M, N, F and Home Ranches, and it is well-documented that elk outside the preserve are doing better than the captive animals within it.

Because tute elk are aboriginal inhabitants of the Point, because they are a state- and federally-protected endangered species, and because NPS is responsible for their presence outside the preserve, there is no intelligent solution to the current situation other than allowing the elk to roam free on the Point once more. This would allow the elk to continue to expand their range in the Point, and would start the necessary process of gradually phasing out the business of private cattle ranching in the Seashore, a business that is causing severe damage to the ecology of our national park.

Pamela Ross

**Correspondence ID:3932**

Correspondence: We write to submit our public comment for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore.

It is our carefully considered opinion that NPS should remove the fence currently enclosing elk in the so-called preserve. We are not sure what purpose the fence serves, since we have often observed elk grazing on K, L, M, N, F and Home Ranches, and it is well-documented that elk outside the preserve are doing better than the captive animals within it.

Because tule elk are aboriginal inhabitants of the Point, because they are a state- and federally-protected endangered species, and because NPS is responsible for their presence outside the preserve, there is no intelligent solution to the current situation other than allowing the elk to roam free on the Point once more. This would allow the elk to continue to expand their range in the Point, and would start the necessary process of gradually phasing out the business of private cattle ranching in the Seashore, a business that is causing severe damage to the ecology of our national park.

Charles Gay

**Correspondence ID:3933**

Correspondence: Lets get on board with the original intent of the Park and stop allowing ranchers and way too many cows to damage the land, and water.

The Elk are rare - originally from this area and a unique treasure.

Stop taking ranching \$ and pressure from politicians who take ranching \$ and get on board with the job you are supposed to be doing!

**Correspondence ID:3934**

Correspondence: I appreciate this opportunity to make suggestions for what should be included in this study for updating the future management of Tomales Point.

I note that there are various reasons why large wild animals, including elk, bison, and white-tailed deer, have to be managed in several national parks.

These more specific points should be added to the bullet points of general topics to consider listed in the announcement::

- 1) consideration of the Tomales Point elk population in the context of all the tule elk in Point Reyes
- 2) acknowledging the absence of predators that would have helped control the elk population with less human intervention
- 3) presence and effects of Johne's Disease in the tule elk population
- 4) an update on contraception possibilities for the tule elk
- 5) what is the carrying capacity of the park for tule elk?
- 6) review of how much culling may be needed to control the elk population, and if so how that culling could be done
- 7) consideration of the possibility that the elk may spread beyond the park's boundary

**Correspondence ID:3935**

Correspondence: Please remove the fence at Tomales Point so the elk can access food and water. It's the right thing to do.

**Correspondence ID:3936**

Correspondence: I attempted to upload my comment and an appendix, but there is no way to link comments, so I will be emailing them directly to the superintendent. I will also be mailing a hardcopy.

Thank you,  
Laura Cunningham  
Western Watersheds Project

/Users/lauracunningham/Documents/WWP/Pt. Reyes/Tomales Elk Plan/WWP-CBD-Tomales-Elk-EA.pdf

/Users/lauracunningham/Documents/WWP/Pt. Reyes/Tomales Elk Plan/Coda et al. 2020 Release Diane Gentile Final2\_compressed.pdf

Copied and pasted comments, but the photos did not go through.

May 8, 2022

Tomales Point Area Plan

c/o Superintendent

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Superintendent Craig Kenkel

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Via web portal at

<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=333&projectID=108690&documentID=119614>

Re: Tomales Point Area Plan Pre-Scoping

Dear Superintendent:

The National Park Service (NPS) announced that it has initiated a new planning process to address “complex wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues” at Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). The planning area includes the 2,900-acre Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve where native tule elk, once thought to be extinct, were reintroduced in 1978.

The NPS anticipates completing the Environmental Impact Statement by the end of 2024. Once completed, this plan would replace the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan and the NPS General Management Plan for the planning area. NPS discusses how this planning is separate from the recent General Management Plan Amendment which addressed ranching within the park and free-ranging tule elk.

Point Reyes National Seashore is one of a handful of national park units that permit livestock grazing. The purpose of the Tomales elk fence is to exclude tule elk from dairy and beef ranchleases. In the recent General Management Plan process, the NPS proposed to remove the elk fence and restore the Seashore to public use by sunsetting ranching under Alternative F, which would have allowed all elk to roam free. Instead, the NPS approved an alternative which keeps elk trapped behind the fence, expands commercial agricultural activities, and extends ranch

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leases for up to 20 years. This is all related, and we believe that a separate Tomales Point Area Management Plan is too narrow.

1. Instead of a separate implementation planning process, this needs to be a General Management Plan Amendment. NPS is trying to use a narrow implementation planning process by starting with proposing to update its 1998 Elk Plan which detailed how to manage elk at Tomales Point, instead of starting at the top of its planning pyramid and deciding how the broader lands and resources of Tomales Point should be managed. A General Management Plan (GMP) amendment should be undertaken, not an updated yet narrow Elk Plan. The GMP should come first, not this Tomales elk implementation plan. Implementation plans should tier off a broader GMP amendment. Implementation plans can discuss in a detailed, site-specific way how to carry out the more-general GMP decisions. Yet PRNS wants to do this planning process in reverse, pre-determining the outcome of a revised Elk Plan at Tomales Point. Instead, NPS needs to review a GMP amendment for Tomales Point. See the NPS planning process descriptions below:  
General Management Plan -- This is a broad umbrella document that sets the longterm

goals for the park based on the foundation statement. The general management plan (1) clearly defines the desired natural and cultural resource conditions to be achieved and maintained over time; (2) clearly defines the necessary conditions for visitors to understand, enjoy, and appreciate the park's significant resources, and (3) identifies the kinds and levels of management activities, visitor use, and development that are appropriate for maintaining the desired conditions; and (4) identifies indicators and standards for maintaining the desired conditions

Implementation Plans -- These plans provide project- specific details needed to implement an action in an area of a park and explain how the action(s) helps achieve long-term goals.

(Part 2 of NPS Management Policies 2006.

[https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP\\_2006.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP_2006.pdf) )

NPS says it intends to include both programmatic and site-specific analysis, and this should be clarified and explained.

2. The Tomales Elk Reserve fence needs to be removed. The public has overwhelmingly supported<sup>1</sup> protection of tule elk and restoration of Point Reyes National Seashore to natural conditions with wildlife, over commercial livestock management.

Free-roaming tule elk have already spread across the ranch-leases and reached the Tomales Point elk exclusion fence: there are presently elk on both side of the fence. Connectivity should be created by removing the fence.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.sfchronicle.com/environment/article/At-Point-Reyes-the-contest-is-elk-vs-15203706.php>

3

3. Drought mortality of tule elk is unacceptable. NPS admits that the impetus for this planning process is the extreme drought conditions over the past several years (Dear Interested Party Tomales Point Area Plan PDF at

<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=333&projectID=108690&documentID=119614>). The Tomales Point Tule Elk herd has been the subject of national

controversy at Point Reyes National Seashore. In 2015 during an extreme drought, the NPS announced the population behind the elk fence declined from 540 to 2862.

While NPS attributes this recent elk die-off in its press release to "poor forage quality," and asserts "there is no evidence that the population decline is due to dehydration and a

lack of water," NPS is well aware of the scarcity of fresh water on the Tomales Point peninsula. Elk die- offs on Tomales Point occurred between 2012 and 2015, resulting in

the death of 250 elk that were attributed to a lack of fresh water by NPS personnel in April of 2015.<sup>2</sup> These news stories characterized the Park Service position as drought

being the suspected cause of the elk death, drying ponds and grasses, the latter of which became inedible, and quoted NPS biologist Dave Press as stating, "While we were out on

the range conducting our annual census, we observed the ponds had gone dry." (Later, after a public outcry over the fact that the Park Service had allowed the old stock ponds

in the enclosure to go dry, the Park Service changed its story, and in August 2015 officially denied that the lack of available water had played a role in the elk die-off).<sup>3</sup>

This denial is in spite of the fact that the biologists who wrote the 1998 Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk Plan expressed concern that the ponds were a factor in determining the ability of the elk enclosure to support its population:

The peninsula of Tomales Point ranges from a narrow tip to over a mile and a half wide at the fence line enclosing the elk range. There are no natural year-round streams. The natural streams have significant flows only during the rainy winter months. From late spring to late autumn, only spring-fed seeps would provide

water for elk if not for the existence of eight water impoundments originally built for cattle. Elk regularly use these impoundments, but it is unknown to what extent they may supply the population with an artificially high water source. The elk range does receive significant moisture in the form of summer fog and

2 <https://www.marinij.com/2015/06/13/challenges-face-tule-elk-management-in-point-reyes-national-seashore/>;

Drought likely culprit in die off of tule elk herd on Tomales Point, by Mark Prado, Marin Independent-Journal, April

16, 2015; online at <https://www.marinij.com/2015/04/16/drought-likely-culprit-in-die-off-of-tule-elk-herd-ontomales-point/>, last visited 4/1/21.

3 Tomales Point tule elk have sufficient water supply, federal park says, by Mark Prado, Marin Independent-Journal,

Aug. 16, 2015; online at <https://www.marinij.com/2015/08/16/tomales-point-tule-elk-have-sufficient-water-supplyfederal-park-says/>, site last visited 4/2/21.

4

condensation during the dry season. The impoundments are considered as a possible means to manage tule elk under this plan. The water impoundments are a factor in determining the ability of the elk range to support its population. While clearly an artificial construction, caution should be taken to ensure that any alteration of artificial water sources does not impact other species of special concern. Otherwise, a return of the elk range to its native condition of seep-fed springs is considered desirable to maintaining viable populations.

[https://www.nps.gov/pore/learn/management/upload/planning\\_tule\\_elk\\_mp\\_ea\\_1998.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/pore/learn/management/upload/planning_tule_elk_mp_ea_1998.pdf) at 12. (Emphasis added.)

In the context of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the General Management Plan being prepared to govern Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area, numerous commentors called NPS's attention to the lack of fresh water available to elk on Tomales Point during drought conditions. In August of 2020, after ponds dried up on Tomales Point, a group of volunteers brought in water for the elk to address concerns about dehydration<sup>4</sup>. Photographs of elk that died in the mud of dried-up watering holes attest to the reality that scarcity of fresh water appears to be at least a contributing cause to elk mortalities on Tomales Point. Once again in 2020, Park Service officials denied that lack of fresh water was a factor in the die-off<sup>5</sup>

In 2020, hikers photographed dead and emaciated elk behind the fence at Tomales Point and brought it to the attention of the NPS.

In April 2021, NPS issued a press release disclosing a population decline in the Tomales Point elk herd, from 445 animals to 293 animals<sup>6</sup>. This loss of 152 elk occurred in the midst of a prolonged drought. The ultimate cause of this die-off (and previous die-offs) is the confinement of the Tomales Point elk herd behind the fence, on lands that do not reliably provide for all of this elk herd's survival needs.

As NPS is well aware, the soils on Tomales Point are deficient in key minerals needed by tule elk to survive and thrive. The Sheridan-Baywood soil type, associated with copper deficiencies problematic for tule elk, is known to dominate Tomales Point, according to

4 Another scuffle over Point Reyes elk population, this time over their water supply, by Nora Mishanec, San

Francisco Chronicle, Sept. 1, 2020; online at [https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Another-scuffle-over-](https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Another-scuffle-over-Point-Reyes-elk-population-15532010.php)

[Point-Reyes-elk-population-15532010.php](https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Another-scuffle-over-Point-Reyes-elk-population-15532010.php); As fire burns, activists sneak into Point Reyes to bring water to parched

5 Park refutes activists' claim that elk lack water, by Anna Guth, Point Reyes Light, Sept. 20, 2021; online at

<https://www.ptreyeslight.com/article/park-refutes-activists-claim-elk-lack-water>; site last visited 4/2/21.

6 [https://www.nps.gov/pore/learn/news/newsreleases\\_20210331\\_tule\\_elk\\_census\\_2020.htm](https://www.nps.gov/pore/learn/news/newsreleases_20210331_tule_elk_census_2020.htm)  
5

the Park Service's own Tule Elk Management Plan<sup>7</sup>. These soil deficiencies and the dietary problems they cause for tule elk at Point Reyes are so well-known that they have been documented in multiple scientific studies. Gogan et al (1988) reported antler deformities in elk on Tomales Point, which they related to copper deficiencies<sup>8</sup>. Gogan et al. (1989) found that plants and soils at Tomales Point were deficient in copper (an essential trace element), molybdenum, and sulfur-sulfates, and that elk were showing "gross signs of copper deficiency," which may have been a contributing factor in the death of two elk in Spring of 1979<sup>9</sup>. Cobb (2010) found that the most common cause of death for tule elk at Point Reyes was starvation, often accompanied with copper and selenium deficiencies<sup>10</sup>.

While NPS officials have repeatedly denied that scarcity of water on Tomales Point is a serious issue for the elk, this assertion is beside the point, and does not absolve the National Park Service of its culpability for mismanaging NPS lands and resources and directly causing this unnatural biological crisis. Regardless of whether the repeated elk die-offs on Tomales Point are caused by a lack of fresh water, by inadequate forage quantity, by dietary deficiencies related to the particular soil composition on Tomales Point, or some combination of these factors, the inevitable conclusion is the same: Resources available to the tule elk population confined on the 2,600 acre Elk Reserve at Tomales Point are often inadequate to sustain the captive population in a healthy state, particularly under drought conditions. If the NPS is going to hold wild animals captive (which the undersigned groups find inappropriate), NPS has an obligation to provide them adequate food, water and anything else they need to stay healthy.

NPS has an affirmative legal responsibility to conserve tule elk, as elucidated in a letter to the NPS of August 31, 2020, authored by Katherine Meyer, Director of the Animal Law and Policy Clinic at Harvard Law School<sup>11</sup>. NPS also has an affirmative legal duty to provide wildlife and natural resources on Point Reyes National Seashore "maximum protection" and leave them "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6(a); 54 U.S.C. § 100101(a). The enabling legislation for this Park Service unit specifies that this National Seashore was established "to save and preserve, for purposes of public recreation, benefit, and inspiration, a portion of the diminishing seashore of the United States that remains undeveloped...." Pub. L. No. 87-657, 76 Stat.

<sup>7</sup> NPS. 1998. Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment.

<sup>8</sup> Gogan, P.J.P., D.A. Jessup, and R.H. Barrett. 1988. Antler anomalies in tule elk. *J. Wildl. Dis.* 24: 656-662.

<sup>9</sup> Gogan, P.J.P., D.A. Jessup, and M. Akeson. 1989. Copper deficiency in tule elk at Point Reyes, California. *J. Range Manage.* 42: 233-238.

<sup>10</sup> Gogan, P.J.P., D.A. Jessup, and M. Akeson. 1989. Copper deficiency in tule elk at Point Reyes, California. *J. Range Manage.* 42: 233-238.

10 Cobb, M.A. 2010. Spatial Ecology and Population Dynamics of Tule Elk (*Cervus elaphus nannodes*) at Point

Reyes National Seashore, California. PhD Diss., U. Calif. Berkeley, 202 pp.

11 Letter online at

[https://www.nationalparkstraveler.org/sites/default/files/attachments/final\\_cbd\\_elk\\_letter\\_8-31-20.pdf](https://www.nationalparkstraveler.org/sites/default/files/attachments/final_cbd_elk_letter_8-31-20.pdf), site last visited 4/1/21.

6

538 (1962). Interdicting the freedom of movement of native wildlife for the benefit and convenience of livestock operations that lease Park Service lands, resulting in large-scale die-offs of tule elk, violates these legal mandates.

Under NPS policy, "Natural resources will be managed to preserve fundamental physical and biological processes, as well as individual species, features, and plant and animal communities. ... By preserving these components and processes in their natural condition, the Service will prevent resource degradation and therefore avoid any subsequent need for resource restoration." 12 Furthermore, "Biological or physical processes altered in the past by human activities may need to be actively managed to restore them to a natural condition or to maintain the closest approximation of the natural condition when a truly natural system is no longer attainable." 13 Under the alternative adopted for the Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk Management Plan, "The Seashore will attempt to manage free-ranging herds using minimal interventions to achieve viable populations as part of dynamic ecosystem processes." 14 Fence removal is necessary to restore the natural migrations and dispersals of tule elk on Point Reyes National Seashore, to maximize opportunities to achieve viable populations, and to restore dynamic ecosystem processes. Under the Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk Management Plan, "Their limitation to Tomales Point is an historical artifact of their reintroduction onto an area bounded by historic ranches and the intent to restrict their movements to a protected preserve. If they are to remain as part of the Seashore's fauna and ecological processes, they should eventually become free-ranging throughout most of the Seashore's natural zones where conditions allow." 15 More than two decades later, it is long past time for NPS to implement this goal of its own Tule Elk Management Plan. The Park Service's refusal to do so--along with increasing drought, die-offs, and the facts described herein--also constitutes significant new information about management of the Tomales Point herd that the agency must consider under NEPA. See 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(d)(1); 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(c)(1)(ii) (1978). To prevent an irreversible and irreversible commitment of resources while it analyzes this information, 40 C.F.R. §§ 1502.2(f), 1506.1(a), the agency cannot continue status quo management that causes another irreversible die-off of elk in the Tomales Point herd.

In April 2022 press release, the NPS references its Tule Elk Management Plan, and characterizes this year's elk die off as part of "a process called natural or self-regulation."

However, the cause of these repeated die-offs of rare native wildlife is completely unnatural: the 8-foot tall fence across the width of Tomales Point, blocking the natural

12 NPS. 2006. Management Policies, at p. 36.

13 Ibid., p. 37.

14 NPS. 1998. Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment at p. 50.

15 Ibid., at p. 40.

7

movements and migration of tule elk. This artificial barrier prevents elk from dispersing



naturally to areas with more abundant surface water, better forage quality, and/or adequate soils that support nutritionally appropriate vegetation. It is appalling that the Park Service is intentionally and artificially blocking the movements of native wildlife in a manner that results in their deaths. Furthermore, we are concerned that the periodic dieoffs of tule elk that result from their artificial confinement on Tomales Point could result in this population dropping below minimum viable population thresholds. Elk are harem breeders, with a few males doing most of the breeding, which skews the ratio of males to females contributing their genes to the following year's calves of the year. Tule elk on Point Reyes are known to have low genetic heterozygosity, making population viability a particular concern<sup>16</sup>. Compounded by genetic bottlenecks, these unnatural, drought-induced die-offs, may also increase the Tomales Point herd's susceptibility to disease such as Johne's Disease, a cattle-borne illness found in nearby dairy operations. The elk enclosure fence at Tomales Point Elk Reserve is an integral part of the Pastoral Zone landscape, which it borders, and it was designed explicitly to exclude elk from accessing Park Service lands leased for cattle grazing, for the convenience of ranching and dairying operations. This elk enclosure fence is out of compliance with Park Service policy, which states,

When the determination has been made through a planning process that it is appropriate for a facility to be constructed within park boundaries, all facilities will be integrated into the park landscape and environs with sustainable designs and systems to minimize environmental impact. Development will not compete with or dominate park features or interfere with natural processes, such as the seasonal migration of wildlife or hydrologic activity associated with wetlands.<sup>17</sup> Emphasis added. Its removal is necessary to come into conformance with Park Service policy. Point Reyes National Seashore is a unit of the National Park Service, not a zoo or safari park, where animals are artificially confined in an unnatural or quasi-natural setting. Maintaining this captive herd at Tomales Point "runs counter to the NPS policy of not maintaining captive herds for the enjoyment of visitors but instead to maintain wild populations within natural habitats." 1998 PRNS Tule Elk Management Plan at 54. Droughts may increase in frequency and intensity with climate change, and NPS needs to adapt its management accordingly--this should be reviewed in the EIS.

<sup>16</sup> NPS. 1998. Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment; see also

McCullough et al. 1996, From bottleneck to metapopulation: Recovery of the tule elk in California. Pp. 375-403 in

Metapopulations and Wildlife Conservation, Island Press, Washington DC, 429 pp.

<sup>17</sup> NPS. 2006. Management Policies, at p. 125.

8

A drying stock pond in August, 2020, during the extreme drought, Tomales Point central area. Photo: Matthew Polvorosa Kline.

Stock pond in  
Tomales Point  
Elk Reserve dry  
during drought  
by mid August,  
2020. Photo:  
Matthew  
Polvorosa Kline.

9

A stock pond in the northern Tomales Point area dry by early August, 2020. Photo: Matthew Polvorosa Kline.

10

Photo: Mathew Polvorosa Kline, Tomales Elk Reserve, 2020.

All stock ponds, springs, seeps, and streams should be mapped and surveyed. Herd unit typical home ranges should be mapped and overlaid with water resources.

Planning for regular maintenance of stock ponds should be analyzed so that these drought disasters do not happen again.

See the Appendix for a detailed description of water resources and mapped elk herds on Tomales Point: Coda et al. 2020.

4. Hazardous downed fencing needs to be cleaned up. Wildlife photographer Matthew Polvorosa Kline discovered tule elk snagged in old and downed fencing inside the Tomales Elk Reserve, apparently causing death as the elk could not free itself. This is absolutely unacceptable in a famous National Seashore where the Organic Act mandates non-impairment of natural resources.

11

Tule elk bull with antler snagged in old, downed fencing inside Tomales Elk Reserve. Photo: Mathew Polvorosa Kline, Tomales Elk Reserve, 2020.

Tule elk bull with antler snagged in old, downed fencing inside Tomales Elk Reserve. Photo: Mathew Polvorosa Kline, Tomales Elk Reserve, 2020.

5. Population management of Tomales Elk Reserve elk needs to be scientific. Very high mortality from drought events occurred, as this an elk “zoo” not a natural habitat. Before 12

European contact, local tule elk may have been able to migrate completely out of Point Reyes area in times of drought, to more well-watered marshy areas such as the Central Valley. Future population management of tule elk herds should take a secondary stance until all commercial livestock are removed from the park unit, as beef and dairy cattle are the current limiting factor with respect to carrying capacity, forage resources, water supplies, range management, and other park resources. The Tomales Elk Reserve is an artificial population management area where NPS states it allows “nature to take its way,” yet the fence is not natural, and only present in order to originally keep tule elk from entering cattle ranch-leases. Now that free-roaming tule elk herds have expanded across the ranch-leases, even to the outer side of the Tomales Elk Reserve exclusion fence, this becomes a moot point. Elk are already present in the dairy and beef ranchleases. The Tomales Elk should be allowed to escape this arid peninsula and intermix with the free-roaming elk, as a national park unit intends.

Culling of elk within and outside of the Tomales Elk Reserve is unacceptable. Instead, alternatives should be analyzed that remove the fence and remove commercial livestock operations in the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area as a connected action to better tule elk management within the Seashore.

6. Supplemental water and minerals were supplied to Tomales Elk Reserve elk only after extreme public outcry, protests, and media attention: this is unacceptable. In 2021, attorneys from the Animal Law Clinic at Harvard Law School sued the NPS over the elk die-off at Tomales Point<sup>18</sup>. Conservationists petitioned the Park Service to remove the fence<sup>19</sup>, as hundreds protested against leasing parkland to commercial beef and dairy operations in the Seashore. Public outcry eventually pushed the NPS to temporarily supply water to the elk.

We do not want to rely on NPS to manage these elk herds during drought conditions. Again, the fence should come down and these trapped elk be allowed to roam into the larger Seashore area and find water resources. The free-roaming elk herds did not suffer drought mortality, and apparently have access to better water resources.

7. More than 85% of the Reserve is within the Philip Burton Wilderness, making elk management difficult. Wilderness management should not include an artificial fence that traps native wildlife in a poorly-watered area, where hikers experience dying elk and dead elk carcasses due to drought kill because elk could not naturally migrate to find better resources. This does not comport with Wilderness values. Park staff, under constant public pressure, found creative ways to use old routes to enter Tomales Point to

18 <https://apnews.com/article/ca-state-wire-animal-rights-parks-travel-lifestyle-0954273933da397a37140bc2e8923d19>

19 <https://www.westernwatersheds.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Elk-Die-Off-2021-APA-petition-final.pdf>

13

deliver water by vehicles to the dying elk herds during the extreme drought of 2021, highlighting the difficulties of managing wildlife and also keeping to Wilderness mandates. Removing the fence would immediately alleviate this difficult management problem.

8. Invasive species should be managed with a detailed plan for control and elimination from the Tomales Point area. We noted invasive radish in the southern part of the Tomales Elk Reserve, apparently escaped from adjacent dairy silage fields. This nonnative weed should be controlled, and an Invasive Plant Management Plan developed.

9. Coastal prairie native plant communities need to be restored here, not just passively, but actively. During field visits we observed native coastal prairie grasses gradually being released from heavy livestock grazing pressure, that are beginning to expand into Tomales Point grasslands. Native grasses observed in Tomales Point:

- a. Purple needlegrass (*Stipa pulchra*)
- b. California oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*)
- c. Blue wildrye (*Elymus glaucus*)
- d. Creeping wildrye (*E. triticoides*)--in swales and low areas.
- e. Sandberg bluegrass (*Poa secunda*)
- f. Melic grass (*Melica imperfecta* or *torreyana*)
- g. Red fescue (*Festuca rubra*)
- h. Pacific reedgrass (*Calamagrostis nutkaensis*)
- i. Tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*)

A diversity of ferns, forbs, and shrubs form a mosaic of open grassland and north coastal scrub habitats. Active restoration could involve local volunteers collecting seed from native plants, growing these in nurseries, and planting out into the area. A Native Plant Restoration Management Plan should be developed as part of this review. Management

Escaped invasive  
wild radish  
(*Raphanus sativus*)  
plant in southern  
Tomales Point.

14

actions such as studying tule elk grazing influence on native plant communities, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge with local tribes such as cultural fire and prescribed

fire plans to open up some shrub areas should be reviewed.

10. Sensitive and Threatened/Endangered Species Need Inventorying, Monitoring, and Management. Federally threatened California red-legged frogs (*Rana draytonii*) may inhabit stock ponds and springs on Tomales Point, and management for this rare species should be analyzed with respect to drought, stock pond maintenance, and other water resources.

Salmonids may use streams and inshore coastal marine habitats, pinnipeds and cetaceans may use Tomales Point coastal habitats, snowy plovers may use beaches, rare butterflies may be present in recovering coastal prairies, and rare plants may occur on the peninsula. Other species could be present that need to be reviewed in this EIS. A narrow elk management plan ignores the many other significant biological resources that are potentially present on Tomales Point. This is another reason why a broad GMP amendment needs to be analyzed, not a narrow implementation plan just for elk.

11. Cultural Resources need to be surveyed and inventoried. This should include indigenous artifacts, cultural landscapes, and oral histories of surviving tribal representatives both federally recognized and not federally recognized tribes. Traditional Ecological Knowledge should be included in this analysis.

12. Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that is interpreted as to its dairy history. This should serve as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

These many alternatives should be considered, especially the publicly popular removal of the Tomales Elk Reserve fence, allowing tule elk to connect to other free-roaming tule elk herds, and find adequate water and forage.

We hold that it is inappropriate for any agency to exclude native wildlife from suitable habitats on any public lands, least of all units of the National Park Service, on which the protection and preservation of native wildlife supersedes any and all commercial uses, including (and in this case, particularly) livestock production. We ask the National Park Service to come into compliance with its statutory mandates requiring responsible wildlife stewardship, freeing the confined tule elk population on Tomales Point and allowing them the freedom to roam throughout Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area and engage in the natural process of seeking out adequate forage and water necessary for their survival. Due to the emergent mortality events during recurring droughts, we urge NPS to provide solutions that can be applied to release the tule elk of Tomales Point from their unnatural confinement and maximize their chances of survival.

15

Thank you for your time. Please contact me at [lcunningham@westernwatersheds.org](mailto:lcunningham@westernwatersheds.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Appendix

Coda, J., D. Gentile, D. Oppenheim, M. P. Kline. August 23, 2020. Press Release, Captive Tule Elk Herd at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore Lacks Water and Needs Help.

For Immediate Release

August 23, 2020

Contacts: Jim Coda, Retired NPS attorney and wildlife photographer

Diane Gentile, Diane@SavePointReyesNationalSeashore.com

Diana Oppenheim, ForElk.org

Matthew Polvorosa Kline, Photographer

Captive Tule Elk Herd at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore  
Lacks Water and Needs Help

In a disturbing replay of National Park Service (NPS) neglect during the drought of 2011-2015, the Park Service is again allowing the old stock ponds in the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve<sup>1</sup> to go dry. These ponds are an essential water source for the captive Tule elk<sup>2</sup> because there are no perennial streams in the reserve. During that drought, approximately 250 out of 500 elk died for lack of water. We are concerned that NPS is going to let that happen again.

In order to fully understand the effect of the current drought on the estimated 445 Tule elk in the reserve now<sup>3</sup> it is necessary to understand where the elk are located and where the ponds are that they rely on.

A detailed study by wildlife biologist McCrea Cobb was published in 2010 that delineated the home ranges of four distinct herds in the elk reserve which he named the North Herd, the Plateau Herd, the White Gulch Herd and the South Herd.

Below is a page from that study that delineates the four home ranges.

As Cobb's text below his map states, there is little spatial overlap among the four tule elk herds. That is clear from viewing the telemetry fixes of collared elk taken every three days from 2005 to 2008. In other words, individual elk from one herd rarely go into another herd's home range and that includes never using ponds located in another herd's home range.

1 The elk in the reserve are held captive behind an 8-foot, woven-wire fence that was built to hold the elk captive

contrary to NPS wildlife management policy that wildlife not be confined.

2 Tule elk are endemic to California. Once numbering approximately 500,00 animals, they were nearly wiped out by

market hunters and ranchers and are now at a population of only 5700 animals. They have very low genetic diversity.

3 [https://www.nps.gov/pore/learn/nature/tule\\_elk.htm#:~:text=The 2019 annual census of,445 individuals at Tomales Point.](https://www.nps.gov/pore/learn/nature/tule_elk.htm#:~:text=The 2019 annual census of,445 individuals at Tomales Point.)

2

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/2wt3h3rc> at 37.

If you look closely between the White Gulch and South herds, you will see that Cobb has included the location of the Pierce Point Ranch complex and the trail down to McClures Beach to help orient the viewer. The entire road from the reserve entrance to the ranch complex is also depicted.

3

Below is a screen grab depicting the six ponds in the elk reserve that we found using Google Earth. To help orient the viewer we have also marked the Pierce Point Ranch complex. We have recently visited and photographed all six ponds.

The North Herd

Starting with the North Herd, there are two ponds in its home range, North Pond I and North Pond II. North Pond I is completely dry as seen below. Photo taken on August 21, 2020.

4

North Pond II is the biggest pond in the reserve. It has water, but it is way below capacity. See photo below taken on August 16, 2020.

5

The North herd seems safe now with one of its two ponds having some water, but now the herd has only one pond to drink from so it will consume that water faster than when there were two ponds with water.

The Plateau Herd

The next herd is the Plateau Herd. Comparing that herd's home range and the pond locations, the Plateau Herd has Central Pond I and Central Pond II in its home range. Central Pond I is dry. See photo below taken on August 21, 2020. Central Pond II is very close to dry. See photo below taken on August 21, 2020

6

It will likely go completely dry soon. When the Plateau elk consume the last drops of water from that pond they will have no water, at least none that we can find in Google Earth or on the ground ourselves.

The White Gulch Herd

The next herd is the White Gulch Herd. We could not locate a pond in its home range on Google Earth, but there is some sign of a seep that drains toward Tomales Bay. Whether it is running now is unknown. Its home range does overlap the Plateau Herd a bit, but it doesn't seem to overlap enough to include Central Pond II. Even if it did, that pond (above) will be dry soon. Cobb's map shows the White Gulch Herd seems to wander away from its home range more than the other three herds and water may play some role in that. There are some radio telemetry fixes showing White Gulch elk not far from the seep that ends up at McClures Beach which is a short distance from the South Herd's home range. That seep will be discussed below.

The South Herd

The last herd is the South Herd. South Pond I and South Pond II are within its home range. Both of these ponds are dry and have been for a while. Below is a photo of South Pond I. Photo taken on August 7, 2020.

7

This pond is a short distance off the left side of the road about a quarter mile before the historic Pierce Point Ranch. The pond went dry during the 2011-2015 drought when 250 elk died for lack of water in the reserve.

After the die off, Park Service official Dave Press stated that "the seashore is

developing a plan to truck water to an easily accessible pond if it runs dry again in the future.”<sup>4</sup> The easily accessible pond Mr. Press refers to is the pond in the photo above. By letter dated August 10, 2020, Jim Coda, a wildlife photographer, wrote to the park telling it that that pond was dry again and it was time for the park to act on its earlier commitment to fill it when it ran dry. To date it has provided no water for the elk.

Below is a photo of South Pond II which was taken on August 18, 2020.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ptreyeslight.com/article/seashore-elk-herds-rose-and-fell-fences-2014>  
8

According to the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan, there were eight old stock ponds that the elk relied on for water in the reserve. The ponds were deemed very important to the elk's survival because the plan states there are no perennial streams in the reserve. We can only find six ponds which we have named based on their location. Over time, ponds tend to fill in and slowly disappear if not maintained. That may be why we could not find two of the ponds mentioned in the 1998 Plan. The six ponds we did find are probably shallower than they were in 1998 and even more so compared to when they were originally dug.

There is one other water source. It is a seep which flows down adjacent to the McClures Beach trail and ends in a pool at the beach. It is not clear from Cobb's map whether the White Gulch Herd or the South Herd is using the seep or possibly both herds. There is sign that elk are using the seep at the beach and a short distance up from the beach.

Here is a photo taken on August 19, 2020, of an elk that went to use it and died in the seep just before it reaches the beach. This is one of four dead elk found last week while checking ponds and surrounding areas.

9

The seep is flowing now, but its flow is decreasing and the pool at the beach is extremely shallow. The canyon that the trail and seep runs through is quite steep on both sides and the area the seep runs in is heavily overgrown with vegetation until it gets near the beach. The pool at the beach up to a short way behind the elk in the photo is the only easy access to the seep's water. The pool on the beach is extremely shallow at this time, about 1 to 2 inches, possibly an inch or so more in spots.

10

Below is a typical view of the steepness and heavy vegetation as seen from the trail. Photo taken on August 21, 2020.

The heavy vegetation hides the seep until it gets very close to the beach. Dave Press told us that based on a trail cam, NPS has determined that the elk don't use the seep during the daytime, probably because people are on the trail during the day. He also told us that NPS will not put water in the easily accessible pond near the road until the seep stops running, thereby contradicting what he was quoted as saying in the Point Reyes Light in 2015. And how long will it take before NPS finds out the seep has stopped flowing and it can get a tanker truck loaded and out to Pond I? And what about the Plateau Herd and its almost dry pond? Does anyone in the Seashore know what the word “empathy” means?

In summary, the North Herd has water for a while. The Plateau Herd is about to run out of water not many days from now. The White Gulch Herd doesn't appear to have any ponds in its home range, but it does appear to have a seep which may or

may not be flowing at this time. The next closest water would be the seep at McClures Beach which may stop flowing at any time. The South Herd is out of water except to the extent the McClures seep keeps flowing and the animals can go all day without drinking water.

This is absurd. NPS policy prohibits holding wild animals captive. The Park Service has an obligation to provide adequate water (and food) for these captive elk. If you're going to hold them captive, then you have an obligation to keep them alive.

11

If any elk die because any NPS personnel failed to care for the captured elk humanely, like zookeepers are required to do, those employees could be found guilty of animal abuse, neglect or cruelty.

NPS should fill the South Pond I immediately. It should also bring in water by helicopter for the Plateau Herd whose remaining pond (Central Pond II) is about to run out of water. While the reserve is a wilderness area, flying in water would not violate the Wilderness Act because mechanized vehicles are allowed where necessary to meet the minimum requirements for the administration of the area. Concerned citizens are contacting the Superintendent of the Seashore and asking her to please fill South Pond I with water to ensure the South Herd elk don't die. Furthermore, the park should also fly in water to fill Central Pond II, which is close to drying up, to prevent members of the Plateau Herd from dying.

Finally, all of this requires that holding the elk captive behind an 8-foot tall wovenwire fence without adequate water (and possibly forage) must end now. The fence is contrary to the 1916 NPS Organic Act and the Point Reyes legislation which both require NPS to give priority to elk and other natural resources, not to private, subsidized ranching, which is the only reason why the fence is there.

The Superintendent can be reached as follows:

Acting Superintendent Carey Feierabend

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94

Email: [carey\\_feierabend@nps.gov](mailto:carey_feierabend@nps.gov)

415 464-5102

### **Correspondence ID:3937**

Correspondence: Please consider the overall environment as you consider Tomales bay. Our earth is screaming for fewer cows and more open space. Please remove the ranchers and cows from our PUBLIC lands. They are as far from sustainable as they can be and do not belong in our National Seashore. Remove the fences and barbed wire and let nature try to heal this land. At a minimum, as a veterinarian, I cannot stand by and watch as we starve those elk and watch them die while fencing them in. If the elk are to remain fenced, they must have adequate water and food. It is the only humane option.

Thank you,

Amy Allen

### **Correspondence ID:3938**

Correspondence: Dear NPS,

Proposed plans for Point Reyes National Seashore must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point. Elk and other wildlife would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley. Unfortunately, two commercial interests (I Ranch and J Ranch) suck up the



region's water, for their modern high intensity dairy operations. It's outrageous that the enormous loafing barns of those two ranches, each exceeding 30,000 square feet in area, were built many years after that land was purchased by the federal government,

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve. PRNS should be managed as a nature park, NOT as an elk zoo adjacent to a collection of factory farms.

Please start questioning the way you have been conducting business. That is how progress is made in a well functioning society. Maintaining an open mind is necessary for truth to be revealed, and for injustices to be corrected.

A case in point is the Kenneth C. Patrick Visitor Center, which is named in memorial to the park ranger who was murdered in the line of duty in 1973. Most people don't know that Veronza Bowers, the man convicted for Ranger Patrick's murder, is almost certainly innocent! More info can be found at [www.veronza.org](http://www.veronza.org), or at one of the sites that advocate for the release of political prisoners. With the retrospect of almost five decades, we now know that the FBI ran shady operations (like COINTELPRO), specifically to target politically active citizens such as Mr. Bowers. With our modern knowledge of historical racism and 20th century political repression, we can safely say that the flimsy evidence for his case wouldn't merit a conviction.

Free the elk. Free Veronza. Let wilderness return to this precious national park.

**Correspondence ID:3939**

Correspondence: Dear Park Superintendent,

In regards to the Tomales Point Area Plan, I writing to ask you to remove the Tomales Point fence. Please prioritize the management of the Tule Elk Reserve and stop ceding our public resources to private beef and dairy operations. These operations harm the natural and cultural resources you have been trusted to protect and preserve. These operations exclude the public from public land and harm the native flora and fauna of Point Reyes. I believe this course of action will be the best way to implement the mission of the National Park Service and benefit the people who own this public land.

Thank you,  
Perry J. Gray

**Correspondence ID:3940**

Correspondence: It is my position that the removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is the only way to accurately address the nutrient and water deficiency and associated Tule Elk population management problems in the Tomales Point area.

The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is neither a radical or new idea. In fact, the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the "elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89).

The decline of the Tule Elk Reserve's herd by nearly half over the last few years is not natural self regulation but a direct result of the lack of access to proper nutritional forage and adequate water sources during the increasingly hot summers caused by Climate Change. Because there are no perennial streams in the Tule Elk Reserve, the herd's population has been cruelly limited to which individuals can survive on limited nutrition and water. This is not a natural carrying

capacity.

The Tomales Point herd is still relatively new and has very little genetic diversity compared to other natural herds. The entire Tule Elk subspecies experienced a severe bottleneck effect in the 20th century, and the Tule Elk Reserve fence causes further genetic selection limitations for the herd in the Tomales Point area. The loss of genetic diversity across generations can lead to harsh consequences, such as weakness, illness, disease, death and even extirpation if the National Park Service does not actively increase connectivity between the herds in the park and establish more free roaming herds within the Seashore's boundaries.

A study published last year on the genetic diversity of a Tule Elk metapopulation reintroduced in a similar time frame to the Tomales Point herd found that there was lack of migration among the groups, and almost every group was below the threshold to improve or maintain genetic diversity over the next 25 years (Batter, Bush & Sacks, 2021).

Compared to natural Rocky Mountain Elk populations in Idaho, where there has been considerable gene flow between geographically isolated groups, there was little migration among most groups even decades after introduction (Aycrigg & Garton, 2014).

This suggests that genetically isolated populations, like the Tomales Point herd, will likely decline further due to inbreeding and genetic problems unless they are able to move freely and breed with the other free-roaming populations in Point Reyes National Seashore and the state. A 1987 study conducted in the Tomales Point Reserve backs up this claim. The authors argue that without the ability to increase genetic variation, the Tomales Point herd will suffer from the various problems associated with inbreeding, depression, and genetic drift to the point of extinction (Barrett & Gogan, 1987). Genetic variation in the herd could be improved or at least maintained through natural processes if the herd was able to freely roam throughout the Seashore and breed with the other established free-roaming herds.

Although it is the National Park Service's responsibility to prioritize the natural resources (including the Tule Elk) of the Seashore, it is impossible to ignore agricultural and ranching operations within its boundaries. The National Park Service, among others, often claim that removal of the Tomales Point fence will have significantly harmful impacts on the tenant cattle ranch operations in the Seashore. It is our position that the current population size of the Tule Elk in Point Reyes will have little impact on cattle grazing in the Seashore.

This is backed up by a case study in the Owens Valley in Southern California. A socioeconomic analysis was conducted in 1985 by researchers in the Owens Valley which has had similar competition between various political, agricultural and environmental interests in the last few decades. Additionally, the population size of Tule Elk in the Owens Valley at this time fluctuated roughly between 200 and 300 individuals which is similar to the Tomales Point Herd in Point Reyes today. (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970) Obviously, Owens Valley and Point Reyes are not exactly the same but there are many undeniable similarities especially the central factor of competition between domestic livestock and the native Tule Elk.

The analysis concluded that Tule Elk populations in the Owens Valley could be significantly larger if the state was able to establish more free-roaming herds throughout the region. The social benefits of this would ultimately outweigh the social costs associated with the conflict between Tule Elk and livestock. The authors remark, "The competition between Elk and domestic livestock in the Owens valley is minor even during drought" (Wantrup & Phillips, 1970, p. 26).

The Tomales Point fence is in clear conflict with the National Park Service's directive to protect the natural resources of the Seashore for the countless generations to come. This goal can only be actualized through the removal of the Tomales Point fence, the installation of wildlife corridors to increase connectivity among the Seashore's several Tule Elk herds, and long-term genetic

monitoring.

The creation of wildlife corridors specifically is a feasible and realistic goal which would allow the Tomales Point herd to travel to the Southern portions of Point Reyes and alleviate the population density in the North. This was originally proposed in the 1998 Environmental Assessment (Appendix G) as one of the many options to increase connectivity and establish free-roaming herds (National Park Service, 1998). Today, wildlife corridors are still a viable alternative to increase connectivity between the herds in the Southern part of the Seashore, and allow the Tomales Point herd to stabilize its population size and health.

We are living at a critical moment in time as we are faced with unprecedented loss of biodiversity and wild places on a global scale. The public has set aside Point Reyes as a National Seashore--one of a few rapidly vanishing slices of wilderness in the West to be protected and Preserved. The decisions made today will have a profound impact on innumerable generations of visitors and wildlife. What will visitors see in fifty years if you do not act now? A living landscape and mosaic of wildlife, including the iconic Tule Elk--or a wasted landscape ruined by our own hubris and inaction?

It is your and all of our responsibility to ensure that the bugling Tule Elk are not another silenced instrument in the wild orchestra of the planet's natural world. We ask you to do the right thing, and make Point Reyes a National Seashore that lives up to the values it espouses

**Correspondence ID:3941**

Correspondence: Please protect these majestic God made wild elk. They dont require much as opposedto cattle ranchers who require more and more land...including land guaranteed for these wild animals. Cattle ranchers have MONRY that seems to guarantee TAKING land that shouldnt belong to them an slaughtering these innocent animals .. slowly and cruelly. Money used for the wrong reasons is wrong and just evil. Please make the right decision and protect these beloved elk. Thank you for asking for my input. God bless.

**Correspondence ID:3942**

Correspondence: Point Reyes National Seashore (PTRE) announced comments are welcome to inform the planning for the Tomales Point Management Plan that will replace the Tule Elk Management Plan ('98) and those parts of the General Management Plan that addressed activities and management in Tomales Point. The resulting plan will address, at least in some part, the management of the Tule Elk and I offer the following comments.

In previous plans for PTRE the management of free-ranging Tule Elk were addressed. As a visitor and from news - information I was shocked that Tule Elk were not given the proper access to lands allowing for their health and well-being. The climate of the area appears to be changing, meaning wild free ranging wildlife should be able to move anywhere in the Tomales-Pierce Point area to access water, better feed, thermal protection, and distancing from human activity (when and where the elk chose). The area, once the Pierce Point Ranch and now closed dairy operation, should have all roads rehabilitated along with all fences removed. Fences block animal movements, can snare individuals, and are fully counter to the idea of a "free-ranging large wild mammal populations". As such, the fences are alien to the idea of natural activities of wild animals and plants in a unit of the National Park Service. Take down the fences to allow elk to move to find the habitats they need, avoiding mortality in the herd because they lack access to water, especially in the ever likely situation of droughts and a new droughty ecosystem. Taking down the fences eliminates any need for providing and maintaining an artificial watering system for wildlife, especially where animal disturbing water trucking is necessary to maintain

the watering system. Fences also don't belong in Wilderness Areas, and a good portion of the Tomales Point area is in the P. Burton Wilderness.

The park (PTRE) can maintain the Point Ranch Interpretive program to tell the story of the previous 100 plus years, where the park also can present how the fences needed to come down to help the free-ranging Tule Elk adapt to the changing climate - environment. The interpretive center can model how lands once operated in a livestock or dairy business can be returned to a more naturally functioning system where animals and plants can move or relocate to adapt to changing conditions.

Removing fencing will eliminate the onerous and costly annual efforts of delivering water, maintaining an artificial watering system, and explaining why wildlife have to die tangled in unmanaged wire fences. PTRE and the NPS has many more studies, projects, and activities to fund than a band-aid watering system for drought stressed Tule Elk and other wildlife.

It's time to help the natural system of PTRE return to it's former splendor by removing the fences and giving Tule Elk and other wildlife the freedom to move. PTRE can still tell the story of the cattle and dairy industries for the 100 plus years they operated, but also tell the story of how once agricultural lands can be restored to natural systems that can heal and hopefully flourish.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important planning and future management program.

Bruce Connery

**Correspondence ID:3943**

Correspondence: This whole thing makes my stomach turn to think that we've come to a place in this capitalistic world where money and power always win... regardless of how many people write to you - begging for you to have an ounce of compassion for the Elk, for nature, for our planet, for humanity, for our fragile and precious eco-system and ocean. It feels futile and soul crushing. The actions taken by the authorities that rule this public land - land owned by the people, not corporations, is in-humane, short-sighted, greedy and corrupt. These actions must stop feeding the corporate machine and start working for the people, and honor the wishes of the public instead. I do not know anyone who is in support of shooting the elk. We all know in good conscience that it's an unnecessary and barbaric act of cruelty. So once more, I ask that you to dig deep within your soul - and this time, do the right thing. Restore our coast to what it was meant to be - a nature preserve for these majestic animals. Thank you.

**Correspondence ID:3944**

Correspondence: I hope you will include a survey of other NPS sites where large mammals have required management. My understanding is that there are quite a few. What criteria does NPS presently use to guide their decisions regarding wildlife management.

How many elk can the Park manage (1) inside the fence (2) if there were no fence, with consideration for the safety of visitors and neighbors.

In addition to cows, what other animals present in the Park might be in conflict with an expanded herd of elk.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Correspondence ID:3945**

Correspondence: I support removal of fencing to allow the elk to roam over a greater area.

- The drought mortality of native elk is unacceptable.
- Removing the fence is better management for wildlife than setting up plastic water tanks and troughs, and trucking water up to the elk reserve.
- Old and downed fencing is hazardous and needs to be removed. Elk become tangled in these fences and die.
- 85% of Tomales Point is in the Philip Burton Wilderness, making NPS management of tule elk herds here much more difficult during times of drought. The fence needs to come down.

**Correspondence ID:3946**

Correspondence: How is it that it is even an issue in 2022 whether to free the wild tule elk or not? National parks were created to offer a refuge for wild creatures to thrive & to be safe. National parks were also set aside so humans could have a place to visit where they could experience nature in her magnificent fullness & diversity.

To ruin all this glorious possibility at one of the most spectacular parks on the pacific coast to set up subsidized squalid farms full of separated domesticated animals living unnaturally & exploited for human consumption .is beyond horrifying. How can humans be so dense as offer leases to farms that are clearly inappropriate as well as a visual blight.

No wants to visit a sea side park & be confronted by mournful cattle in dry fields where the mothers have their babies ripped from them st birth so their milk can be given to humans? At Point Reyes one can see the calves isolated in tiny huts cut off from tier mothers & the sunshine & the earth. All for the benefit of humans yet I know of no one who still consumes milk as there are so many superior plant based “milks”that are not produced through suffering.

Why decimate the last of the tule elk ti support a dyeing unhealthy inhumane non sustainable dairy business?

Will we human keep destroying the natural world until all is gone?

The choice us clear:

Eliminate the dairy leases at Point Reyes National Seashore Park

Free the tule elk & provide them with water & adequate grazing grounds.

Encourage diversity of all flora & fauna.

Aligne with Nature not human greed.

Avoid short cuts for immediate profit at the expense a sustainable future.

REMOVE THE FENCE AT TOMALES POINT ASAP!!!!

**Correspondence ID:3947**

Correspondence: May 9, 2022

Point Reyes National Seashore

RE: Tomales Point Area Management Plan

A new management plan for Tomales Point is desperately needed. The on-going losses of the native species in this area speak to failings in the timely adaptation of natural resources management in the face of accelerating climate change. Elk deaths through starvation and dehydration are unacceptable, especially in a National Park. The Area Plan must address sustainable long-term (50 years) water and forage needs for the elk and the other native species

The Tomales Point Area Management Plan should not be restricted by the pending decisions regarding the broader Point Reyes Seashore General Management Plan. That pending plan faces significant legal hurdles that put the proposed 20 year private leases into serious question. Legal delays will push any

"final lease decisions" regarding the General Plan out 2-3 years, likely beyond the time when the Tomales Point Area Plan is scheduled for completion.

An NPS environmental analysis and subsequent EIS that assumes cattle and dairy operations to continue south of the Tomales Point Plan Area would be highly questionable and difficult to defend. The National Environmental Policy Act is clear regarding the perils and inappropriateness of "segmentation." The Tomales Plan must not assume that the current NPS "preferred alternative" for the General Plan is baseline, or is given precedence over a potential future that removes all domestic livestock from the Seashore. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>SEP</sub> The public and several environmental organizations are already advocating for a removal of the elk fencing that currently restricts the elk from accessing their basic survival needs for water and food. The fences were built to protect commercial leases and failed to protect native habitats. If NPS were to restrict a full review of fence removal because of potential impacts to cattle and dairy operations, the Tomales Point Plan will fail to meet the intent and purpose of NEPA. It is clearly in the public's interest for NPS to thoroughly assess fence removal in the context of a future removal of livestock from Pt Reyes National Seashore.

As the climate models continue to improve and the US and global emissions continue to rise, there should be no doubt that drought conditions will get significantly worse. Water and forage availability will decrease in the Tomales Point Area. The Area Plan must describe and address a future that will experience greater and more severe shortages of water and forage. NPS must describe what the "worst case" conditions could be, and what that will look like concerning food, forage and cover for the elk and the other native species.

The NPS is under tremendous scrutiny concerning Pt Reyes. The agency has lost the trust of over 50,000 citizens who were assured their comments would be seriously considered regarding the General Management Plan. The public responded with overwhelming demands for real change that would better protect our Seashore. But NPS chose "business as usual," the protection of a handful of private interests but not the public interest. It is incumbent on the NPS to undertake a transparent and trustworthy planning and review process this time.

The public has witnessed NPS failures to manage chronic and serious water quality violations, ignoring illegal dumps and the illegal killing of wildlife on 28,000 acres of public lands. It is time for the Pt Reyes NPS to show real accountability to us the public and our future generations.

Under the Public Trust Doctrine, Pt Reyes National Seashore is a Public Trust Resource. This doctrine holds that NPS is to protect these public trust resources for the public and future generations. The Area Plan and the EIS must describe how NPS will meet its fiduciary responsibilities under the Trust Doctrine, demonstrating how NPS will insure the long term well-being of the elk and the other native species. Specifically NPS must address the fencing at Tomales Point in the context of Public Trust natural resource protections.

The Tomales Point Area Plan must reflect the realities of a changing climate, longer and deeper droughts, more native species losses, greater protection needs of migratory and marine species, and more fires. Making the necessary changes in Point Reyes resource management provides the opportunity to fulfill the original intent of the enabling laws, to meet the purpose of the public's \$350 million investment (today's dollars), and for NPS to meet its Public Trust responsibilities.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Heagerty

**Correspondence ID:3948**

Correspondence: National Parks are for the preservation of wildlife and wild lands, not for farming and ranching. To put private business interests above the interests of wildlife is inconsistent with the purpose of the parks, and the use of tax dollars to maintain and sustain them.

Putting businesses raising domestic animals for food is also inconsistent with allowing people to enjoy the parks for recreation. I don't visit National Parks to see domestic cows or fishing fences. There are countless places anyone can go to see cows and commercial fishing. These business interests are interfering with the well-being of wild Tule Elk, which only live in a few places in the country. Instead, you're feeding and watering cattle that belong to private businesses and killing the Tule Elk. That is disgraceful. That would be like grazing cattle in Tuolumne Meadows and shooting the bears.

Take down the Tule Elk Reserve Fence. Remove the commercial farming, ranching and fishing. They should have been gone long ago. Stop caving in to business interests, and misusing my tax dollars.

I remember one of the first times I visited and hiked in Point Reyes with a close friend. She pointed into the fog saying, "Look! Look! The Tule Elk!" They were off in the distance. She explained to me how unique they are and how we were in one of the few places where they live. That was 35 years ago and I still remember it. That's why I go to National Parks. That's why people go to National Parks.

Take down that fence.

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Take down that fence.

**Correspondence ID:3950**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

Without a fence at Tomales Point, the National Park Service wouldn't need to waste efforts and money bringing water up to the elk. The animals would have plenty of water available from Abbotts lagoon and other sources down in the valley.

Park Service money should not be used to trap Elk behind a long tall fence on Tomales Point. Point Reyes Park Service financial resources should be used to get rid of ranchers who pump raw sewage into park lands and waters, build and hide dumps, and prevent public access to the park. Please prioritize native Tule elk over destructive cattle operations on our public land.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

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**Correspondence ID:3952**

Correspondence: The land that belongs to the people is being destroyed, our waters our being polluted and the wildlife that belongs there is being destroyed by what I can only see as corruption. To capitulate and sell out to the dairy famers. It's really pathetic, but sadly to be expected from feckless spineless politicians, who care of nothing but short term votes/profits and campaigns funds. Why on earth would anyone in their right mind look at the situation in Point Reyes in a logical, compassionate way and think the proposed action is normal? As a tax payer I would like to see the Nation Park, be a national park,



belonging to the people. The whole thing stinks. Literally. I stand on the side of the Elk - I hope given the state of the world, and the planet you surprise us all and do the right thing.

**Correspondence ID:3953**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3954**

Correspondence: I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

An independent, scientific panel provided a recommendation to the NPS, to remove the eight foot fence across Tomales Point, which currently confines the native Tule elk in an environment which does not allow the herds to be large, healthy and free-ranging. Please include numerous alternatives in the upcoming elk management plan that would remove the Tomales Point fence in order for our native wildlife to be free-roaming.

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**Correspondence ID:3956**

Correspondence: "Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.”

**Correspondence ID:3957**

Correspondence: “To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

We keep reading that the Park Service doesn't care about the Elk out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore. What's going on? Why does the Park Service spend taxpayer money for a fence and water and mineral supplements when it's cheaper to just let the Elk go live free and wild? Take down the fence and stop wasting our money for cruelty on innocent wildlife!

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

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**Correspondence ID:3958**

Correspondence: “To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing

occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

An independent, scientific panel provided a recommendation to the NPS, to remove the eight foot fence across Tomales Point, which currently confines the native Tule elk in an environment which does not allow the herds to be large, healthy and free-ranging. Please include numerous alternatives in the upcoming elk management plan that would remove the Tomales Point fence in order for our native wildlife to be free-roaming.

“

**Correspondence ID:3959**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:3960**

Correspondence: Preserve the Elk. End the dairy farming. These dairy farms are not native to the region, they are a blot on the landscape you claim to protect - for the benefit of a few families who use the system - like one big handout - while destroying the region - the whole thing makes a complete and utter mockery of the government effort to 'preserve' the Point Reyes seashore and lands. I stand with the Elk.

**Correspondence ID:3961**

Correspondence: The following are comments addressing the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service should not be creating a separate plan for this area of the park, or any other area of the park as it should be included in the Park's General Management Plan and the park should be managed as one whole unit. The complex ecosystem within the park should be treated as one entity, and the health of that entire system is the responsibility of the park service. To do otherwise can only be seen as irresponsible and cruel.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Financial resources should not be spent on an Elk enclosure at Tomales Point, nor on trucking in water and minerals all the way out there, when the Elk are dying of thirst, malnutrition, and starvation. Financial resources should be spent to free the Elk so they can live a natural and healthy life across the entire Park.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:3962**

Correspondence: Now that the National Park Service is looking at its management of the Tomales Point area of the Pt. Reyes National Seashore, there are a number of items NPS should take into consideration as it updates its plans. Please include consideration of these when scoping your environmental review process. The most critical of these is the permanent removal of the fence that keeps the Tomales Point Tule elk herd imprisoned on land that isn't sufficient to support a captive herd.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

Park Service money should not be used to trap Elk behind a long tall fence on Tomales Point. Point Reyes Park Service financial resources should be used to get rid of ranchers who pump raw sewage into park lands and waters, build and hide dumps, and prevent public access to the park. Please prioritize native Tule elk over destructive cattle operations on our public land.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

### **Correspondence ID:3963**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

When it comes to Tomales Point our National Park has failed us, the taxpayer, and rightful owners of the land. We should not be paying for the cost of installing and maintaining a fence so wild animals can't roam and forage for food and water in areas preserved for private cattle and dairy ranchers within a National Park.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. Tomales Point should be an open area, not fenced in because ranchers use false arguments against Tule Elk. Cattle by the thousands at Point Reyes Seashore cause exponentially more damage than a few hundred Tule Elk. The Park Service should protect and help wildlife and their habitats, not promote private, for-profit ranching. The fence needs to come down, and the ranchers need to stop interfering with wildlife, polluting streams, and hassling Park visitors. The ranchers need to either give up some of their privileges, or get out of the Park. The American people will be watching how you approach what's right for Tomales Point and our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:3964**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:3965**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

Dismantling the elk fence will save the NPS money, as it is a less expensive and less invasive option.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:3966**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park

Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

The National Park Service was created to conserve the scenery and leave our public lands unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Based on the NPS' mission, the NPS must remove the unnatural eight foot fence, for the sake of our native wildlife and for the enjoyment of future generations.

**Correspondence ID:3967**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3968**



Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

The National Park Service was created to conserve the scenery and leave our public lands unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Based on the NPS' mission, the NPS must remove the unnatural eight foot fence, for the sake of our native wildlife and for the enjoyment of future generations.

**Correspondence ID:3969**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3970**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:3971**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-

off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3972**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

We keep reading that the Park Service doesn't care about the Elk out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore. What's going on? Why does the Park Service spend taxpayer money for a fence and water and mineral supplements when it's cheaper to just let the Elk go live free and wild? Take down the fence and stop wasting our money for cruelty on innocent wildlife!

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. Tomales Point should be an open area, not fenced in because ranchers use false arguments against Tule Elk. Cattle by the thousands at Point Reyes Seashore cause exponentially more damage than a few hundred Tule Elk. The Park Service should protect and help wildlife and their habitats, not promote private, for-profit ranching. The fence needs to come down, and the ranchers need to stop interfering with wildlife, polluting streams, and hassling Park visitors. The ranchers need to either give up some of their privileges, or get out of the Park. The American people will be watching how you approach what's right for Tomales Point and our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:3973**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park. This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:3974**

Correspondence: Now that the National Park Service is looking at its management of the Tomales Point area of the Pt. Reyes National Seashore, there are a number of items NPS should take into consideration as it updates its plans. Please include consideration of these when scoping your environmental review process. The most critical of these is the permanent removal of the fence that keeps the Tomales Point Tule elk herd imprisoned on land that isn't sufficient to support a captive herd.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:3975**

Correspondence: The following are comments addressing the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service should not be creating a separate plan for this area of the park, or any other area of the park as it should be included in the Park's General Management Plan and the park should be managed as one whole unit. The complex ecosystem within the park should be treated as one entity, and the health of that entire system is the responsibility of the park service. To do otherwise can only be seen as irresponsible and cruel.

It's both cheaper and more ecological to let the elk be free, without a fence, than it is to try to manage them unnaturally, with trucked water tanks and salt licks.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore is to be an area where wildlife are given back their home. Taxpayers and visitors venture out that way to hear the roar of the Pacific Ocean and feel the sun and wind, and see the land as it was made in its beautiful creation. Taxpayers do not go out to Point Reyes to see miles of wire fences 'keeping Nature in check', and the destructive, exploitive industrial practices of corrupt politically influential parties rule the land.

An independent, scientific panel provided a recommendation to the NPS, to remove the eight foot fence across Tomales Point, which currently confines the native Tule elk in an environment which does not allow the herds to be large, healthy and free-ranging. Please include numerous alternatives in the upcoming elk management plan that would remove the Tomales Point fence in order for our native wildlife to be free-roaming.

**Correspondence ID:3976**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

Whether in California or elsewhere globally, climate change impacts nearly every aspect of our current and future environmental conditions. The Tule Elk fence across Tomales Point must be taken down in recognition of this. As conditions are now and for the foreseeable future with seasonal warming, megadrought, desertification, water scarcity, the native Tule Elk will have a better chance of surviving the challenges of this climate crisis, instead of being confined without sufficient water, forage and minerals.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:3977**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

The public loves the elk, and are horrified when they learn that due to being penned in, significant numbers have perished due to thirst or lack of sustenance. As seen with the other, free-roaming herds in Pt. Reyes, it seems such needless harm will be eliminated if the herd is allowed to roam at will. If there is conflict between cattle and elk, the Park Service should have ranchers remove their cows, since this is a national park, not a feedlot.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3978**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

A National Park was created in Point Reyes to protect one of the most scenic and biologically diverse areas in our country. It is being put at risk for the profits of a few private ranchers. This is not acceptable to the people of Marin, the SF Bay Area, and the nation, nor our native wildlife. It is time to remove the Elk fence.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:3979**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

With the public's participation, I expect a greatly improved management plan for Tomales Point and the Tule elk. This is a good way for the Park Service to demonstrate that it can properly manage the public's resources in a way that improves the health and diversity of the park, while improving relations with the general public. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

**Correspondence ID:3980**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

Removal of the fence is a less expensive option than "management" of the herd.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

Whether in California or elsewhere globally, climate change impacts nearly every aspect of our current and future environmental conditions. The Tule Elk fence across Tomales Point must be taken down in recognition of this. As conditions are now and for the foreseeable future with seasonal warming, megadrought, desertification, water scarcity, the native Tule Elk will have a better chance of surviving the challenges of this climate crisis, instead of being confined without sufficient water, forage and minerals.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

**Correspondence ID:3981**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales

Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

Park Service money should not be used to trap Elk behind a long tall fence on Tomales Point. Point Reyes Park Service financial resources should be used to get rid of ranchers who pump raw sewage into park lands and waters, build and hide dumps, and prevent public access to the park. Please prioritize native Tule elk over destructive cattle operations on our public land.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:3982**

Correspondence: The confined Tule Elk are dying at astronomical rates each year, and the Park Service just keeps them penned up in a cage to suffer and die at Tomales Point. Please stop this. The Tule Elk Reserve fence needs to come down now. If you want a reserve/preserve, remove the 8-foot fence, put in a small wildlife-friendly fence, and turn the land into a Native Coastal Prairie Reserve.

It is an ill-founded strategy that will endlessly proliferate the same conditions over and over postponing if not abandoning the desired outcome. These efforts should not be viewed as 'job-security' as the public deserves the outcome spelled out in the original legislation setting the National Seashore up, the elimination of cattle ranching and the reestablishment of the flora and fauna of the Tomales Point ecosystem.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:3983**



Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. If you do only one thing: Remove the godawful eyesore of a fence out there. Would you want to be trapped without enough water or food? You can't say it's a natural process of attrition if you've got them captive. Remove the fence immediately. Create safe and easy wildlife corridors for the elk to move out. Make the ranchers stop harming wildlife and hassling human visitors. The American people in multiple surveys, letters, op-eds, articles, and more want a National Park at Point Reyes. Not a ranch.

#### **Correspondence ID:3984**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

It is an ill-founded strategy that will endlessly proliferate the same conditions over and over postponing if not abandoning the desired outcome. These efforts should not be viewed as 'job-security' as the public deserves the outcome spelled out in the original legislation setting the National Seashore up, the elimination of cattle ranching and the reestablishment of the flora and fauna of the Tomales Point ecosystem.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:3985**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:3986**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:3987**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3988**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:3989**

Correspondence: I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

Thanks so much for your serious attention to my comments. I think the main thing for the Tomales Point scoping plan should be removal of that horrible fence out there. The elk need to roam so they can find water and food. Native plant restoration would be a great starting point to let the American people know you're listening to them (finally!). Please include the general public, and not the ranchers, in your planning and communications.

**Correspondence ID:3990**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:3991**

Correspondence: Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:3992**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:3993**

Correspondence: Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

Thanks so much for your serious attention to my comments. I think the main thing for the Tomales Point scoping plan should be removal of that horrible fence out there. The elk need to roam so they can find water and food. Native plant restoration would be a great starting point to let the American people know you're listening to them (finally!). Please include the general public, and not the ranchers, in your planning and communications.

**Correspondence ID:3994**

Correspondence: I am commenting on the process of creating a plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Park. I would hope the National Park Service would not address this area as somehow separate from the park itself but instead view the park in its entirety. As it stands today Tomales Point is more of a zoo within what is suppose to be a park but is in fact seen as private ranch land. And at this particular zoo the wild animals are fenced and the park service personnel deliberately let them die long, painful deaths due to drought and lack of forage. Stop the insanity and extreme animal cruelty and take down the elk fence immediately. It is a complete outrage. The Park Service is allowing a native species to die absolutely horrible deaths in order to accommodate a bunch of greedy private ranchers who shouldn't be operating in the park in the first place. Apparently the Park Service is working for the ranchers while killing the Elk and telling the public who cares about them to join the Elk and just drop dead.

Whatever the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Fence and to provide water towers and mineral supplements--the Tule Elk are dying off because of lack of proper, nutritious, healthy food and forage. The Elk are starving to death and dying of an inadequate supply of water at Tomales Point. The Park Service will never be able to be effective to supplement the Tule Elk food and water supply that is needed. Please do the right thing and take down the elk fence. The Tule Elk are a native species. It's their land and public land, not the ranchers' land.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations. In addition, please mandate the immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure, none of which belong in the park.

Thank you for your immediate attention to my comments. You need to act before one more Tule Elk die. Tomales Point should be an open area, not fenced in because ranchers use false arguments against Tule Elk. Cattle by the thousands at Point Reyes Seashore cause exponentially more damage than a few hundred Tule Elk and do not belong there. The Park Service should protect and help wildlife and their habitats, not promote private, for-profit ranching. The fence needs to come down, and the ranchers need to stop interfering with wildlife, polluting streams, and hassling Park visitors. In fact, the ranchers need to stop complaining and get out of the Park. The American people will be watching how you

approach what's right for Tomales Point and our National Park. Please remember that this is a public park, not a private ranch and that taxpayers like me are sick of paying for the destruction of the park by ranchers who do not belong there in the first place.

**Correspondence ID:3995**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:3996**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

It's both cheaper and more ecological to let the elk be free, without a fence, than it is to try to manage them unnaturally, with trucked water tanks and salt licks.

The Park Service wastes taxpayer money on the self-fulfilling problems caused by its continued decades-long poor wildlife management choices out on Tomales Point. The already limited funds available should be used to remove the tule elk fence so elk can find sufficient food and water on their own across the Seashore.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-



off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:3997**

Correspondence: The following are comments addressing the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service should not be creating a separate plan for this area of the park, or any other area of the park as it should be included in the Park's General Management Plan and the park should be managed as one whole unit. The complex ecosystem within the park should be treated as one entity, and the health of that entire system is the responsibility of the park service. To do otherwise can only be seen as irresponsible and cruel.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:3998**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

A National Park was created in Point Reyes to protect one of the most scenic and biologically diverse areas in our country. It is being put at risk for the profits of a few private ranchers. This is not acceptable

to the people of Marin, the SF Bay Area, and the nation, nor our native wildlife. It is time to remove the Elk fence.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. Tomales Point should be an open area, not fenced in because ranchers use false arguments against Tule Elk. Cattle by the thousands at Point Reyes Seashore cause exponentially more damage than a few hundred Tule Elk. The Park Service should protect and help wildlife and their habitats, not promote private, for-profit ranching. The fence needs to come down, and the ranchers need to stop interfering with wildlife, polluting streams, and hassling Park visitors. The ranchers need to either give up some of their privileges, or get out of the Park. The American people will be watching how you approach what's right for Tomales Point and our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:3999**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Point Reyes National Seashore has finite resources and maintaining an 8-foot fence at Tomales Point is not a good use of taxpayer funds.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Thanks so much for your serious attention to my comments. I think the main thing for the Tomales Point scoping plan should be removal of that horrible fence out there. The elk need to roam so they can find water and food. Native plant restoration would be a great starting point to let the American people know you're listening to them (finally!). Please include the general public, and not the ranchers, in your planning and communications.

Becky Bennett

**Correspondence ID:4000**

Correspondence: The following are comments addressing the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service should not be creating a separate plan for this area of the park, or any other area of the park as it should be included in the Park's General Management Plan and the park should be managed as one whole unit. The complex ecosystem within the park should be treated as one entity, and the health of that entire system is the responsibility of the park service. To do otherwise can only be seen as irresponsible and cruel.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:4001**

Correspondence: Superintendent Craig Kenkel May 9, 2022

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Point Reyes National Seashore

1 Bear Valley Road

Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Department of the Interior Region 10

Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

Wilderness Watch thanks the National Park Service (NPS) for the opportunity to provide initial pre-scoping comments for the proposed planning process concerning the Tomales Point area and Wilderness in Point Reyes National Seashore. Wilderness Watch is a national nonprofit wilderness conservation organization dedicated to the protection and proper stewardship of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Introduction

NPS has started pre-scoping for a new "area plan" for Tomales Point to address "complex wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues." More than 85% of the 2,600 acre area is located within the Phillip Burton Wilderness. NPS' "impetus for this planning process are the impacts to the tule elk population and other resources within the Reserve arising from the historic drought conditions over the past eight years."

NPS plans to replace its 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan (available at <https://www.nps.gov/pore/getinvolved/planning-tule-elk-management-plan-1998.htm>) as it relates to the Tomales Point area by preparing both a programmatic and site-specific analysis with an EIS to comply with NEPA. NPS has identified several issues it plans to address, including:

- maintenance or removal of the tule elk fence;
- population management of the Tomales Point tule elk herd;
- supplemental water for the elk in times of need;
- wilderness management; and
- visitor use and infrastructure management at Pierce Point Ranch.

NPS's scoping letter seeks informal public input and ideas regarding the scope of the plan to help it refine the extent of the planning effort and identify a preliminary range of alternatives for consideration. NPS states that it “will review every comment received....” Wilderness Watch intends to hold NPS to that promise.

### Summary of Comments

Wilderness Watch believes that the elk fence is degrading the Wilderness character of the Phillip Burton Wilderness, in violation of the Wilderness Act and should be removed. The Wilderness Act recognizes Wilderness “as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man....” Section 2(c) (meaning “free, unbound, unhampered, unchecked, having the freedom of the wilderness.” Howard Zahniser, drafter of the Wilderness Act). Since their reintroduction, tule elk have now again become a part of the Wilderness resource because they are a native indigenous species and part of the “community of life” of the Wilderness. Since they are a part of the Wilderness, there can be little dispute that the elk are not “untrammelled by man” because their freedom of movement is blocked by a manmade fence. The elk's conservation and the natural conditions of the Wilderness are being limited, or trammelled, because the elk cannot migrate from Tomales Point outside of their enclosure south of the fence. And even though the fence is located just outside the Wilderness boundary, its presence is a condition that is causing a violation of Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act.

Moreover, because the elk can't move past the fence, an overpopulation of elk may even be degrading other natural conditions and the overall character of the Wilderness, which is also a violation of Section 4(b) of the Wilderness Act.

Wilderness Watch would like to encourage the Park Service to enlarge the planning process to start work on an overdue Wilderness Stewardship Plan for the entire Phillip Burton Wilderness, which agency policy requires. Moreover, any planning should be informed by data that should have been collected over the last 25 years based on mitigation measures in the 1998 Elk Plan.

### Background

In 1962, Congress enacted legislation to create the Point Reyes National Seashore as part of the National Park System “to save and preserve, for purposes of public recreation, benefit, and inspiration, a portion of the diminishing seashore of the United States that remains undeveloped ....” Pub. L. No. 87-657 (codified at 16 U.S.C. § 459c et seq. (2018)). After acquiring most of the lands, the Park Service officially established the Point Reyes Seashore in 1972. 37 Fed. Reg. 23,366 (Oct. 20, 1972).

In 1976, Congress designated roughly 25,000 acres of land as the Point Reyes National Seashore Wilderness and roughly 8,000 acres of waters as Wilderness. Pub. L. No. 94-544 & 94-567 (renamed in 1985 as the Phillip Burton Wilderness; Pub. L. No. 99-68). The law directs that the Wilderness area “shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the applicable provisions of the

Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas” “without impairment of its natural values, in a manner which provides for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area, ....” Secs. 3 & 4, Pub. L. No. 94-544.

Wilderness designation predates introduction of Tule Elk by two years. In 1978, 10 Tule Elk, considered a native indigenous species, were reintroduced to the Tomales Point area after a 150 year absence from the Olema area of the Point Reyes peninsula. See 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan and EA, p. 8. To manage the elk, the Parks Service constructed a 3-mile long fence, which enclosed the elk to a 2,600 acre area, 85% of which is Wilderness. *Id.* After cattle were removed from the area in 1980, elk numbers increased rapidly to roughly 180 animals in 1990 and 465 animals by 1997. *Id.* Partly based on this increase, the Park Service initiated and finalized a revised plan for tule elk management, which culminated in the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan. *Id.* at 9. Issues and concerns about non-conforming uses in Wilderness were briefly described in the 1998 Elk Management Plan, but were limited to a short statement that “[t]he management of tule elk has resulted in the use of helicopters for the capture of elk,” which Park superintendents authorized an “ ‘administratively determined minimum tool’ to manage wilderness areas.” *Id.* at 11.

The plan also mentions potential effects to Wilderness values based on the EA's alternatives. Negative effects to Wilderness values are described in the Environmental Consequences section of the EA for each of the alternatives. Only Alternative B would have had no negative Wilderness effects because it would have eliminated the elk's restricted range by allowing elk to move outside the current elk range beyond the fence and would have closed and removed cattle and dairy ranching in the seashore. EA at 51 & 60.

All other alternatives, including the proposed and selected Alternative A, would have numerous negative effects on Wilderness values. *Id.* at 58, 62, and 64. In fact, the selected alternative allows helicopter access and vehicle use in the Wilderness to capture and relocate and otherwise manage the elk. *Id.* at 57.

While the 1980 General Management Plan for Point Reyes NS states that “Natural resource management objectives in the GMP include: ... To preserve and manage as wilderness those lands so designated; ....” (*id.* at 32), the 1980 GMP is otherwise silent regarding Wilderness or a Wilderness Stewardship Plan. We know of no such plan for the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

## Wilderness Law and Conservation

The Wilderness Act establishes a National Wilderness Preservation System to safeguard our wildest landscapes in their “natural,” “untrammelled” condition. 16 U.S.C. § 1131(a). Wilderness is statutorily defined as “an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man” and an area “retaining its primeval character and influence... which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions....” *Id.* § 1131(c). Thus, wilderness “shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such a manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, and so as to provide for the protection of these areas, the preservation of their wilderness character, and for the gathering and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness....” *Id.* § 1131(a) (emphasis added). The Act's opening section “sets forth the Act's broad mandate to protect the forests, waters, and creatures of the wilderness in their natural, untrammelled

state” and “show[s] a mandate of preservation for wilderness and the essential need to keep [nonconforming uses] out of it.” *Wilderness Soc’y v. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Serv.*, 353 F.3d 1051, 1061-62 (9th Cir. 2003) (en banc).

Wilderness designation places restrictions on agencies' wildlife management authority and requires agencies to ensure that any wildlife management activities in wilderness, including research, are conducted in a manner that preserves wilderness character. Congress provided a clear mandate for administering agencies: “[E]ach agency administering any area designated as wilderness shall be responsible for preserving the wilderness character of the area and shall so administer such area for such other purposes for which it may have been established as also to preserve its wilderness character.” 16 U.S.C. § 1133(b). Certain uses and activities, including helicopters and the use of electronic tracking installations, undermine the preservation of wilderness and are thus prohibited with narrow exception. 16 U.S.C. § 1133(c). These uses and activities may be authorized by an agency only where “necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purpose of [the Wilderness Act].” 16 U.S.C. § 1133(c).

Conservation-related activities are subject to this overall statutory scheme.

#### NPS Policies for Wilderness Planning and Wildlife

While the Park Service has referred to actions in Wilderness as “management” in its policies (Management Policies 2006, Chapter 6, Wilderness Preservation and Management), it now uses more appropriate terminology, referring to its actions in Wilderness as Wilderness Stewardship. See Director's Order #41: Wilderness Stewardship, 2013, which states:

“For every designated Wilderness, a Wilderness Stewardship Plan will guide management actions to preserve wilderness character. Parks should notify the WASO Wilderness Stewardship Division Chief and work with their Regional Wilderness Coordinator during the Wilderness Stewardship Planning process. Parks with lands determined to be eligible, proposed, or recommended should also develop plans to preserve wilderness character. Wilderness Stewardship Plans should be completed within two years of designation, subject to funding. Preservation of wilderness character will be incorporated into appropriate sections of park planning and management documents. Also see Management Policies 2006, Section 6.3.4.2.”

Id. at Sec. 6.3 (available at [https://www.nps.gov/policy/DOrders/DO\\_41.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/policy/DOrders/DO_41.pdf)).

NPS' Management Policies 2006 states:

“The superintendent of each park containing wilderness resources will develop and maintain a wilderness management plan or equivalent planning document to guide the preservation, management, and use of these resources. The wilderness management plan will identify desired future conditions, as well as establish indicators, standards, conditions, and thresholds beyond which management actions will be taken to reduce human impacts on wilderness resources.

The park's wilderness management plan may be developed as a separate document or as an action component of another planning document. Whether prepared as a stand-alone plan or as part of another planning document, all wilderness management plans must meet the same standards for process and content as specified in this section 6.3.4. Wilderness management plans will be supported

by appropriate documentation of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. The plan will be developed with public involvement and will contain specific, measurable management objectives that address the preservation and management of natural and cultural resources within wilderness as appropriate to achieve the purposes of the Wilderness Act and other legislative requirements.”

Id. at Section 6.3.4.2 (available at: [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP\\_2006.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP_2006.pdf)).

With respect to wildlife in national parks, “in its 1978 rider to the Redwood National Park Expansion Act, Congress reiterated its intention that the National Park System be administered in furtherance of the 'purpose' (not purposes) of the Organic Act, that being, of course, the conservation of...wildlife resources.” *National Rifle Ass'n of America v. Potter*, 628 F. Supp. 903, 910 (D.D.C. 1986).

Moreover, “Wilderness preservation should be considered among the purest applications of the Service's responsibilities for protecting 'wildlife,' its habitat, and the conservation of associated resources.” Reference Manual 41: Wilderness Preservation and Management, 1999; see also Legislative Guidance Applicable to NPS Wilderness Preservation and Management 2013 (same, available at [https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1981/upload/Leg-Guidance-for-NPS-W\\_508.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1981/upload/Leg-Guidance-for-NPS-W_508.pdf)).

#### Comments

Wilderness Watch requests that the Park Service refer more accurately to its potential or future actions in the Phillip Burton Wilderness as “stewardship” rather than “management.” NPS policies have adopted this language in their more recent DO #41. Management connotes “trammeling” and other actions not consistent with the Wilderness Act. From a planning perspective, the Park Service should therefore limit its actions to those developed in a Wilderness Stewardship Plan, as discussed below.

#### 1. NPS Policy Requires that the Park Service Develop a Wilderness Stewardship Plan for the Phillip Burton Wilderness.

In addition to the current planning effort, the Park Service should take this opportunity to start the process for a Wilderness Stewardship Plan for in the Phillip Burton Wilderness Area. This plan should not be limited to the Tomales area where the Elk are suffering from the drought, but should be prepared for the entire Phillip Burton Wilderness. And because 85% of the Tomales area is Wilderness, a Wilderness Stewardship Plan could help guide any proposed actions that relate to elk and other Wilderness values.

Because the proposal explicitly includes Wilderness in its list of issues and concerns, which makes up most of Tomales Point, it would make sense for the Park Service follow its directives and policy at DO #41, Sec. 6.3 and NPS Policies at 6.3.4.2, which state that “a Wilderness Stewardship Plan will guide management actions to preserve wilderness character,” and the agency “will develop and maintain a wilderness management plan or equivalent planning document to guide the preservation, management, and use of these resources.” At this time, no other “equivalent” planning document or guide, that we know of, exists, including the General Management Plan or its Amendment, that specifically addresses Wilderness stewardship. And while a Wilderness Stewardship Plan “may be developed as a separate document or as an action component of another planning document,” if this is only done for the Tomales Point area portion of the Phillip Burton Wilderness, the Park Service would forego this opportunity to develop a more comprehensive planning document for the entire Wilderness, something that will still be required in the future. So we suggest that the Park Service enlarge its planning effort

now, since it is already planning to prepare an EIS under NEPA, which is also required for Wilderness planning.

NPS policy, with regard to Wilderness, also states that “Natural resource management plans will be integrated with and cross-reference wilderness management plans. Pursuing a series of independent component projects in wilderness, such as single-species management, will not necessarily accomplish the over-arching goal of wilderness management.” 2006 Management Policies 2006, Section 6.3.7 (emphasis added). And that's exactly what the Park Service is proposing here--a single species management plan for elk, which will not necessarily accomplish the goal of wilderness stewardship without a stewardship plan.

Regardless of the approach the Park Service takes, a Wilderness Stewardship Plan “will be developed with public involvement and will contain specific, measurable management objectives that address the preservation and management of natural and cultural resources within wilderness as appropriate to achieve the purposes of the Wilderness Act and other legislative requirements.” Management Policies 2006, Section 6.3.4.2.

2. The Wilderness Act Requires Removal of the Elk Fence as the Proposed Action and Preferred Alternative, and likely the Final Action, for Any Plan Moving Forward.

Initially, the Park Service should state explicitly in its planning documents that it will commit to complying with the Wilderness Act and adhere to the letter and intent of its provisions.

There can be no dispute that the elk fence is causing trammeling of the natural conditions and community of life in the Phillip Burton Wilderness at Tomales Point. Trammeling includes the tule elk, a native indigenous species, which has been a part of the Wilderness since it was reintroduced, as well as the community of life upon which it and other species depend. The Wilderness Act's substantive provisions compel the Park Service to remove the fence, even though it is located outside the Wilderness boundary. See *Isaac Walton League of America Inc. v. Kimbell*, 516 F.Supp.2d 982, 996 (D. Minn. 2007) (finding wilderness-incompatible activities or conditions occurring outside of a wilderness boundary may “degrade the wilderness character from its present condition and thus result in a violation of [Section] 4(b) of the Wilderness Act.” The same principle applies here, where the elk fence is the “condition” outside the wilderness boundary that is causing trammeling and is degrading the natural conditions within the Wilderness by preventing migration of elk in and out of the Wilderness to where they can find adequate forage and water during prolonged droughts.

The Wilderness Act recognizes Wilderness “as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammled by man....” Section 2(c). Untrammled means “free, unbound, unhampered, unchecked, having the freedom of the wilderness.” Howard Zahniser, drafter of the Wilderness Act. Clearly the elk are not untrammled by man if their freedom of movement is blocked by a manmade fence, restricting the animals to the Wilderness area and away from adequate forage and water elsewhere in the park. This problem is further exacerbated, and the Wilderness further degraded, by the ongoing prohibited uses (motorized uses, structures, etc.) authorized to manage this elk population in a captive state.

Since their reintroduction, tule elk have become a Wilderness natural resource because they are a native indigenous species. The elk are again a part of the ecological system or community of life of the Wilderness. The elk's conservation and the natural conditions of the Wilderness are being limited, or trammled, because the elk cannot migrate from Tomales Point outside of their enclosure south of the



fence. Therefore, even though the fence is located just outside the Wilderness boundary, its presence is causing a violation of Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act. Moreover, because of the limits of movement imposed by the fence, an overpopulation of elk may even be degrading the natural conditions and character of the Wilderness, which is a violation of Section 4(b) of the Wilderness Act.

3. The New Plan's Environmental Analysis must Consider any Monitoring Data Gathered to Comply with Mitigation Measures in the 1998 Elk Plan FONSI Regarding the Effects from Elk on Wilderness Values and Threatened and Endangered Species.

In the 1998 Elk Plan's finding of no significant impact, or FONSI, the Park Service stated: "Additional mitigations planned include conducting an annual monitoring program, combined with ongoing research, to assess and track the effects of management actions on elk and their environment." FONSI, p. 1 (available at <https://www.nps.gov/pore/getinvolved/planning-tule-elk-management-plan-1998.htm>).

In particular, the FONSI listed specific monitoring in support of its mitigation measures. See *id.*, p. 2 (table). Data gathered in response to this monitoring should be made available to the public to help understand impacts and whether or not the mitigation measures were effective.

For example, the first item in the table requires "Monitor elk populations and their environment annually and analyze data to detect negative trends" to determine "Impacts" from "Overpopulation and its effects on habitat, [threatened and endangered] species, neighbors, and visitors." *Id.*, p. 2. This data is crucial to determine whether the confined elk population has had an adverse effect on Wilderness character and can be used to guide the development of a Wilderness Stewardship Plan.

Another mitigation measure was to "Conduct research to improve basis [sic] for decision making and better understanding the ecosystem and interactions between elk and park resources." *Id.* The data and understanding from this research would be enormously helpful to determine effects on Wilderness values, including the elk and the community of life it depends on.

And more specifically, in order to determine the effects of tule elk on Threatened and Endangered species, which require additional protections and conservation measures for recovery under the Endangered Species Act, the Park Service agreed to "Monitor threatened and endangered species in contact with tule elk with potential for effects." *Id.* For Tomales Point, these include the Myrtle's silverspot butterfly and the California red-legged frog. Again, these species and their habitats, or the community of life they depend on, are Wilderness values. But these species are additionally protected from any "take" or destruction or adverse modification of their critical habitat, which may occur if the elk are confined behind a fence. See Endangered Species Act, Sections 9, 7, and ESA Regulations.

If you have any questions, please direct them to the contact below.

For Wilderness Watch,

René Voss, Attorney at Law  
Member, Wilderness Watch Board of Directors

**Correspondence ID:4002**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4003**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

I am extremely disappointed that the National Park Service (NPS) continues to spend our taxpayer money for an unethical fence which traps Elk on Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore. Taxpayers are insisting that the fence come down immediately, that ranchers move out, and wildlife be allowed to live naturally across all of our Park.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:4004**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

I am extremely disappointed that the National Park Service (NPS) continues to spend our taxpayer money for an unethical fence which traps Elk on Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore. Taxpayers are insisting that the fence come down immediately, that ranchers move out, and wildlife be allowed to live naturally across all of our Park.

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We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:4005**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

When it comes to Tomales Point our National Park has failed us, the taxpayer, and rightful owners of the land. We should not be paying for the cost of installing and maintaining a fence so wild animals can't roam and forage for food and water in areas preserved for private cattle and dairy ranchers within a National Park.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:4006**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:4007**

Correspondence: I want the fence at Tomales Point, which confines tule elk, to be removed. This is a necessary step for the NPS to take for our native elk.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:4008**

Correspondence: Now that the National Park Service is looking at its management of the Tomales Point area of the Pt. Reyes National Seashore, there are a number of items NPS should take into consideration as it updates its plans. Please include consideration of these when scoping your environmental review process. The most critical of these is the permanent removal of the fence that keeps the Tomales Point Tule elk herd imprisoned on land that isn't sufficient to support a captive herd.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:4009**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop "managing" the park. Take down the fence, remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has

several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:4010**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

It is an ill-founded strategy that will endlessly proliferate the same conditions over and over postponing if not abandoning the desired outcome. These efforts should not be viewed as 'job-security' as the public deserves the outcome spelled out in the original legislation setting the National Seashore up, the elimination of cattle ranching and the reestablishment of the flora and fauna of the Tomales Point ecosystem.

Too many park resources are used to cater to the private ranchers. Ranch operations pollute the streams and waterways of the seashore with manure runoff, release methane into the atmosphere from cattle belches and farts, damaging our climate, and have caused the massive spread of invasive plants. NPS should be putting these resources into restoring the deep-rooted native grasses, wildflowers, mosses and other native plants that cannot survive destructive grazing practices caused by too many cattle on the land.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:4011**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

It's both cheaper and more ecological to let the elk be free, without a fence, than it is to try to manage them unnaturally, with trucked water tanks and salt licks.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:4012**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

It's both cheaper and more ecological to let the elk be free, without a fence, than it is to try to manage them unnaturally, with trucked water tanks and salt licks.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore is to be an area where wildlife are given back their home. Taxpayers and visitors venture out that way to hear the roar of the Pacific Ocean and feel the sun and wind, and see the land as it was made in its beautiful creation. Taxpayers do not go out to Point Reyes to see miles of wire fences 'keeping Nature in check', and the destructive, exploitive industrial practices of corrupt politically influential parties rule the land.

Thanks so much for your serious attention to my comments. I think the main thing for the Tomales Point scoping plan should be removal of that horrible fence out there. The elk need to roam so they can find water and food. Native plant restoration would be a great starting point to let the American people know you're listening to them (finally!). Please include the general public, and not the ranchers, in your planning and communications.

**Correspondence ID:4013**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop "managing" the park. Take down the fence, remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

With the public's participation, I expect a greatly improved management plan for Tomales Point and the Tule elk. This is a good way for the Park Service to demonstrate that it can properly manage the public's resources in a way that improves the health and diversity of the park, while improving relations with the general public. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

**Correspondence ID:4014**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:4015**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.



The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:4016**

Correspondence: The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:4017**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4018**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations. In addition, it must include immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

**Correspondence ID:4019**

Correspondence: I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4020**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:4021**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

The public loves the elk, and are horrified when they learn that due to being penned in, significant numbers have perished due to thirst or lack of sustenance. As seen with the other, free-roaming herds in Pt. Reyes, it seems such needless harm will be eliminated if the herd is allowed to roam at will. If there is conflict between cattle and elk, the Park Service should have ranchers remove their cows, since this is a national park, not a feedlot.

I want to thank Superintendent Craig Kenkel for the opportunity to provide comments on the upcoming plan for our iconic Tule elk. It is of utmost importance for the plan to include numerous alternatives which requires the removal of the unethical fence across Tomales Point. It is time for our native elk to have the ability to freely roam throughout the National Seashore, versus being confined without sufficient sustenance to survive.

**Correspondence ID:4022**

Correspondence: I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4023**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

Too many park resources are used to cater to the private ranchers. Ranch operations pollute the streams and waterways of the seashore with manure runoff, release methane into the atmosphere from cattle belches and farts, damaging our climate, and have caused the massive spread of invasive plants. NPS should be putting these resources into restoring the deep-rooted native grasses, wildflowers, mosses and other native plants that cannot survive destructive grazing practices caused by too many cattle on the land.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:4024**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

It's both cheaper and more ecological to let the elk be free, without a fence, than it is to try to manage them unnaturally, with trucked water tanks and salt licks.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be

imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:4025**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

**Correspondence ID:4026**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4027**

Correspondence: The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the

cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

The Coast Miwok people should decide how to bring the land back to the way their people left it, before impacted by European settlers in the mid-1800's. The Coast Miwok lived in unison with the Tule elk, the native wildlife and the native vegetation. Let's help recreate our National Park to how it was prior to the impact caused by commercial cattle operations.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:4028**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4029**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

Thank you for the ability to comment on the planning process addressing complex wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues at Tomales Point Tule Elk Preserve. I write as a representative for Turtle Island Restoration Network, a marine and watershed protection non-profit organization based in Marin County, representing over 150,000 members across the globe.

While we do applaud the park for addressing the myriad of issues in the Preserve, it is concerning that this process is not undertaken as a General Management Plan Amendment. Given the challenges climate change will present, a more comprehensive management mechanism needs to be in place to review and implement necessary changes to ranching leases that have severe impacts on water quality and biodiversity in the National Seashore.

Staying within the bounds of this public comment opportunity, we ask that the park listens to public sentiment and does what is right for the ecosystem by removing the Tomales Elk Reserve fence. Removing the fence is the most effective tool to protect the park's natural resources and better utilizes taxpayer dollars for public interest and effective environmental stewardship.

It is evident that the Elk within the reserve do not have adequate resources to maintain sustainable populations. The 1998 Tomales Elk Management Plan states that there are no natural year-round streams and as drought conditions continue to worsen, allowing the elk to roam is the only option for this species to have a shot at survival. Continuing to truck in water forage and water is not the best use of taxpayer dollars. The most practical solution is to allow the Elk access to the natural occurring forage and water sources within the National Seashore. These resources should not be limited to just subsidized private ranching practices but to the entirety of the park's inhabitants that are a part of the ecosystem in Point Reyes.

The decline of available resources and a lack of migration among various Elk herds present a grave concern regarding the genetic viability of Tule Elk. The consistent die-offs and limited space will further the bottleneck effect of the Pierce Point Ranch Herd. Allowing the herds to mingle will help facilitate the protection of this natural resource and buffer continued die-off caused by lack of resources from climate change and ranching operations.

The costs associated with maintaining the fence and the delivery of water, forage, and salt licks can instead be allocated for necessary restoration projects within the Tomales Point Preserve. Non-native invasive species dominate the planning area, and the investment in active management utilizing Traditional Ecological Knowledge will further create a climate-resilient ecosystem generating a plethora of positive externalities for Tule Elk and all flora fauna within the park. Funds could also be allocated toward preserving and protecting indigenous artifacts and cultural resource sites, restoring and maintaining hiking trails, or supporting studies reintroducing park predators such as mountain lions or wolves,

Thank you for considering our comments. I look forward to seeing the parks management solutions to address the complex wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues at Tomales Point Tule Elk Preserve.

Sincerely,

Scott Webb  
Advocacy Manager  
Turtle Island Restoration Network



**Correspondence ID:4030**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

What are the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Reserve fence, and to provide water and mineral supplements for the Tule Elk? What is the rationale for these expenditures, when removal of the fenceline across Tomales Point would allow Tule Elk to roam for free for water and forage.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:4031**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4032**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kenkel,

Thank you for the ability to comment on the planning process addressing complex wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues at Tomales Point Tule Elk Preserve. I write as a representative for Turtle Island Restoration Network, a marine and watershed protection non-profit organization based in Marin County, representing over 150,000 members across the globe.

While we do applaud the park for addressing the myriad of issues in the Preserve, it is concerning that this process is not undertaken as a General Management Plan Amendment. Given the challenges climate change will present, a more comprehensive management mechanism needs to be in place to review and implement necessary changes to ranching leases that have severe impacts on water quality and biodiversity in the National Seashore.

Staying within the bounds of this public comment opportunity, we ask that the park listens to public sentiment and does what is right for the ecosystem by removing the Tomales Elk Reserve fence. Removing the fence is the most effective tool to protect the park's natural resources and better utilizes taxpayer dollars for public interest and effective environmental stewardship.

It is evident that the Elk within the reserve do not have adequate resources to maintain sustainable populations. The 1998 Tomales Elk Management Plan states that there are no natural year-round streams and as drought conditions continue to worsen, allowing the elk to roam is the only option for this species to have a shot at survival. Continuing to truck in water forage and water is not the best use of taxpayer dollars. The most practical solution is to allow the Elk access to the natural occurring forage and water sources within the National Seashore. These resources should not be limited to just subsidized private ranching practices but to the entirety of the park's inhabitants that are a part of the ecosystem in Point Reyes.

The decline of available resources and a lack of migration among various Elk herds present a grave concern regarding the genetic viability of Tule Elk. The consistent die-offs and limited space will further the bottleneck effect of the Pierce Point Ranch Herd. Allowing the herds to mingle will help facilitate the protection of this natural resource and buffer continued die-off caused by lack of resources from climate change and ranching operations.

The costs associated with maintaining the fence and the delivery of water, forage, and salt licks can instead be allocated for necessary restoration projects within the Tomales Point Preserve. Non-native invasive species dominate the planning area, and the investment in active management utilizing Traditional Ecological Knowledge will further create a climate-resilient ecosystem generating a plethora of positive externalities for Tule Elk and all flora fauna within the park. Funds could also be allocated toward preserving and protecting indigenous artifacts and cultural resource sites, restoring and maintaining hiking trails, or supporting studies reintroducing park predators such as mountain lions or wolves,

Thank you for considering our comments. I look forward to seeing the parks management solutions to address the complex wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues at Tomales Point Tule Elk Preserve.

Sincerely,

Scott Webb  
Advocacy Manager  
Turtle Island Restoration Network

**Correspondence ID:4033**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:4034**

Correspondence: I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4035**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4036**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

Spending the public's money for a Tule Elk Fence and supplemental water and minerals is wasteful, and not a long-term, feasible solution. The Tule Elk are starving to death from lack of access to proper food. And the impact of global warming causes climate effects like long term drought out there. It's bad money after bad money. Free the Tule Elk from Tomales Point. Let the Elk have water and food for free around the Park.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

**Correspondence ID:4037**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

When it comes to Tomales Point our National Park has failed us, the taxpayer, and rightful owners of the land. We should not be paying for the cost of installing and maintaining a fence so wild animals can't roam and forage for food and water in areas preserved for private cattle and dairy ranchers within a National Park.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

Whether in California or elsewhere globally, climate change impacts nearly every aspect of our current and future environmental conditions. The Tule Elk fence across Tomales Point must be taken down in recognition of this. As conditions are now and for the foreseeable future with seasonal warming, megadrought, desertification, water scarcity, the native Tule Elk will have a better chance of surviving the challenges of this climate crisis, instead of being confined without sufficient water, forage and minerals.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:4038**

Correspondence: I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park

Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4039**

Correspondence: I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

Whatever the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Fence and to provide water towers and mineral supplements--the Tule Elk are dying off because of lack of proper, nutritious, healthy food and forage. The Elk are starving to death and dying of an inadequate supply of water at Tomales Point. The Park Service will never be able to be effective to supplement the Tule Elk food and water supply that is needed. Please do the right thing and take down the elk fence.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:4040**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4041**

Correspondence: I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into

a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4042**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:4043**

Correspondence: Restore and protect the Tule elk. Take down the fence.

I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

Whatever the costs to maintain the Tule Elk Fence and to provide water towers and mineral supplements--the Tule Elk are dying off because of lack of proper, nutritious, healthy food and forage. The Elk are starving to death and dying of an inadequate supply of water at Tomales Point. The Park Service will never be able to be effective to supplement the Tule Elk food and water supply that is needed. Please do the right thing and take down the elk fence.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.



Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:4044**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

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Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4045**

Correspondence: I respectfully submit this public comment for your consideration regarding the GMP planning process for Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). All the natural resources, from native plants to the Tule Elk, should be unimpaired in and beyond Tomales Point. The American public wants open and accessible public lands and waters in their National Parks. No wildlife should be caged or captive in a National Park. We must remove the Tule Elk Fence now, and let the Tule Elk and other wildlife roam free to prosper as is natural, healthy, and just. Please scope removal of the Tule Elk Fence in your planning for Tomales Point.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

Too many park resources are used to cater to the private ranchers. Ranch operations pollute the streams and waterways of the seashore with manure runoff, release methane into the atmosphere from cattle belches and farts, damaging our climate, and have caused the massive spread of invasive plants.

NPS should be putting these resources into restoring the deep-rooted native grasses, wildflowers, mosses and other native plants that cannot survive destructive grazing practices caused by too many cattle on the land.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:4046**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this

approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:4047**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service to respectfully request to remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point in order for our iconic Tule elk to roam free in our National Park.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

I look forward to the next steps in the planning process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this initial phase.

**Correspondence ID:4048**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short

term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:4049**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

The National Park Service should partner with the First Nation people and create a wildlife sanctuary in Point Reyes National Seashore so that our elk are not hazed, nor culled, nor confined without sufficient food and water.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:4050**

Correspondence: The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

Financial resources should not be spent on an Elk enclosure at Tomales Point, nor on trucking in water and minerals all the way out there, when the Elk are dying of thirst, malnutrition, and starvation. Financial resources should be spent to free the Elk so they can live a natural and healthy life across the entire Park.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:4051**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4052**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

Whether in California or elsewhere globally, climate change impacts nearly every aspect of our current and future environmental conditions. The Tule Elk fence across Tomales Point must be taken down in recognition of this. As conditions are now and for the foreseeable future with seasonal warming, megadrought, desertification, water scarcity, the native Tule Elk will have a better chance of surviving the challenges of this climate crisis, instead of being confined without sufficient water, forage and minerals.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and

protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:4053**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

The National Park Service is spending taxpayer money for a foolish Elk fence on Tomales Point. The leased ranching operations cause way more environmental harm and damage with thousands of cattle everywhere in the Park. The Park Service should spend money to educate the public about the damage cattle and ranchers cause on what should be a true National Park.

Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore is to be an area where wildlife are given back their home. Taxpayers and visitors venture out that way to hear the roar of the Pacific Ocean and feel the sun and wind, and see the land as it was made in its beautiful creation. Taxpayers do not go out to Point Reyes to see miles of wire fences 'keeping Nature in check', and the destructive, exploitive industrial practices of corrupt politically influential parties rule the land.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:4054**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:4055**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:4056**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

ITS ABOUT TIME THIS AGENCY RESPONDS TO THE ELK AND THE OTHER WILDLIFE AFFECTED BY THE FENCING ETC. THE DAM RANCHERS ARE NOT AND NEVER SHOULD BE ANY POINT OF CONSIDERATION IN REGARD TO THIS AREA.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:4057**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

The park should put every effort into connecting Tomales Point and its wildlife to the rest of the park. A visitor to the park should not have to pass through cattle/dairy pasture to walk through the Philip Burton Wilderness and nor should the Tule Elk. Every effort should be directed in allowing the elk to roam freely across the entire area of the park.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:4058**



Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

Whether in California or elsewhere globally, climate change impacts nearly every aspect of our current and future environmental conditions. The Tule Elk fence across Tomales Point must be taken down in recognition of this. As conditions are now and for the foreseeable future with seasonal warming, megadrought, desertification, water scarcity, the native Tule Elk will have a better chance of surviving the challenges of this climate crisis, instead of being confined without sufficient water, forage and minerals.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:4059**

Correspondence: The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Dismantling the elk fence will save the NPS money, as it is a less expensive and less invasive option.

Park funds should be used to monitor and enforce water quality and other environmental standards in Point Reyes National Seashore versus spending money on a bad fence idea to starve wildlife in a National Park.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:4060**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4061**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4062**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Financial resources should not be spent on an Elk enclosure at Tomales Point, nor on trucking in water and minerals all the way out there, when the Elk are dying of thirst, malnutrition, and starvation.

Financial resources should be spent to free the Elk so they can live a natural and healthy life across the entire Park.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:4063**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on killing or neutering any animals, especially rare Tule Elk, once the herd is deemed "too large". The plan should allow for native wildlife to roam freely and die of natural causes.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4064**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4065**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

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Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4067**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4068**

Correspondence: Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Our native Tule elk in PRNS deserve a better quality of life, rather than being confined in an environment without sufficient forage, minerals and water. Please ensure the upcoming plan for our iconic elk has several options that involve the removal of the elk. The public has requested the NPS to protect the Tule elk, and now is the time to take action.

**Correspondence ID:4069**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4070**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:4071**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4072**

Correspondence: Please remove the, elk, fence from “Point Reyes National Seashore” in order for the, elk, herds to have access to, sufficient, amount of water, minerals, and, forage! Your trapping and confining them is cruelty!

The National Park Service is accepting public comments for the management plan of “Tomales Point”, in “Point Reyes National Seashore”, where wildlife, such as the, native, Tule Elk, are fenced off from access to enough food, or, water! Even though “Point Reyes National Seashore” is the, only, National Park on the West Coast, and, is one of the most, biodiverse, regions in the country, land management revolves around protecting, private, ranching profits, and, NOT the well-being of the ecosystem! The, native, Tule Elk are confined to limited, space behind a fence, and the NPS MUST hear from the, environmental, community to change this!

Why are our taxes going to please ranchers at “Point Reyes National Seashore”? There is NO no good, valid, scientific reason for there to be a, huge, tall, fence at “Tomales Point” to keep Tule Elk captive, and, dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park! We do NOT want our, tax, money going to support this, heartless, policy that goes against the, very, trust of the National Park Service! Please take down the, restrictive, fence, and, let the Elk be Elk! Get rid of the ranchers since we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago!

All National Park Service resources MUST be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the Park! This is what the public wants, and, is entitled to, and, what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis!

As an, endemic, species, Tule elk benefit the land, and, allowing them to, freely, roam in ““Point Reyes National Seashore”” will enhance the Park, overall.

Thank for your, serious, attention to our issues! The, main, thing for the ““Tomales Point”” scoping plan should be removal of that egregious, fence! The elk need to roam so they can find water, and, food! Native plant restoration would be a, great, starting point to let the American people know you are listening to them (finally!). Please include the, general, public, and, not the ranchers, in your planning, and, your communications!

**Correspondence ID:4073**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. Tomales Point should be an open area, not fenced in because ranchers use false arguments against Tule Elk. Cattle by the thousands at Point Reyes Seashore cause exponentially more damage than a few hundred Tule Elk. The Park Service should protect and help wildlife and their habitats, not promote private, for-profit ranching. The fence needs to come down, and the ranchers need to stop interfering with wildlife, polluting streams, and hassling Park visitors. The ranchers need to either give up some of their privileges, or get out of the Park. The American people will be watching how you approach what's right for Tomales Point and our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:4074**

Correspondence: It is time to stop treating our Tule Elk like noxious animals to be controlled and exterminated. They are on our public lands and must be allowed to have access to food and water. That is why I am writing to demand that you take down the damn elk fence from Tomales Point! The fence on public land is ludicrous and prevents natural migration of tule elk and prevents them from their habitat and access to food and water.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton



Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

Sadly, Point Reyes National Seashore is a landscape dominated by private, for-profit industrial cattle ranching businesses. These private business owners claim stewardship of the lands, waters, and air, and do everything in their power to evade, circumvent, ignore, abuse, and thumb their collective noses at the most basic and sound environmental principles, ethics, practices, and responsibilities. This selfish and unjust behavior should not occur in a National Park. Please take down the Elk fence, and prioritize our native wildlife over private and destructive cattle operations.

**Correspondence ID:4075**

Correspondence: The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

Financial resources should not be spent on an Elk enclosure at Tomales Point, nor on trucking in water and minerals all the way out there, when the Elk are dying of thirst, malnutrition, and starvation. Financial resources should be spent to free the Elk so they can live a natural and healthy life across the entire Park.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:4076**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:4077**

Correspondence: Public enjoyment of the Seashore should be open and available for present and future generations. My main comment to the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials is the Elk Fence must come down.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The public loves the elk, and are horrified when they learn that due to being penned in, significant numbers have perished due to thirst or lack of sustenance. As seen with the other, free-roaming herds in Pt. Reyes, it seems such needless harm will be eliminated if the herd is allowed to roam at will. If

there is conflict between cattle and elk, the Park Service should have ranchers remove their cows, since this is a national park, not a feedlot.

With the public's participation, I expect a greatly improved management plan for Tomales Point and the Tule elk. This is a good way for the Park Service to demonstrate that it can properly manage the public's resources in a way that improves the health and diversity of the park, while improving relations with the general public. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

**Correspondence ID:4078**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:4079**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:4080**

Correspondence: I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

Removing the elk fence is a frugal option, for a Park Service that apparently operates with limited resources.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:4081**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

The National Park Service is spending taxpayer money for a foolish Elk fence on Tomales Point. The leased ranching operations cause way more environmental harm and damage with thousands of cattle everywhere in the Park. The Park Service should spend money to educate the public about the damage cattle and ranchers cause on what should be a true National Park.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:4082**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:4083**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations. In addition, it must include immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:4084**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:4085**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:4086**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

The National Park Service is spending taxpayer money for a foolish Elk fence on Tomales Point. The leased ranching operations cause way more environmental harm and damage with thousands of cattle everywhere in the Park. The Park Service should spend money to educate the public about the damage cattle and ranchers cause on what should be a true National Park.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and

research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:4087**

Correspondence: Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:4088**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

The Park Service will never be able to fully provide enough water, minerals, or forage for the captive Tule Elk at Tomales Point. Put the money into taking down the fence and letting Elk live and thrive throughout the Seashore.



It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

Sadly, Point Reyes National Seashore is a landscape dominated by private, for-profit industrial cattle ranching businesses. These private business owners claim stewardship of the lands, waters, and air, and do everything in their power to evade, circumvent, ignore, abuse, and thumb their collective noses at the most basic and sound environmental principles, ethics, practices, and responsibilities. This selfish and unjust behavior should not occur in a National Park. Please take down the Elk fence, and prioritize our native wildlife over private and destructive cattle operations.

**Correspondence ID:4089**

Correspondence: The confined Tule Elk are dying at astronomical rates each year, and the Park Service just keeps them penned up in a cage to suffer and die at Tomales Point. Please stop this. The Tule Elk Reserve fence needs to come down now. If you want a reserve/preserve, remove the 8-foot fence, put in a small wildlife-friendly fence, and turn the land into a Native Coastal Prairie Reserve.

As a private citizen I find the fact that my tax dollar is being used to fence and kill wild animals in a National Park abhorrent. Take down the fence and let the Tule Elk roam to find water and forage.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

We ALL need to work together in order to Protect and SAVE The Point Reyes National Seashore and the Wildlife, including The TULE ELK, that live there as well!

This special Ecosystem needs to be protected from Ignorance and Greed!!

Tear the fence down at Tomales Point and SAVE THE TULE ELK!!!!

**Correspondence ID:4090**

Correspondence: I am commenting on the process of creating a plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Park. I would hope the National Park Service would not address this area as somehow separate from the park itself but instead view the park in its entirety. As it stands today Tomales Point is more of a zoo within what is suppose to be a park but is in fact seen as private ranch land. And at this particular zoo the wild animals are fenced and the park service personnel let the animals die due to drought and lack of forage. Stop the insanity and take down the elk fence.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

The National Park Service should be spending all resources on restoring the natural habitat of the park, rather than fighting the public's will to protect our land, and our native Tule elk.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:4091**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

It is an ill-founded strategy that will endlessly proliferate the same conditions over and over postponing if not abandoning the desired outcome. These efforts should not be viewed as 'job-security' as the public deserves the outcome spelled out in the original legislation setting the National Seashore up, the elimination of cattle ranching and the reestablishment of the flora and fauna of the Tomales Point ecosystem.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying -

not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:4092**

Correspondence: I appreciate the opportunity to provide input into this scoping process and ask that you remove the elk fence at Tomales Point.

It is an ill-founded strategy that will endlessly proliferate the same conditions over and over postponing if not abandoning the desired outcome. These efforts should not be viewed as 'job-security' as the public deserves the outcome spelled out in the original legislation setting the National Seashore up, the elimination of cattle ranching and the reestablishment of the flora and fauna of the Tomales Point ecosystem.

The National Park Service should be spending all resources on restoring the natural habitat of the park, rather than fighting the public's will to protect our land, and our native Tule elk.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:4093**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations. In addition, it must include immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources to considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:4094**

Correspondence: Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

We keep reading that the Park Service doesn't care about the Elk out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore. What's going on? Why does the Park Service spend taxpayer money for a fence and water and mineral supplements when it's cheaper to just let the Elk go live free and wild? Take down the fence and stop wasting our money for cruelty on innocent wildlife!

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:4095**

Correspondence: I want the fence at Tomales Point, which confines tule elk, to be removed. This is a necessary step for the NPS to take for our native elk.

We keep reading that the Park Service doesn't care about the Elk out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore. What's going on? Why does the Park Service spend taxpayer money for a fence and water and mineral supplements when it's cheaper to just let the Elk go live free and wild? Take down the fence and stop wasting our money for cruelty on innocent wildlife!

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

#### **Correspondence ID:4096**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop "managing" the park. Take down the fence, remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight

climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:4097**

Correspondence: The following are comments addressing the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service should not be creating a separate plan for this area of the park, or any other area of the park as it should be included in the Park's General Management Plan and the park should be managed as one whole unit. The complex ecosystem within the park should be treated as one entity, and the health of that entire system is the responsibility of the park service. To do otherwise can only be seen as irresponsible and cruel.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

The National Park Service was created to conserve the scenery and leave our public lands unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Based on the NPS' mission, the NPS must remove the unnatural eight foot fence, for the sake of our native wildlife and for the enjoyment of future generations.

**Correspondence ID:4098**

Correspondence: I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a

natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

Whether in California or elsewhere globally, climate change impacts nearly every aspect of our current and future environmental conditions. The Tule Elk fence across Tomales Point must be taken down in recognition of this. As conditions are now and for the foreseeable future with seasonal warming, megadrought, desertification, water scarcity, the native Tule Elk will have a better chance of surviving the challenges of this climate crisis, instead of being confined without sufficient water, forage and minerals.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:4099**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

If cattle ranchers are concerned about the spread of disease between the elk and bovine populations, then the cattle should be kept far enough away from the elk as necessary to allow passage through wildlife corridors. This allocation would allow two short run goals- one being that the elk could traverse the area to graze for necessary vegetation for nutritional well-being, as well as access to water; and secondly, cordoning off the unnatural effects of the different effects of cattle grazing on the area's vegetation which would allow the native flora a better environment to establish itself.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

The National Park Service was created to conserve the scenery and leave our public lands unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Based on the NPS' mission, the NPS must remove the unnatural eight foot fence, for the sake of our native wildlife and for the enjoyment of future generations.

**Correspondence ID:4100**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. Tomales Point should be an open area, not fenced in because ranchers use false arguments against Tule Elk. Cattle by the thousands at Point Reyes Seashore cause exponentially more damage than a few hundred Tule Elk. The Park Service should protect and help wildlife and their habitats, not promote private, for-profit ranching. The fence needs to come down, and the ranchers need to stop interfering with wildlife, polluting streams, and hassling Park visitors. The ranchers need to either give up some of their privileges, or get out of the Park. The American people will be watching how you approach what's right for Tomales Point and our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:4101**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

How much does it cost the National Park Service or Point Reyes National Seashore in Tomales Point Reserve for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals? How much does it cost us the taxpayers not only in materials, but in all the hidden costs of labor, operations, communications, negotiation, administration, and don't forget, pleasing the ranchers who shouldn't even be there due to their constant impairment to the Seashore.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

The elk fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds. Also, the barbed wire cow fences should be removed, as they don't belong in a national park, and they are not wildlife friendly.



We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:4102**

Correspondence: Any proposed plans for PRNS should include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Removing the elk fence is a frugal option, for a Park Service that apparently operates with limited resources.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

We ask, why should the "elk fence" across the width of Tomales Point on Point Reyes National Seashore be immediately removed? Because, at long last, after six decades of the Seashore's existence--it is the right, just, humane, and obvious thing to do for an American, even global, National Park, perched on the formidable and awesome Pacific Coast, still waiting for its true nature to be revealed.

**Correspondence ID:4103**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

When it comes to Tomales Point our National Park has failed us, the taxpayer, and rightful owners of the land. We should not be paying for the cost of installing and maintaining a fence so wild animals can't roam and forage for food and water in areas preserved for private cattle and dairy ranchers within a National Park.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

Thanks so much for your serious attention to my comments. I think the main thing for the Tomales Point scoping plan should be removal of that horrible fence out there. The elk need to roam so they can find water and food. Native plant restoration would be a great starting point to let the American people know you're listening to them (finally!). Please include the general public, and not the ranchers, in your planning and communications.

**Correspondence ID:4104**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

When it comes to Tomales Point our National Park has failed us, the taxpayer, and rightful owners of the land. We should not be paying for the cost of installing and maintaining a fence so wild animals can't roam and forage for food and water in areas preserved for private cattle and dairy ranchers within a National Park.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

Thanks so much for your serious attention to my comments. I think the main thing for the Tomales Point scoping plan should be removal of that horrible fence out there. The elk need to roam so they can find water and food. Native plant restoration would be a great starting point to let the American people know you're listening to them (finally!). Please include the general public, and not the ranchers, in your planning and communications.

**Correspondence ID:4105**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

For climate change and biodiversity reasons, the Tomales Point scoping plan must include complete removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence combined with an entirely new and enforced ranch succession plan. It must commit to ceasing continued ranchlands succession of leased parcels to ranchers, and restoration of native coastal prairie and wildlife habitat. It must emphasize the roles of indigenous Coast Miwok's ecological and scientific cultural knowledge and practices, and the importance of wildlife and natural forces in the restoration process.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4106**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the upcoming plan for Elk Reserve in Point Reyes National Seashore. The 3-year timeframe proposed by the NPS appears to be too long of a period, as we have lost approximately 50% of our native Elk held captive behind this 8 foot fence due to lack of appropriate amount of food, water and minerals. In your upcoming plan, please ensure there are numerous alternatives available on the removal of this deadly fence. It is time for that fence to be removed.

**Correspondence ID:4107**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:4108**

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The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival. The hell with all the ""pleasers"", especially ranchers. They should have no say about ANY national park.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

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**Correspondence ID:4110**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

The National Park Service is spending taxpayer money for a foolish Elk fence on Tomales Point. The leased ranching operations cause way more environmental harm and damage with thousands of cattle everywhere in the Park. The Park Service should spend money to educate the public about the damage cattle and ranchers cause on what should be a true National Park.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources to considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:4111**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

Resources should be spent on taking down the elk fence and re-wilding the park.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

With the public's participation, I expect a greatly improved management plan for Tomales Point and the Tule elk. This is a good way for the Park Service to demonstrate that it can properly manage the public's resources in a way that improves the health and diversity of the park, while improving relations with the general public. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

**Correspondence ID:4112**

Correspondence: Thank you for reading my public comment for the Tomales Point planning process. We love Point Reyes National Seashore, but the Tule Elk Reserve is a really sad place out there. Why is a fence to trap wildlife even a good science idea? Please remove the Tule Elk Fence now.

Point Reyes National Seashore has finite resources and maintaining an 8-foot fence at Tomales Point is not a good use of taxpayer funds.

Financial resources should not be spent on an Elk enclosure at Tomales Point, nor on trucking in water and minerals all the way out there, when the Elk are dying of thirst, malnutrition, and starvation. Financial resources should be spent to free the Elk so they can live a natural and healthy life across the entire Park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4113**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

Tule Elk are not only rare beautiful animals they are also caretakers of the land. The elk help native grasses flourish, which helps carbon sequestering, thus reducing the threat of climate change. In this day and age the National Park service must lead our nation in restoring our parks to help reduce our nation's carbon footprint.

I look forward to the next steps in the planning process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this initial phase.

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I look forward to the next steps in the planning process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this initial phase.

**Correspondence ID:4115**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Too many park resources are used to cater to the private ranchers. Ranch operations pollute the streams and waterways of the seashore with manure runoff, release methane into the atmosphere from cattle belches and farts, damaging our climate, and have caused the massive spread of invasive plants. NPS should be putting these resources into restoring the deep-rooted native grasses, wildflowers, mosses and other native plants that cannot survive destructive grazing practices caused by too many cattle on the land.

Removing the Tomales Point elk fence will improve genetic diversity within the elk population.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it recommendation in the upcoming plan. The

independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:4116**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:4117**

Correspondence: I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.



I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:4118**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

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**Correspondence ID:4121**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the updated Tule Elk Management Plan/General Management Plan for Pt. Reyes National Seashore. To help the National Park Service (NPS) best structure its environmental review process, I offer the comments below. Please consider including these points in scoping your review and the presumed Environmental Impact Statement.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:4122**

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#### **Correspondence ID:4124**

Correspondence: Now that the National Park Service is looking at its management of the Tomales Point area of the Pt. Reyes National Seashore, there are a number of items NPS should take into consideration as it updates its plans. Please include consideration of these when scoping your environmental review process. The most critical of these is the permanent removal of the fence that keeps the Tomales Point Tule elk herd imprisoned on land that isn't sufficient to support a captive herd.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

The National Park Service was created to conserve the scenery and leave our public lands unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Based on the NPS' mission, the NPS must remove the unnatural eight foot fence, for the sake of our native wildlife and for the enjoyment of future generations.

**Correspondence ID:4125**

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I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:4126**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health

model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:4127**

Correspondence: Now that the National Park Service is looking at its management of the Tomales Point area of the Pt. Reyes National Seashore, there are a number of items NPS should take into consideration as it updates its plans. Please include consideration of these when scoping your environmental review process. The most critical of these is the permanent removal of the fence that keeps the Tomales Point Tule elk herd imprisoned on land that isn't sufficient to support a captive herd.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

In developing alternatives to be evaluated, the NPS should include Tule Elk not being confined behind the fence. Alternatives should include adding currently leased land to the Tule Elk Reserve as the leaseholders retire them due to climate change or shifting economic pressures, as we are already seeing.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison AND elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

The National Park Service was created to conserve the scenery and leave our public lands unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Based on the NPS' mission, the NPS must remove the unnatural eight foot fence, for the sake of our native wildlife and for the enjoyment of future generations. I mean really....this is such an embarrassment!

**Correspondence ID:4128**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

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Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

I want to thank you for your serious consideration of my comments, and placing them into the public record for scoping analysis of Tomales Point. The most important thing is for the Park Service to get rid of that horrible fence out there. It's 2022! Please come up with a good plan for the Elk, wildlife, birds, native plants, and everything else that should thrive in a National Park. We are counting on you to help Point Reyes be all it can naturally be!

**Correspondence ID:4129**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is a stunning place and I appreciate the chance to provide input for the planning process.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves. Please remove the fence NOW.

We wonder why Point Reyes National Seashore officials, especially Superintendent Kenkel, persist with keeping the expense of a long ugly fence out at Tomales Point and to truck in water and minerals. It's obvious even to a non-scientist. There's not enough natural food and water to sustain the Tule Elk entrapped in a zoo pen out there. Take down the fence, and instead use the money to help the Tule Elk transition and thrive across the Seashore. Remove the ranchers and their cattle. Enough is enough. It's a NATIONAL PARK!

It is the responsibility of the Park Service to protect wildlife, and the most obvious solution is to remove the elk fence, allow the elk to roam, water, and feed, and for the Park Service to ameliorate climate change impacts, including removal of nonnative plants, improve fire resiliency, and allow wildlife and natural processes to restore areas of the Seashore. A good first step is to end the lease agreements with the cattle ranchers.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse

crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:4130**

Correspondence: I want the fence at Tomales Point, which confines tule elk, to be removed. This is a necessary step for the NPS to take for our native elk.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:4131**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Sadly, Point Reyes National Seashore is a landscape dominated by private, for-profit industrial cattle ranching businesses. These private business owners claim stewardship of the lands, waters, and air, and do everything in their power to evade, circumvent, ignore, abuse, and thumb their collective noses at the most basic and sound environmental principles, ethics, practices, and responsibilities. This selfish



and unjust behavior should not occur in a National Park. Please take down the Elk fence, and prioritize our native wildlife over private and destructive cattle operations.

**Correspondence ID:4132**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Dismantling the elk fence will save the NPS money, as it is a less expensive and less invasive option.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:4133**

Correspondence: I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:4134**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the

cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

Removal of the elk fence would give the Park a good opportunity to create a prairie preserve, located just on the outside of the existing elk preserve, by pushing back any cattle away from the current fence line. In fact, if the ranches are to remain, installing a wildlife-friendly fence south of the elk fence to let elk and other native animals move freely while keeping cattle at bay would let the park establish a specific prairie preserve where the flora and fauna have been degraded. This could be a site for studying the restoration of the native environment after decades of degradation by cattle.

I am taking the approach that the elk fence be removed from the Tomales Point area and all of the Point Reyes National Seashore because that was and is the intention of the setting-up of this National Park area to begin with. It was not envisioned as a prison area, that is the farthest thing that could be imagined, with cows over here and the elk behind a fence other there. "Oh give me a home where the bison and elk roam.." - not 'why are they behind that fence?'

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

#### **Correspondence ID:4135**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Sadly, Point Reyes National Seashore is a landscape dominated by private, for-profit industrial cattle ranching businesses. These private business owners claim stewardship of the lands, waters, and air, and do everything in their power to evade, circumvent, ignore, abuse, and thumb their collective noses at the most basic and sound environmental principles, ethics, practices, and responsibilities. This selfish and unjust behavior should not occur in a National Park. Please take down the Elk fence, and prioritize our native wildlife over private and destructive cattle operations.

**Correspondence ID:4136**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant would therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to provide this preliminary feedback, and I look forward to participating in the next steps of this important planning process.

**Correspondence ID:4137**

Correspondence: Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a god-awful fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence now.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:4138**

Correspondence: The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

Resources budgeted for Point Reyes National Seashore should be used for preventing wildlife destruction, rather than additional money toward how to maintain an unethical 8 foot fence in the Elk Preserve.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

An independent, scientific panel provided a recommendation to the NPS, to remove the eight foot fence across Tomales Point, which currently confines the native Tule elk in an environment which does not allow the herds to be large, healthy and free-ranging. Please include numerous alternatives in the upcoming elk management plan that would remove the Tomales Point fence in order for our native wildlife to be free-roaming.

All the current plan does is contribute to the slow demise of the Tule elk. The primary purpose of the National Park Service is protecting the land and wildlife, not ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:4139**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

If we don't work to ensure wild animals thrive in our National Parks, where will we work to ensure our wildlife does not go extinct? Cattle and dairy cows are not threatened by extinction, while Tule elk are. This is especially true given our recent years of drought. The park's top priority should be to ensure the Tule elk survive and even thrive. Remove the elk fence.

Sadly, Point Reyes National Seashore is a landscape dominated by private, for-profit industrial cattle ranching businesses. These private business owners claim stewardship of the lands, waters, and air, and do everything in their power to evade, circumvent, ignore, abuse, and thumb their collective noses at the most basic and sound environmental principles, ethics, practices, and responsibilities. This selfish and unjust behavior should not occur in a National Park. Please take down the Elk fence, and prioritize our native wildlife over private and destructive cattle operations.

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Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

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**Correspondence ID:4141**

Correspondence: Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

It is an ill-founded strategy that will endlessly proliferate the same conditions over and over postponing if not abandoning the desired outcome. These efforts should not be viewed as 'job-security' as the public deserves the outcome spelled out in the original legislation setting the National Seashore up, the elimination of cattle ranching and the reestablishment of the flora and fauna of the Tomales Point ecosystem.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hooved methane-operations.

The public loves the elk, and are horrified when they learn that due to being penned in, significant numbers have perished due to thirst or lack of sustenance. As seen with the other, free-roaming herds in Pt. Reyes, it seems such needless harm will be eliminated if the herd is allowed to roam at will. If there is conflict between cattle and elk, the Park Service should have ranchers remove their cows, since this is a national park, not a feedlot.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

**Correspondence ID:4142**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4143**

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No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

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**Correspondence ID:4144**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources to considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:4145**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4146**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

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**Correspondence ID:4147**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources to considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:4148**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought,

and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

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It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4149**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The National Park Service was created to conserve the scenery and leave our public lands unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Based on the NPS' mission, the NPS must remove the unnatural eight foot fence, for the sake of our native wildlife and for the enjoyment of future generations.

**Correspondence ID:4150**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

I cannot find a reasonable sound argument for continued ranching or dairy in a National Park. There are numerous dairy and cattle ranches in West Marin and Sonoma counties, as well as all across California and the entire United States. Some owned by the same families as those that ranch in the park today. Tule elk are only native to California and only found in Point Reyes National Seashore. We are lucky the elk are located in a National Park where they should be protected. Why private dairy and beef cows are prioritized over those elk in a National Park is beyond anyone's logical reasoning. It is political and that does not make it right. The National Park should be above politics. We need our National Parks, which we pay for and support, to work for us, the people.

Thank you for allowing me to comment and for putting effort and resources to considering how to protect our precious and dwindling natural resources of our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:4151**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

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It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4152**

Correspondence: Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park. This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:4153**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

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It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4154**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

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It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4155**

Correspondence: Please accept for the record these comments as input for the NPS's upcoming environmental review of its Tomales Point management plan update. These are important aspects that must be considered in determining the scope of the planning process and should be included in any environmental impact statement. My top concern is for the Park Service to remove the fence that keeps the tule elk penned in on grazing land that's insufficient to support a healthy herd.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park. This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:4156**

Correspondence: I am commenting on the process of creating a plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Park. I would hope the National Park Service would not address this area as somehow separate from the park itself but instead view the park in its entirety. As it stands today Tomales Point is more of a zoo within what is suppose to be a park but is in fact seen as private ranch land. And at this particular zoo the wild animals are fenced and the park service personnel let the animals die due to drought and lack of forage. Stop the insanity and take down the elk fence.

It would be better and less expensive to allow Tule elk access to water sources, such as the spring and lagoon in the region directly below the Tomales Point reserve.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:4157**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

The American public, by a wide margin, does not support spending money to keep Tule Elk in captivity at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore. There is no viable, long-term monetary solution for supplemental water, minerals, or food for the Tomales Point herds. The only reasonable cost is to remove that harmful fence and let the Elk roam free as is natural and the right step to take.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thank you for reading and placing my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). It is time, finally, for PRNS officials, notably Craig Kenkel, to stop stonewalling and ignoring the American public from across the country, and use proven science to prioritize wilderness, wildlife and habitat over commercial ranching. Start with a plan to remove the fence at Tomales Point and prioritize the endemic Tule Elk.

**Correspondence ID:4158**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the

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It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4159**

Correspondence: Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

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All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

The Tomales Point Elk Reserve fence must promptly be taken down. This should occur in conjunction with a renewed, science-based plan to cease rancher successions of leased lands, allowing Point Reyes National Seashore to revert to natural landscapes, waterscapes, habitats, and ecosystems.

I look forward to the next steps in the planning process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this initial phase.

**Correspondence ID:4160**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

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**Correspondence ID:4162**

Correspondence: Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

When it comes to Tomales Point our National Park has failed us, the taxpayer, and rightful owners of the land. We should not be paying for the cost of installing and maintaining a fence so wild animals can't roam and forage for food and water in areas preserved for private cattle and dairy ranchers within a National Park.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Point Reyes National Seashore management must scope a plan to remove the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point. This must be done in conjunction with a serious, science-based, enforced plan to cease the practice of ranching on our public land, so that timely and effective Seashore wilderness restoration occurs with public participation, focused on natural and native features, habitats, wildlife, and visitor accessibility.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4163**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

The NPS should revise the PRNS Succession Policy to permanently retire grazing leases as ranchers choose to not renew them. This would create an historic opportunity to restore that 33% of the park that is currently surrounded by fences, full of cow manure and turn it into a program that will benefit not only Tule Elk, but expand the biodiversity throughout the park. The public would enthusiastically volunteer to help the NPS with such a program.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4164**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:4165**

Correspondence: I am commenting on the process of creating a plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Park. I would hope the National Park Service would not address this area as somehow separate from the park itself but instead view the park in its entirety. As it stands today Tomales Point is more of a zoo within what is suppose to be a park but is in fact seen as private ranch land. And at this particular zoo the wild animals are fenced and the park service personnel let the animals die due to drought and lack of forage. Stop the insanity and take down the elk fence.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

The Park Service should put all resources to removing the elk fence, allow the elk to roam free, stop the killing of the elk, and plant native grasses for them to feed.

Tomales Point and the Point Reyes National Seashore is to be an area where wildlife are given back their home. Taxpayers and visitors venture out that way to hear the roar of the Pacific Ocean and feel the sun and wind, and see the land as it was made in its beautiful creation. Taxpayers do not go out to Point

Reyes to see miles of wire fences 'keeping Nature in check', and the destructive, exploitive industrial practices of corrupt politically influential parties rule the land.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:4166**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

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**Correspondence ID:4167**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

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**Correspondence ID:4168**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

Point Reyes has stunning biodiversity, and the restoration of native plants and wildlife will ensure that these important ecosystems last for generations.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4169**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

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Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

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**Correspondence ID:4170**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

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**Correspondence ID:4171**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

Reliable reports state the NPS has shouldered many of the operational costs over the years that should have been borne by the ranchers. Since most agencies have limited budgets, I'd like the Park Service to analyze how much it could save by making the ranches pay for any and all fencing, but especially the elk

fence at Tomales Point. It should also look at how much it would save if the ranches were removed entirely from the park. Included in these analyses should be the value of increased public access to areas ranchers try to keep the public away from, the increased enjoyment of the park by the public, and the savings from not having to respond to rancher demands.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure runoff, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:4172**

Correspondence: Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

The drought conditions are continuing. Due to this urgency the Park must now act to help not only the Tule elk but all other species within its borders. The most impactful thing the Park can do in the short term to assist the elk in their survival is to remove the elk fence. This is not only the most humane thing to do, it is the most cost-effective and reasonable action.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:4173**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Point Reyes National Seashore has finite resources and maintaining an 8-foot fence at Tomales Point is not a good use of taxpayer funds.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:4174**

Correspondence: Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

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Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.



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Correspondence: Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

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Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:4176**

Correspondence: Kindly take down the elk fence from Tomales Point. It restricts the tule elk and prevents them from getting water and forage.

When will the National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore officials stop spending money on a misbegotten Elk fence idea? Remove the fence, and let the Tule Elk roam. It is time to get rid of the cattle ranchers in our national park, as they're the ones forcing their will against the American public's will. Free the Elk and let Americans enjoy a true national park.

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Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:4177**

Correspondence: Thank you for accepting my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. I am very concerned. The Seashore's natural resources like the Tule Elk should be unimpaired.

Recently, the NPS has started an unnatural process of providing emergency water via tanks. This practice is costly, and has limited effectiveness.

The National Park Service is spending taxpayer money for a foolish Elk fence on Tomales Point. The leased ranching operations cause way more environmental harm and damage with thousands of cattle everywhere in the Park. The Park Service should spend money to educate the public about the damage cattle and ranchers cause on what should be a true National Park.

Because the well-publicized die-offs of the Tomales Point Tule elk over the past few years have captured the public's attention, it's important that NPS give full consideration to the benefits of removing the elk fence that pens the herd in. Since the fence is only for the benefit of the private ranches in the park, NPS should look at what the impacts on ranching would be with removal of the fence, and weigh that against benefits to the natural environment and the public at large. Since the vast majority of park visitors come for the elk, and not the cows, maintaining a healthy herd should be seen as more important than protecting the private interests of the ranchers.

Respectfully, the land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit. It is imperative to keep the native Tule Elk as the priority, and remove the Elk fence.

**Correspondence ID:4178**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

We should not have a captive herd of Tule elk in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Tule elk should be allowed to roam free.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:4179**

Correspondence: Please remove the Tomales Point fencing and let the tule elk roam free in the National park. Also, it's past time to remove the cattle ranch operations and allow the restoration of the park for visitors to enjoy the full natural beauty of seashore.

**Correspondence ID:4180**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

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**Correspondence ID:4181**

Correspondence: In response to your letter dated March 31, 2022 asking for ideas on the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve planning process, I offer the following regarding the elk fence and how best to manage.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

Superintendent Kenkel and other PRNS officials should demonstrate leadership on a national scale and remove the Tule Elk Reserve's fence across Tomales Point so that a new, sustainable wildlife health model is created to right the wrong of past ill-conceived Park Service policy. It is their duty to protect all National Park natural resources for posterity.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. If you do only one thing: Remove the godawful eyesore of a fence out there. Would you want to be trapped without enough water or food? You can't say it's a natural process of attrition if you've got them captive. Remove the fence immediately. Create safe and easy wildlife corridors for the elk to move out. Make the ranchers stop harming wildlife and hassling human visitors. The American people in multiple surveys, letters, op-eds, articles, and more want a National Park at Point Reyes. Not a ranch.

**Correspondence ID:4182**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

Financial resources of the National Park Service (NPS) should be used to end the Tule Elk Reserve on Tomales Point, by removal of the rancher and NPS insisted eight foot fence and replace that with a wildlife-friendly smaller fence but a fence that keeps the cattle out of this preserved environment. Let's establish a Coastal Native Prairie Reserve in place of the wholly bad and inhumane Tule Elk Reserve. The Tule Elk get to roam free for food and water throughout the Seashore, and the current Reserve transforms into a wild habitat global study model during these times of severe climate heating and California megadrought.

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**Correspondence ID:4183**

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**Correspondence ID:4184**

Correspondence: I am writing and requesting to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, as it prevents natural migration of tule elk. It also stops them from getting water and food.

Point Reyes National Seashore has finite resources and maintaining an 8-foot fence at Tomales Point is not a good use of taxpayer funds.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, it should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. More and more, the public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits. How many visitors are discouraged from coming to visit due to this wasteful and disagreeable practice? How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of it? How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people see it catering to the select few, at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Too much, that's for sure.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

**Correspondence ID:4185**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down the 8-foot fence and allow the Elk to roam free.

It's both cheaper and more ecological to let the elk be free, without a fence, than it is to try to manage them unnaturally, with trucked water tanks and salt licks. And the elk are happier as well.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore is now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your

priorities and mandates set in accordance with your jobs. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:4186**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down the 8-foot fence and allow the Elk to roam free.

It's both cheaper and more ecological to let the elk be free, without a fence, than it is to try to manage them unnaturally, with trucked water tanks and salt licks. And the elk are happier as well.

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The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:4187**

Correspondence: I am writing as physician and health care advocate because I have serious concerns about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service's troubled programs for protecting animals and plants, including the Tule Elk, under the Endangered Species Act. I am very disturbed because of the fact that this program is plagued by long delays, increasing the risk of extinction and making recovery more difficult and expensive.

At this time, I am strongly urging the National Park Service to please take down the elk fence from Tomales Point, I support this request because the presence of this fence prevents natural migration of tule elk and it also prevents the elk from being able to have free access to needed supplies of water and food.

It is very important for the park service to understand that Point Reyes National Seashore has finite resources and the cost of maintaining an 8-foot fence at Tomales Point is not a good use of taxpayer funds.

I am alerting the National Park Service to the fact that the presence of invasive species, including ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. The national funds that are currently being spent to maintain the Tomales Point elk fence would be better utilized to direct the removal of these invasive plants in other parts of the park.

The Park Service should consider not only the economic costs of maintaining the elk fence and the management of the elk herd, but the Park Service should examine the reputational and ethical costs of doing so as well. It is crucial for the Park Service to understand that the general public is very unhappy about the needless deaths of the Tule elk, because the deaths of these endangered elk are occurring for no other reason than to protect private ranchers' profits.

Please remember that the wasteful and disagreeable practices by the National Park Service regarding the denial of access of food and water to the tule elk angers local families and is actually discouraging visitors from coming to visit due to the current Park Service policies regarding protective treatment of the tule elk or the choice not to ensure protection for the endangered tule elk.

How many dollars are not spent in the park and surrounding areas because of the current lack of animal protective policies of the Park Service regarding the tule elk. How much distrust does the Park Service generate when people observe the Park Service focusing on protection for rancher's profits at the cost of the iconic Tule elk and damage to the park's environs? Please realize that the level of public distrust for the present Park Service's animal protection policies or lack of these policies for the tule elk is significant.

At this time, I thank you for your consideration of my letter and request. I strongly urge the Park Service to please use this opportunity to carry out and honor the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To honor these intentions, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. I am reminding you that the national mandate for the U.S. Park Service is that the Point Reyes National Park Seashore is owned by the American people and not by the few ranchers.

Sincerely,  
Jean Marie Naples, MD-Ph.D

**Correspondence ID:4188**

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The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote

brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:4189**

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I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore is now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates set in accordance with your jobs. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

The difference in landscape between the Tule Elk Reserve and the ranches on the other side of the fence is stark. The Tule elk Reserve looks like a beautiful coastal prairie with lots of wildflowers and coyote brush. The land to the south looks barren and denuded and there is evidence of cow manure spraying - not what visitors come to Point Reyes to see. Please remove the fence in the Elk reserve, as this is the right step to take for our National Park.

Thank you for your consideration in this important manner.

**Correspondence ID:4190**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:4191**

Correspondence: Just for once, why can't the park service do something right. The Tule elk were there way before the cattle. Just tell the ranchers to go back to their old grazing grounds. Give the elk some



healthy food. How would you feel if someone took your home from you and said you had no more rights to buy or grow your own food and would have to beg on the street. Oh, and they took your voice away so they could not hear you complain. I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the Tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

It is unconscionable the National Park Service, who is to protect public lands and natural resources, continues to incur costs for the ugly Elk Fence and supplemental water and nutrients when getting rid of the cattle ranchers and letting Elk roam free in the Park would work free for the rest of time.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

Removing the fence allows native tule elk to roam free, which is good for both elk and for park landscape. Please help make this happen.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:4192**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

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**Correspondence ID:4194**

Correspondence: Tomales Point is the highlight of many visitors' experience in Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for inviting public comment in this planning process. By removing the 8-foot elk fence, you can begin the process of restoration of the entire peninsula's ecosystem.

No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4195**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

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The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:4197**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

Since the Park Service recently concluded its multi-year process to update its General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA), one wonders why this part of park operations wasn't included in that process. Nonetheless, now is the time for a comprehensive analysis of NPS current management of Tomales Point, as well as past practices, and all associated costs. While NPS should adhere to its mandate as specified in the Organic Act of 1916 with an eye to providing the highest levels of protection for the natural resources within the park, it should examine the costs in staff time and materials, as well as ongoing maintenance costs, of the elk fence. It should compare that to the savings and benefits of removing the fence, including the environmental benefits of allowing the cattle-grazed areas a chance to repair themselves.

Park Service money should not be used to trap Elk behind a long tall fence on Tomales Point. Point Reyes Park Service financial resources should be used to get rid of ranchers who pump raw sewage into park lands and waters, build and hide dumps, and prevent public access to the park. Please prioritize native Tule elk over destructive cattle operations on our public land.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

The successful reintroduction of the elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore should be viewed as the goal of the general plan for not only the Tomales Point area but the entire National Seashore and the most cost-effective way to do that is to work for the elimination of cattle from that area. If this approach is not taken then there will be continued non-native plants being brought in which will necessitate more plans and strategies to eliminate, more engineering projects to contain manure run-off, control of native 'predator' species to protect the cattle which is contradictory to reestablishing the Seashore, just to name a few.

**Correspondence ID:4198**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

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No matter what the Park Service spends to supplement water and minerals for the Tule Elk at Tomales Point, it will not matter. The Tule Elk are starving to death at Tomales Point due to continued drought, and megadrought. Please stop spending time and money on the fence and artificial approaches, and let the Elk roam free for natural sources of water and good nutrition.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

Maintaining a captive Tule elk herd at Tomales Point will likely only become increasingly expensive with climate change and recurring, significant droughts. If the fence is removed, water troughs and mineral licks will be unnecessary.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

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The management of Tomales Point is an important part of the overall park. Inviting public comment, and then incorporating those preferences into the plan, will be key if public trust is to be restored in NPS.

**Correspondence ID:4203**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

The recent controversies regarding the treatment of the captive elk herd extract a cost on park management by forcing it to respond to the public's concerns and the demands the ranchers have become used to making. For example, NPS is now providing water sources and mineral licks for the elk to prevent recurring starvation and dying from thirst. In the past, NPS has built and repaired fences on behalf of the ranches. How much would the Park Service save if the elk were allowed to roam free? How much would it save if the ranchers were held to their lease terms and paid for improvements themselves? NPS should not be spending tax monies on private, for-profit ventures in our public park.

Pierce Point Ranch should be the only real "historical" ranch in PRNS. It should be developed as a working model of a ranch from the 19th Century, with no more than a few head of cattle and a few dairy cows, showcasing actual ranching and farming techniques of that era. Docents could explain the conditions, techniques, and context for working the land under the times and circumstances in place at the time. It should also tell the full story of the Native Americans that preceded European settlers and their fate. All other ranches should be removed from the park.

The 1998 plan says "Natural processes will be relied on to control populations of native species ..." There is nothing natural about caging animals behind a fence. The existing fence at the Tule Elk Reserve should be removed and replaced with a wildlife friendly fence that will allow Tule Elk to leave the reserve while still keeping cattle out.

Thank you for submitting my comments into the public record for the Tomales Point planning process at Point Reyes National Seashore. Please remove the fence across Tomales Point so the Elk can be free to roam, feed, drink, associate, mate, and thrive naturally. It can be done! Please consider and use my comments to help Point Reyes be a beautiful place for wildlife and humans.

**Correspondence ID:4204**

Correspondence: Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. As an environmentally motivated voter who values our unique native species, I believe that Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4205**

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**Correspondence ID:4207**

Correspondence: I am writing to request the involvement of independent scientists, independent elk biologists and the public in the development of the elk general management. We deserve a seat at the table, and it is imperative the upcoming management plan be objective, and that it prioritizes the survival of our native Tule elk over private cattle ranching in PRNS.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

The Park Service wastes taxpayer money on the self-fulfilling problems caused by its continued decades-long poor wildlife management choices out on Tomales Point. The already limited funds available should be used to remove the tule elk fence so elk can find sufficient food and water on their own across the Seashore.

The Elk Fence on Tomales Point must be removed. Tule Elk need to mingle, associate, and mate to prolong genetic diversity and sustain present and long-term herd health, vitality, and viability.

It is time to focus on the health of our National Seashore and protect the air, soil, water, native wildlife and native vegetation over the constant impact from private cattle operations. The ranchers espouse crackpot pseudoscience about false carbon sinks (pasture vs. native coastal prairie), regenerative ranching (oxymoron), methane digesters (new profit streams), while the objective and independent science-based literature state how a native landscape with native vegetation and wildlife will help fight climate change more effectively than cattle operations. Please prioritize our native landscape and native wildlife in Point Reyes.

**Correspondence ID:4208**

Correspondence: Please read and consider my public comment on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. As an environmentally motivated voter who values our unique native species, I believe that Tule Elk should be free to roam, gather, find water and food, and live more healthy lives--not be imprisoned for their entire lives behind a fence. Point Reyes is a national park, therefore please remove the fence.

Removing the fence will reduce the costs associated with proper stewardship of these captive animals - water troughs, mineral licks and staff time to regularly monitor the health of the herd will be unnecessary if the fence is removed.

The long run goal is to phase out cattle from the Point Reyes National Seashore, altogether. This would allow a number of costly issues to be dropped as the progression of steps were accomplished, namely the need and upkeep of the elk fences, trucking in feed and water for the elk herds in the increasing occurrence of drought, culling the herds when successfully repopulating the areas and eradication of invasive species of plants brought in by cattle, cattle feed, and industrial machinery.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.



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**Correspondence ID:4214**

Correspondence: Superintendent Craig Kenkel  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94936  
Dept. of the Interior Region 10

RE: L7617 Public Civic Engagement for Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes Seashore

May 9, 2022

Dear Superintendent Kenkel;

The Watershed Alliance of Marin (WAM) is commenting herewith on the planning process to address complex wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues at the Pierce Point historic ranch and especially the Tomales Point Tule Elk Preserve.

The National Park Service is entrusted with protecting a species that has been on the brink of extinction for about 150 years. All efforts to protect and return Tule Elk's ecologic function in a healthy ecosystem, particularly at Tomales Point, is of utmost importance to the public. We have a once in a lifetime opportunity to restore the beauty and wholeness of Pt. Reyes while healing the troubled legacy of colonial conquest and its residue still in evidence today. Adopting the ways of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) should be explored and implemented to the fullest extent in restoring the Seashore to a level of balance--with people interacting and managing the landscape for health, as native peoples did for thousands of years.

We endorse the letter of the Sierra Club Federal Lands Committee of the Bay Chapter, in particular these points here:

National Park Service (NPS) planning procedures (and General Management Plan (GMP) statute) require that you start a planning process with a GMP which is at the top of the NPS planning pyramid. That is where decisions are made as to how land areas are to be managed in the future. That is what was recently done for your GMP for the ranching area. What is not explained is how Tomales Point is different from the ranching area.

Starting with the 1998 Tomales Point Elk Plan (which was a plan for keeping the elk locked up at Tomales Point) seems to us to indicate that the plan is [still] to keep the elk locked up there. Why else would you now be discussing things such as when to shoot the elk, and whether to give them water (but apparently not food), if you weren't already planning on keeping them there? NPS must start with a GMP for the management of all the resources of Tomales Point [emphasis ours]. Only if you were to decide in a GMP to keep the elk locked up at Tomales Point would you need to decide when to shoot the elk and whether to give them water (and, hopefully, food). (May 9, 2022 Sierra Club Federal Lands Bay Chapter Committee letter to Superintendent Craig Kenkel)

Two members of WAM's board have served both as Tule Elk docents and as watershed experts, such that we are very familiar with the issues surrounding the elk, their habitat, and the history at Pt. Reyes. Rekindling the Tule Elk Docent Program should occur.

With awareness of the two ongoing lawsuits, there should be no excuse for neglect of the Elk. Addressing their welfare must be prioritized especially during the legal process. As such, we ask for quick removal of the fence that threatens their existence given that their genetic pool is severely depleted, with less than 221 within the fenced Tomales Point area and where over half the captive herd has died in the past few years and with only 5,000 to 6,000 elk remaining in existence in California. Understanding the breadth of Tule Elk history and habitat throughout California reinforces the need for them to roam and function as herd ungulates should, as part of a vast ecological network benefiting multiple species of plants and animals.

At Pt. Reyes, the first people are the Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo tribes: the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. We respect their confidentiality and consultation requirements by agencies. To support our plan requests and hopefully the tribe's, we are borrowing heavily from the vast historic cultural resource accounts of *Tending the Wild* by M. Kat Anderson University of California Press, 2005. Gleaned from a decade of documenting native people's cultural resource practices, this work retains the traditions and historic practices of the first people of California. Other experts that can answer to Tule Elk biology, history and habitat are Tule Elk biologist Julie Phillips and California Ecology expert, Artist and Author, Laura Cunningham.

To understand the significant sustaining relationship between people and the Tule Elk and other wildlife we will quote heavily from the book. *Tending the Wild* is the compilation of science, tribal traditions, use of resources through oral history of the indigenous first Californians. Tule elk are indigenous only to California. Baseline earlier accounts critical to understanding the Tule Elk history and ecological function are contained here. We hope this excerpt would inspire a return to protecting and enhancing their significance in the ecosystem:

"Jean-Francois de Galaup, Comte de La Perouse, a French seafarer described California in 1786 as a land of inexpressible fertility. He and others were taken with the prodigious congregation of wildlife, rookeries of seals, shoals of fish, pods of whales, flocks of birds and herds of pronghorn antelope. The immense numbers of tule elk in the Central Valley, for example, rivaled the ungulate numbers in Africa's Serengeti." (Page 14, *Tending the Wild* by M. Kat Anderson University of California Press, 2005)

"As many as half a million tule elk (*Cervus elaphus nannodes*) fed on the lush grasses and forbs of the valley grassland. Herds as large as one thousand to three thousand were reported. Historically, tule elk in central California ranged over the entire San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys and adjacent foothills through the Livermore and Sunol Valleys across to Santa Clara Valley. Don Sebastian Vizcaino spotted abundant tule elk when he landed at Monterey on December 10, 1602. In 1848 the traveler James Lynch witnessed the San Joaquin plains covered with tule elk "as far as the eye could reach." The animals' heads rose in surprise at the approach of his regiment, and the multitude of horns reminded him of a "young forest." Edward Bosqui spotted tule elk between Merced and Stockton and said, "At times we saw bands of elk, deer and antelope in such numbers they actually darkened the plains for miles and looked in the distance like herds of cattle." During the Gold Rush, well after the first European settlement, elk might be seen in bands of forty or fifty, grazing on the edge marshes, near Stockton. Their whistles could be heard nearly a mile away." (Pages 19-20, *Tending the Wild* by M. Kat Anderson University of California Press, 2005)

"The majority of the bighorn sheep disappeared by 1900, felled by diseases transmitted by domestic livestock and illegal hunting. Elk in turn were wantonly destroyed. "Elk were here in great numbers....

They were mercilessly killed by hunters, killed not for their flesh, but for the fun of the killing." By 1904 only three bands of tule elk, a mere 145 individuals, were left, living within the confines of the Miller and Lux Ranch near Bakersfield." (Page 95, *Tending the Wild* by M. Kat Anderson University of California Press, 2005)

#### "Maintaining and Expanding the Coastal Prairies

... Native people have inhabited the northern coastal area for more than eight thousand years; the intersection of water and land and the proximity of food-rich marine communities made life inviting here.

This biologically diverse community of the coastal prairie contains many plant species important to Indians

for construction, cordage materials, fish poisons, foods, household items, and medicines. At what is now the Point Reyes National Seashore, the tidytips, California buttercups and gold fields--all annuals gathered for their edible seed by the Coast Miwok--still bloom every spring.

Originally the fertile prairies supported herds of tule elk, pronghorn antelope, and mule deer. More than one thousand tule elk composed a single herd. Scientists concur that this plant community very likely developed under relatively mild grazing pressure but with short fire return interval. Fires from lightning storms might occur as rarely as once every eighty to one hundred years, not frequent enough to maintain the openness of the land. There is ample evidence from historical documents that local tribes maintained

the coastal prairie through burning, usually in late summer or fall....

Archibald Menzies, the naturalist who accompanied George Vancouver on the *Discovery*, in his voyage around the world, landed on the west side of Tomales Bay on October 20, 1793. He jotted in his journal: "we landed headland... [T]he grass & brush wood on this headland had been lately burned [sic] down so that I had little opportunity here to augment my botanical collection, the few plants I saw were not different from those I had before met with at San Francisco and Monterey excepting a few species of *Sisyrinchium* with yellow flowers which I brought on board live plants for the garden."

George Gibbs [interpreter in 1851] "Prairies of rich grass lie on their southern slopes and especially on their tops, from whence their name of Bald Hills is derived. . . . Late in the season, however, the grass is often burned and dependence cannot always be placed upon the usual ground... Elk are very abundant in these mountains and the ground was marked everywhere with their footprints." Page 165-167, *Tending the Wild* by M. Kat Anderson University of California Press, 2005)

#### "Stimulating Growth by Picking and Pinching

Stripping stalks of leaves or cutting off young shoots may seem like rough ways to handle plants but these actions were very similar to those of grazing tule elk or pronghorn antelope. Since many native plant species are well adapted to regular herbivory, able to quickly compensate for the loss of biomass, both human harvesting of greens and the munching of ungulates, set plants back temporarily but had the longer-term effect of stimulating their growth. Herbivory studies have shown that concentrated grazing followed by rest periods for native herbs does not harm them and that in some cases plants browsed by mule deer and elk produce significantly higher numbers of flowers and fruits than plants that are not eaten. Plant ecologists call the phenomenon of increased growth after herbivory overcompensation. Stephen Edwards, director of the East Bay Regional Parks Botanic Garden has hypothesized that the now-extinct megafauna in California provided constant disturbance through grazing over millions of years, creating an environment favoring overcompensation and other adaptations to intense browsing." (Page 271, *Tending the Wild* by M. Kat Anderson University of California Press, 2005)

## Restoring Landscapes with Native Knowledge

### Active Management and the Role of Indigenous Knowledge

"[For ecosystem integrity, t]he idea of active management on public lands in the United States can be traced at least as far back as the 1963 Leopold Report to the National Park Service. In recommending that each large national park restore "the biotic association [and] conditions that prevailed when the area

was first visited by the white man," the report's authors acknowledged that most biotic communities are in

a constant state of change due to natural or man-caused processes of ecologic succession" and that in these successional communities "it is necessary to manage the habitat to achieve or stabilize it at a desired stage.

... Knowing how historic landscapes came to be and how they were maintained by indigenous peoples, we can develop restoration programs with a better chance of success and a greater level of historic authenticity." (Page 335, Tending the Wild by M. Kat Anderson University of California Press, 2005)

"The Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) international has recognized that indigenous peoples and their land management practices should be part of any serious effort to restore and preserve ecosystems.

The art and science of the new field of ecological restoration, therefore, will necessarily integrate traditional indigenous ecological knowledge into its philosophies, methods and practicums." (Page 337, Tending the Wild by M. Kat Anderson University of California Press, 2005)

Given the challenges of restoring degraded ranch lands where the Tule Elk are currently held captive, the possibilities for enhancing the size of the herd must be explored. The role of the National Park Service must be greater than what it currently is allowing. Removing the fence is critical to the Tule Elk's survival evidenced by the Limantour and Drake herds. Restoration and using TEK must be part of any plan.

Sincerely,

Judy Schriebman

Watershed Alliance of Marin

### **Correspondence ID:4215**

Correspondence: May 9, 2022

The National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) thanks you for the opportunity to comment on this pre-scoping/pre-NEPA stage of the Tomales Point Area Plan (TPAP). We appreciate that the NPS has noted that "[t]he plan will review cultural and natural resources, management considerations in wilderness, and visitor use and access." As the NPS proceeds towards a NEPA process, we recommend:

- \* the NPS develop more than one alternative that focuses on the removal of the Tule Elk fence and discusses approaches on "how" to manage free roaming elk.

- \* the NPS address the current lack of a wilderness plan for the Seashore.

- \* the NPS address increased visitation and carrying capacity concerns Seashore-wide.

Thank you for your consideration of these brief comments.

Neal Desai

Senior Program Director, Pacific Region

National Parks Conservation Association

**Correspondence ID:4216**

Correspondence: There is an important long-term issue here, along with another inescapable issue facing activities and planning for resource management and protection in many parks across the nation

Two issues intertwine:

Wilderness and climate change.

Wilderness management restricts invasive activities, or even actions reasonably undertaken in other areas of National Parks.

However, the continued survival of many species within a National Park may require supportive action to retain sustainable populations or to balance an ecosystem.

A contributory problem is that development in many areas across the nation render the Parks as the sole enclave for an ecosystem, or habitat for specific species.

In earlier eras, species might migrate to find other areas sustainable for survival but that option has rapidly disappeared for many species, surrounded, as the protected Parks are by development.

Climate change has resulted in major changes in appropriate conditions for habitat, with major effects on drought, or alteration of available water sources, or alteration of water levels.

Similarly, wild fires may damage major areas of a National Park

There may be a need for system-wide guidance for this inevitably imminent situation facing many parks.

Measures previously ruled inappropriate for wilderness may now be necessary to maintain the resources a Park is mandated to protect .

Perhaps an exception needs to be granted for protection of certain resources.

For example , in the southwestern deserts there were measures to provide water basins or other structures to serve endangered or threatened species..

The concern is one species in this park, but is a situation occurring elsewhere or reasonably expected, so national guidance should be necessary for effective policy.

the actions undertaken here may serve as precedent.

The future is here.

**Correspondence ID:4217**

Correspondence: Craig Kenkel  
Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
National Park Service



1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956  
Department of the Interior Region 10

May 9, 2022

RE: L7617 Tomales Point Planning Process

Dear Mr. Kenkel:

I am writing on behalf of our clients, Jack Gescheidt, Laura Chariton, Skyler Thomas, and the Animal Legal Defense Fund, in response to your letter dated March 31, 2022, requesting comments regarding the scope of the planning process “to replace the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan for Tomales Point and to address, where appropriate, any updates to the park’s General Management Plan as it relates to the Tomales Point area.” Our clients appreciate that the Park Service has taken the first step to update its management plan for the area and would like to encourage the agency to keep certain issues front-and-center throughout the planning process, as discussed in greater detail below.

In order to properly evaluate the issue of “maintenance or removal of the tule elk fence,” as identified in your above-cited letter, the Park Service must consider the extraordinary death toll of the Tule elk population currently confined behind the fence at Tomales Point. In only the last year (2021), over 25% of the animals (72 elk) have died due to a lack of food and water in the “reserve” where they are confined. This decrease in population is in addition to similar massive declines of 152 elk the year prior (2020) and 257 elk in the previous drought of 2013-2015. This means that in the last two years alone, the elk population at Tomales Point has declined by over 50%. These deaths are not natural or expected parts of population shifts in the wild; they are the direct result of confining animals in a zoo-like setting--behind a fence where they cannot access sufficient food or water sources--and then failing to treat them with even the minimal standards required of those who keep wild animals in captivity, such as provision of sufficient food and water. See, e.g., Animal Welfare Act, 7 U.S.C. §§ 2131, 2143(a)(2)(A) (requiring animals in zoos to be treated humanely, and provided sufficient food and water).

The genetic diversity of the Tule elk at Tomales Point is also key to consideration of this issue. As experts determined when the 1998 Elk Management Plan was published, the Tomales Point herd already had a low level of genetic variation, and the genetic viability of the herd has declined significantly since then. This is due not only to the animals' inability to get past the fence to sufficient food and water sources and the resulting die-offs, but also their inability to co-mingle with other elk herds in order to reduce or avoid inbreeding. Should the Tule elk confined at Tomales Point not be able to obtain access to sufficient food and water, and to interact with other members of their species in the near future, the genetic viability of this herd will continue to decline to the point where it cannot be salvaged.

In addition to considering the removal of the Tule elk fence, the Park Service should consider providing supplemental forage and minerals, as well as supplemental water, to the Tule elk in the interim during drought conditions. In this regard, concerns the Park Service has expressed about the downsides to supplemental feeding apply only in cases of long-term feeding programs, not short-term supplementation programs. Indeed, we note that the Fish and Wildlife Service has recently begun providing supplemental feeding to manatees in Florida because of their lack of natural food sources. Curt Anderson, An Experimental Program Gave Florida Manatees 160,000 Pounds of Lettuce. They Ate All of It., KARE11, (Mar. 23, 2022, 11:58 AM)

<https://www.kare11.com/article/tech/science/environment/florida-manatee-feeding-program/507-6a6954bc-4e07-400d-a7c6-34f3cd376e0b>. Thus, as long as the elk are confined behind a human-made fence that prevents them from accessing the resources they need to survive, they should be provided adequate food and water.

Our clients--as well as the public as a whole--are also vehemently opposed to the killing of any Tule elk as a way to "manage" the population. The Tule elk are native to the land and are required by federal law to be protected and preserved--not killed in order to allow for other uses of the land. Rather, should the population need to be controlled for some reason, other less drastic measures should be taken, such as the use of immunocontraception, as contemplated and recommended in the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan.

Moreover, the schedule for this planning process outlined by the Park Service is far too long in duration. Under that schedule, the NPS would not issue a final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for the revised plan until March 31, 2025, at the earliest. This schedule is far too drawn out, especially given the massive number of Tule elk deaths in only the last year and the incredibly high likelihood that upcoming years will see similar large-scale die-offs. Not only is this wildlife suffering horrific pain and distress from this situation, but there can be no question that the sheer volume of deaths is seriously depleting any genetic viability of the remaining population. Accordingly, a delay of almost three additional years (if not longer) before the planning process is actually completed poses a serious risk to the preservation of this wildlife, especially if the Park Service continues to refuse to provide any forage for these animals. Rather, this planning process should be completed much more quickly, specifically within one year.

In support of and in addition to the above comments, we include as attachments documents filed to date in *Gescheidt, et al., v. Haaland, et al.*, case no. 21-4734-HSG, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, as well as non-privileged communications between the parties in that case. We also believe that the entire administrative record in that case should be considered as part of the Park Service's planning process. To that end, we also attach the index of all documents included in the administrative record. While NPS is already in possession of all of these documents, if for some reason the agency requires actual copies of the documents, please let us know and we will be happy to provide them.

Thank you for undertaking this first step in the process of updating the management plans for Tomales Point, and please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or if we can be of further assistance in this process.

PLEASE SEE a signed copy of these comments and all attachments, available at the following link:  
[https://www.dropbox.com/s/8fdlaxgisay40r8/32 Index to Administrative Record.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/8fdlaxgisay40r8/32%20Index%20to%20Administrative%20Record.pdf?dl=0)

If these documents are not accessible to you for any reason, please contact me at [kbarnekow@law.harvard.edu](mailto:kbarnekow@law.harvard.edu) in order to coordinate an alternative method.

Sincerely,

Kate Barnekow  
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Animal Law & Policy Clinic  
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Cambridge, MA 02138  
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Cell: (202) 257-5145

**Correspondence ID:4218**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

In Defense of Animals is an animal advocacy group representing 25,000 members in California, and 250,000 members internationally, of whom potentially visit United States National Parks. Our members prioritize the protection of animals both wild and domesticated and unanimously believe all wild animals in United States national park system should be completely free of confinement, suffering, and poor treatment.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on the National Park Service's planning process for the Tomales Point area in Point Reyes National Seashore. In short, we request the immediate removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence as the only remedy to a deadly situation that has killed half the Reserve's elk in just two years -- and will kill many more elk this (2022) summer and autumn if elk are not freed of their fenced compound before the end of 2022.

Even many of surviving elk of this brutal forced culling can be in terrible, strained health. This artificial enclosure is antithetical to what national park unit's were established to create, namely wild habitat for wild animals.

Problematically, this very "scoping process" and the Park Service's plan to develop a "draft planning document" and "environmental review" by the end of 2024 means that dozens or scores more Tule elk in the Reserve will likely suffer and die of malnutrition and thirst by then. This brutal outcome is as disturbing -- and deadly -- as the captivity of Tule elk inside the Tule Elk Reserve in the first place.

Additional Tule elk death-by-slow-policy-implementation is easily predicted and must be avoided. It often seems as if elk deaths are the intended result of this maddeningly typical, overly-long bureaucratic process which is in part responsible for keeping Tule elk confined inside a national park unit in the first place. Even if elk deaths are not the intention, they continue to be the result.

Instead, immediate common sense action is required, as detailed here:

Step 1: Dismantle the Tomales Point "Tule Elk Reserve" fence. Immediately. This does not require extensive additional study, only common sense. This will benefit Tule elk by freeing them to access thousands more acres of the park which have additional water and forage. Elk need only be provided

access to it, instead of devising complicated management actions while keeping them confined within the Reserve.

Elk taking advantage of their newfound freedom south of the fenceline will likely be gradual and the Reserve's southernmost sub-herd most likely to first explore south. The White Gulch area sub-herd would likely be next to realize their range to the south has expanded.

Note these sub-herd area appellations are inaccurate, but useful in describing elk herds approximate distance from the fenceline. Their meanings will become increasingly inaccurate over time as elk move, mingle and mate in ways impossible to predict. Studies are not needed to predict their movements, and any studies labeled "scientific" which attempt to predict their movements are unnecessary, and as already stated, a deadly waste of precious little time before summer-autumn heat and drought return to California this year and weaken and kill more elk in the Reserve.

In other words, don't waste more months and years preposterously attempting to predict with additional time-consuming, costly, inaccurate, unnecessary and ultimately deadly, studies, because more elk will die in confinement this year if action isn't taken by this summer (2022).

To repeat: simply remove the artificial, 3-mile-long, 8-foot-tall structure which prevents the rare Tule elk at Point Reyes National Park from actually being free-roaming wild animals, as they are mandated to be inside a national park unit, and which is consistent with the park's founding charter to prioritize protection of its "natural resources" including its wild animals.

Private, for-profit cattle operations should now, and should always have been taking, a back seat to the health and welfare and freedom of Tule elk who have thus far denied it. End this deadly affront now.

Predictably, ranchers may complain and exaggerate the minor impacts of a few dozen, and eventually a few score, or even a hundred freed elk will have on ranching areas. But the park's Tule elk do no harm to livestock, do not predate or fight with livestock, and do relatively little damage to ranch structures like fences.

The Tule elk of Point Reyes must no longer be confined by fences that exist at the whim of commercial cattle operations which lease land they do not own. Tule elk and other wildlife should not be controlled to benefit private ranches leasing land inside a public park. The cow's tail should not be wagging the wildlife dog.

Wild animals must be freed, and it is the ranch cows that should be contained behind low, non-barbed wire fences cows can't jump, but which are Tule elk permeable. And these fences should only exist until all cattle are eventually moved out of the Seashore. But in the transitional period, to be determined, elk can cross safely under (if young) and over (if mature) non-barbed wire fences. These fences should consist of three strands of straight wire, not barbed wire, and no lower than 18" from the ground, and no higher than 36-36" from the ground. Thus commercial cows will be contained on ranchlands, but elk and deer injuries and deaths will be dramatically reduced, or even eliminated.

Cows are domesticated, for-profit animals on the way out of the park, not the reason a national park exists, or why Point Reyes National Seashore was created.

The National Park Service has referred to the Reserve having a "carrying capacity" that is "natural," on both the NPS website and by its representatives in the media. We consider these terms inapplicable for

what is a non-natural, man-made habitat: a fenced compound. Currently, the Tule elk of Point Reyes, who have been entrusted to the National Park Service's care, are no longer wild animals. They are denied the freedom of movement that must be afforded wild animals, to accurately label them wild animals inside a national park unit. As a result of their fenced confinement, the Tule elk inside the Reserve at Tomales Point are more like zoo animals desperately requiring zookeeper care, which has not been consistently provided. Only citizen activism has driven the National Park Service to install supplemental water in troughs and mineral supplements. While these stop-gap measures are better than nothing, they are not replacements for a healthy habitat and freedom beyond their fenced areas. This applies to all three herds at Point Reyes, not just the Reserve's herd.

The removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is not a radical idea and has been recommended by the National Park Service's own 1998 Environmental Assessment, which concluded that the only way to create a healthy free-roaming population of Tule Elk in the Seashore and associated parks would require the, "...elimination of exotic cervids and removal of the fence across Tomales Point" (National Park Service, 1998, p. 89; italics added).

Additionally, because the Tomales Point herd is still relatively new and has little genetic diversity compared to other natural herds, the Tule Elk Reserve's fence causes further genetic limitations because the herd can't intermingle with the park's other two herds.

An array of opponents of dismantling the Reserve's fence, from Congressman Jared Huffman to the Sierra Club's Sierra Magazine, have argued that removing the fence would result in an overpopulation of Tule elk because the Seashore lacks natural predators like wolves. (This is also one of the arguments justifying the recent decision to shoot elk as a population control.) But this imagined problem, and argument, is not only specious, but frankly ridiculous, for a number of reasons.

First, it ignores the reality of global warming, and assumes, without any scientific basis, that herd growth could mimic pre-global warming growth rates when precipitation and forage were more plentiful. Elk populations are not likely to ever again so rapidly expand during what is now predictable global warming-induced seasonal drought.

Second, giving Tule elk access to the park's additional tens of thousands of acres would allow for at least a decade or more of a more natural, healthy herd intermingling, breeding and expansion. Elk herd growth is a natural and desirable outcome, not an outcome to be feared or avoided.

Third, Tule elk should be allowed to expand beyond the park's 71,000 acres, if in their natural movements and breeding, they choose to. There is no evidence they would harm the environment, out-compete other species, nor have much impact upon adjacent human populations except perhaps require lowering roadway speed limits and post wildlife warning signs for vehicular traffic, as is done in other areas of Marin county with high deer populations.

Fourth, the cost of expanding Tule elk range by dismantling fences would be less than the current cost of subsidizing Point Reyes ranches at taxpayer expense. Instead of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars per year to repair roads and fences from dairy and beef ranches damage, including road damage from heavy farm machinery, cattle denuding soils and polluting the park's land and waterways, the removal of commercial livestock would allow the elk and deer native ungulate populations to expand and accelerate their healing impact on the land that domesticated cattle inflict.

Fifth, and perhaps best of all, Point Reyes National Seashore would be transformed from a national park unit where Tule elk are fatally corralled, starved and shot like malignant zoo animals, into a wild Tule elk breeding ground from which healthy sub-herds could be moved to other areas of California. These other areas in need of re-wilding would benefit from the ecological contribution of importing California-native ungulates. Meanwhile, Point Reyes National Seashore could become host to the state's largest, healthy population of wild Tule elk on public land, finally more closely aligning with the national park system mission since its 1962 founding.

Park tourism would increase, drawn to see the expansion of its famous Tule elk population, already a major visitor attraction. And decommissioning ranches would allow additional visitor parking and facilities expansion to accommodate the increase in visitation. This would mean the entrance fees now being considered amid looming budget deficits -- created in part by funneling funds to commercial cattle operations -- would become unnecessary.

In short, immediately freeing all the park's Tule elk from their fenced, artificial confinement and moving commercial cattle operations out over a longer time period of a few years would realize countless benefits, ecological, historical, financial, legal (ending two current and likely future lawsuits), as well as symbolic and inspirational benefits to a National Park Service currently tarnished with the relentless and expanding controversy generated by fencing and killing wildlife only to benefit commercial cattle operations.

We are at a crucial crossroads. The environmental crisis of anthropogenic global warming is already upon us. Numerous scientific studies have shown commercial cattle operations, like the 5,000 cows at Point Reyes National Seashore, are a major, if not its largest, contributor. The U.S. government created Point Reyes National Seashore as a national park unit to be a bulwark against commercial exploitation and environmental destruction -- also typified by commercial cattle operations. Point Reyes, so close to major population centers, is a rare, precious, but compromised wilderness area in desperate need of, and deserving of immediate protection and preservation.

The decisions the National Park Service makes this year, in 2022, acting on behalf of American citizens, will have a profound impact on future generations who will enjoy either this wild, vital landscape with a mosaic of wild animals, including the iconic Tule Elk, or the continued destruction of 28,000+ acres by the greed and willful, short-sighted destruction wrought by commercial cattle operations. Will the National Park Service have the courage to join the large and growing movement of citizens willing to speak out and take action to protect and defend this magnificent treasure on the brink of so much greater potential? We sincerely hope so.

- In Defense of Animals

**Correspondence ID:4219**

Correspondence: Dear Park Service,

I am writing to fully support removing fence barriers and allowing the magnificent Tule Elk to roam freely in the park. They should not be penned in and delivered water, they should be allowed to naturally roam. Having only had the opportunity to see the magnificent elk once or twice I hope that in giving them freedom to roam they will have more a chance of healthy survival.

Thank you,  
Jeni

**Correspondence ID:4220**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

Thank for the opportunity to provide input and comments. Here are the thoughts and comments that I would like to submit to you:

I am against fencing in Tule elk, a native species, on public land in the Point Reyes National Seashore. I care about our wildlife, our public land and resources, and living in co-existence with the wild species around us. It is not acceptable to me that our native Tule elk are suffering and dying, in significant part, due to being trapped behind human-erected fencing. It is not acceptable to me that this fencing is intended specifically to prevent native Tule elk from accessing acres and acres of public lands in an effort to protect the few commercial dairy farms, beef/cattle ranching and other private commercial agricultural interests who want to use the public lands for their private commercial interests.

It is difficult knowing that many native Tule elk behind the fencing have suffered and died painful, horrible deaths (and at alarming rates/in large numbers). The fencing prevents the elk from accessing appropriate fresh water, forage and needed nutrients. Available evidence strongly suggests that the Tule elk trapped behind the fencing have not had appropriate access to needed forage and water, especially during drought conditions. (While I recognize that at times, water troughs and tanks and trucked water have been brought in for the trapped Tule elk, it has not succeeded in preventing a large and unnatural numbers of deaths in this herd.) I am not aware of the free-roaming Tule elk suffering similar mortality numbers as those Tule elk confined behind the fencing. I would like to see the fencing come down as soon as possible.

I am really concerned about the genetic strength and longevity of the Tule elk population in our national park land, especially the Tule elk confined behind the fencing. I am concerned about the Tule elk being able to establish a genetically robust gene pool. I am concerned that the large number of deaths of the Tule elk behind the fencing is creating even more of a genetic bottleneck. I am concerned that the genetic diversity of the Tule elk in the park is being unacceptably weakened and harmed by confining a portion of the Tule elk behind fencing.

I do not like the idea of continued commercial agricultural operations on public land, and I especially do not want to see any expansions of private use on the public land. All commercial agricultural uses were supposed to have ceased by now. I disagree with having any management plan for any part of the Point Reyes National Seashore that not only extends ranching leases for decades more and expands commercial agricultural use on this public land, but does so at the expense of the native Tule elk, other local wildlife and the health of the ecosystem as a whole. This public land should be wild, supporting wildlife for all members of the public; I do not think private individuals should be allowed to use any part of this public land for their own private use, especially for private commercial agricultural operations.

I have a concern about the degradation of the native ecosystem as a whole in and around where these cattle and dairy operations are allowed to continue. My concerns include: the degradation of the native coastal grasslands; the fecal/bacterial contamination and other pollution of the local waters (creeks, streams, lagoons, etc., including run-off pollution into coastal zones and the ocean) and the land surrounding these local waters, arising from dairy/cattle operations; the physical damage and degradation to the banks and land around these waters; and the spread of invasive weeds. I also am concerned about the National Park Service's lack of investigation and appropriate responsive action to

remedy the fecal/bacterial contamination and pollution of the waters and surrounding land resulting from the dairy and cattle ranches on this public park land.

I want to see the stewards of this public land and its waters managing the park for our native wildlife, for the integrity of the ecosystem as a whole, and for the public as a whole. I do not want to see the use of exclusion fencing on our public land to keep native Tule elk confined and away from private ranching operations. I do not want private, for-profit ranches operating on our public land.

I see a benefit, both in terms of protecting the wildland and wildlife and in saving the public money, if the fence is removed. Removing the fencing is a big step toward restoring that portion of the park with the whole wild land ecosystem. It will allow unrestricted movement of all the local wildlife. Removing the fencing will eliminate the public financial expense (both in terms of time and materials) related to the upkeep costs of the fencing itself. Removing the fencing will eliminate any Tule elk getting caught in the fencing and potentially being injured or killed as a result. Removing the fencing also eliminates the time and financial expense to set up water tanks/troughs and truck water up to the confined Tule elk. I really would like to see this public land being returned to its more natural state, with the local ecosystem and wildlife and the public at large prioritized over private interests.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments and thoughts on this matter.

**Correspondence ID:4221**

Correspondence: Thank you for inviting public input into the planning process for Tomales Point. The best way to advance the National Seashore's mission is to remove the fence at Pierce Point.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

The original motivation for the fence was to protect financial interests, not for optimal ecological restoration. It must be removed.

I hope the above concerns are addressed honestly and thoroughly. I, like millions of others, treasure our Seashore, and want it to be treated in a manner that preserves it and enhances it for future generations, something that is not happening now. I will be watching to make sure it is a transparent process, and look forward to improved management of our public commons.

**Correspondence ID:4222**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.



Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include its recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:4223**

Correspondence: My input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers!

PLEASE get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and LET THE ELK ROAM FREE.

If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve. Point Reyes is a NATIONAL SEASHORE, so belongs to the American People, not farmers.

Taking away the fence is cheaper and more sensible than setting up enormous plastic water tanks and trucking water up to the elk reserve.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park. This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:4224**

Correspondence: Regarding the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore I request our National Park prioritize the wishes of the Miwok First Nation people. They "managed" that

land for more than 10,000 and didn't disrupt the ecosystem. Allow them to determine how the land should be managed so that our future generations will be allowed to experience biodiversity, not cows, that exists there today. Maybe then the area will be allowed to thrive.

Why are my taxes going to please ranchers out at Point Reyes National Seashore? There's no good science reason for there to be some huge fence out at Tomales Point to keep Tule Elk captive and dying - just so ranchers can have cattle in our Park. I don't want my tax money going to support this cruel policy that goes against the very trust of the National Park Service. Please take down that bad fence, and let the Elk be Elk. Get rid of the ranchers as we paid them millions of dollars to leave decades ago.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:4225**

Correspondence: Re: Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:4226**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park. This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:4227**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:4228**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

The costs for Tomales Point elk fence maintenance and to put out water and minerals is not solving the problem of Tule Elk health. There is not enough water and minerals for the different non-mingling Tomales Point herds. It is a band-aid for a constant wound therefore please come up with a real solution for wild Elk, as they should not be confined in a zoo-like environment that does not have a sufficient amount of water and forage for this herd.

Resources currently spent on maintaining the fence could be better spent on expanding interpretive displays of indigenous land stewardship practices and restoration of Coastal Miwok sites in Point Reyes National Seashore.

The fence should be removed, for the benefit of the elk herds and their survival.

As a long-time user of the seashore, I'm looking forward to seeing what the Park Service comes up with as an improved management plan. It's a good time to make some long-needed changes, particularly the elk fence removal. That alone will make a significant difference in one's experience of the park, and I'm sure it will be met with massive public approval. Thank you for considering my input. I'm excited to see the results.

**Correspondence ID:4229**

Correspondence: Thank you for allowing the public to comment on the process of creating the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. I for one, as I think many others do, frequent national parks to see wildlife in their natural habitat. I don't go to the park to see cows and fences. If I wanted to go to a zoo I would choose to do just that. Take down the fence and allow all of the wildlife to roam freely within the entire park as that is why the park was created.

Removing the elk fence is a frugal option, for a Park Service that apparently operates with limited resources.

Why is the Park Service wasting taxpayer money on an inappropriate fence out at Tomales Point? The NPS should take down the fence, let the Tule Elk roam, and create a Coastal Native Habitat Reserve instead of keeping the Elk Pen out there. It's ridiculous that wildlife are treated like zoo animals in a National Park.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate

change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

If the Park Service is serious about managing Tomales Point, the Tule elk herds, and the rest of the park most effectively, it will follow the science in determining its plan. That means, first and foremost, removing the elk fence, and protecting and restoring the natural habitat that has been destroyed by cattle and dairy ranching. This is a great opportunity to show enlightened leadership, and I look forward to continuing my engagement in the process.

**Correspondence ID:4230**

Correspondence: Please remove the eight foot fence at Tomales Point for the sake of our native Tule Elk. We must prioritize our native Tule elk over the domestic cattle raised for profit in PRNS.

Allowing the continuation of cattle ranching in this area, Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore, is contradictory to the NPS trying to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change partially caused by this very practice. The NPS needs to do its part and at every step possible be a leader to achieve this end-result.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

Ecological reports recommend the fence be removed. There is no good reason to keep the fence.

I urge you to use this opportunity to carry out the intentions of the creation of the park, which was to protect the biodiversity within the seashore. To do that, the sacrifices should be made by the few ranch and dairy families that have profited profusely over the years. Our National Park is owned by the people not by the few ranchers.

Please make a difference

**Correspondence ID:4231**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there

are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:4232**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

It is an ill-founded strategy that will endlessly proliferate the same conditions over and over postponing if not abandoning the desired outcome. These efforts should not be viewed as 'job-security' as the public deserves the outcome spelled out in the original legislation setting the National Seashore up, the elimination of cattle ranching and the reestablishment of the flora and fauna of the Tomales Point ecosystem.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:4233**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost

effective, is to stop "managing" the park. Take down the fence, remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:4234**

Correspondence: Many thanks for allowing the public, rightful owners of the land, to comment on the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. This area, along with any area within the national park should be allowed to be re-wild. All fences and evidence of fences should be removed.

If NPS removes the elk fence, population control of the herd will be greatly simplified. As seen with the free-roaming herds, numbers are much more stable as the elk are able to find water and forage as needed on their own. If fence removal resulted in a large expansion of the herd (very unlikely), I would like to see the elk allowed to expand throughout the park and onto the mainland, since they are indigenous to this area. In addition, individual elk could be relocated to start new herds in other parks and wilderness areas. If the cows are removed from PRNS, eventually the elk will be cleared of Johne's Disease, allowing for such safe transfers. As indigenous animals, their spread would enhance the diversity and resiliency of the environment.

There have been claims made over the years by ranching interests that the elk have damaged ranch operations or facilities. NPS should determine the facts here, and document the actual costs of any verifiable damage. Additionally, ranchers have claimed the elk need to be separated from their cattle because the elk will eat too much of the forage they want for their cows. The science clearly shows that elk eat far less than cows, weigh a fraction of cows' weight, and being browsers, do not deplete the grasses and shrubs as much as cows do. Therefore, when scoping the plan update, NPS needs to compare the impacts of elk foraging vs. cattle grazing, and develop its plans consistent with the Organic Act of 1916 mandate of resource preservation and protection.

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

This is nothing natural nor appropriate of an eight foot fence on public lands purposely confining native wildlife for the sake of leased cattle ranching operations. It is time for our public land in PRNS to be returned to wilderness in its entirety, and remove all impacts of ranching from 1/3 of our National Park.

This includes the removal of the Tomales Point fence. Thank you for your attention to its removal, and the focused protection of our native Tule elk.

**Correspondence ID:4235**

Correspondence: Removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point should be included in your plans for PRNS. It is the necessary and ethical step to take for a native species in a National Seashore.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

The Park Service wastes taxpayer money on the self-fulfilling problems caused by its continued decades-long poor wildlife management choices out on Tomales Point. The already limited funds available should be used to remove the tule elk fence so elk can find sufficient food and water on their own across the Seashore.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. If you do only one thing: Remove the godawful eyesore of a fence out there. Would you want to be trapped without enough water or food? You can't say it's a natural process of attrition if you've got them captive. Remove the fence immediately. Create safe and easy wildlife corridors for the elk to move out. Make the ranchers stop harming wildlife and hassling human visitors. The American people in multiple surveys, letters, op-eds, articles, and more want a National Park at Point Reyes. Not a ranch.

**Correspondence ID:4236**

Correspondence: The confined Tule Elk are dying at astronomical rates each year, and the Park Service just keeps them penned up in a cage to suffer and die at Tomales Point. Please stop this. The Tule Elk Reserve fence needs to come down now. If you want a reserve/preserve, remove the 8-foot fence, put in a small wildlife-friendly fence, and turn the land into a Native Coastal Prairie Reserve.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive gasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting



the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

All money, time and energy should be spent on re-wilding the entire National Seashore and not subsidizing destructive cattle operations on these public lands.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:4237**

Correspondence: The NPS plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must be revised to address the recent overwhelming voice of people who support ending the leases to the ranches and restoring the park to its grandeur where the native Tule Elk will thrive. The cattle ranches have been non-compliant in addressing the pollution and degradation caused by their operations. The fencing must be removed for the Tule Elk to survive. The beauty that was once Pt.Reyes National Seashore has been compromised by the NPS allowing the cattle ranches to remain in the park. They must go. The Tule Elk belong in the park with the native grasses and eventually the park may recover from years of abuse by the cattle ranches.

**Correspondence ID:4238**

Correspondence: The elk fence at Tomales Point must be removed. This is an important and the right step for the upcoming management plan.

We keep reading that the Park Service doesn't care about the Elk out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore. What's going on? Why does the Park Service spend taxpayer money for a fence and water and mineral supplements when it's cheaper to just let the Elk go live free and wild? Take down the fence and stop wasting our money for cruelty on innocent wildlife!

The park should spend time and money on removing the fences, planting native grasses, cleaning up the water pollutants, and generally restoring Tomales Point back to its natural habitat.

Removing the Tomales Point elk fence will improve genetic diversity within the elk population.

I respectfully submit this letter and request the National Park Service to be impartial in the next steps related to our incredible native wildlife in Point Reyes National Seashore.

**Correspondence ID:4239**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

What are the annual costs for the Tomales Point Reserve fence and the supplemental water and minerals for the Tule Elk trapped there? Why are Elk still trapped and causing this expense, when there

are ample lands and waters for Elk to roam at Point Reyes National Seashore? It's not a zoo, it's a national park. Please take down the fence.

Instead of paying for fence maintenance and supplemental water and minerals out at Tomales Point when Elk are actually starving to death--why doesn't the Park Service and Mr. Kenkel come up with a plan to remove tenant ranchers and let wildlife live naturally all across Point Reyes National Seashore?

We need our National Parks to remind us of what we can all aspire to and why we love this nation. It is their beauty and grandeur that call us to be a better version of ourselves. We need our National Parks to stand for the protection of our wild lands. Take down that fence and become a beacon of light in an otherwise very politicized world.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:4240**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop "managing" the park. Take down the fence, remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:4241**

Correspondence: You want my input to the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore? Why is there even a Tule Elk enclosure out there? Does everything have to please and serve the ranchers (who shouldn't even be there anymore)? The Tule Elk cannot even get enough water or food, and are dying off in really high numbers! Please get rid of the Tule Elk Fence and let the Elk roam free. If you need a fence, put up a wildlife-friendly one, and turn the place into a Native Coastal Plant Reserve.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

Invasive species, particularly ice plant, thistle and hemlock, are rampant in Point Reyes National Seashore outside of the elk reserve. Funds currently spent on the Tomales Point elk fence would be better spent on removing these plants in other parts of the park.

The first sentence of the Tule Elk Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, dated 1998 states "The purpose of this plan and environmental assessment is to guide the management, monitoring, and research of Tule Elk, *Cervus elaphus nannodes*, at Point Reyes National Seashore for the next five to ten years". Well here we are 24 years later and you're finally getting around to updating this horribly outdated plan. Meanwhile hundreds of beautiful Tule Elk have died behind that fence while the NPS did nothing. That fence has to go.

It is time to end the mis-management of our native Tule elk in Point Reyes National Seashore. Please follow the scientific advice provided in 1993, and remove the fence across Tomales Point. It is important for the survival of this herd to be free-roaming with access to food and water.

**Correspondence ID:4242**

Correspondence: Dear National Park Service,

Tule elk management at Point Reyes Seashore over the last decade has proven to be not only inadequate but fatally misguided, and deadly for its supposedly protected inhabitants. Over 50% of the herd held captive inside the Tomales Point "Tule Elk Reserve" has died in just the last two years. Nearly 500 Tule elk have been killed inside the Reserve in the last decade, dead from thirst or starvation or both.

Park Service claims that this massive number of Tule elk deaths is "natural" or reflect a "carrying capacity" are utter nonsense, and non-science. Fencing animals inside a compound and then denying them access to adequate year-round food and water is not only unnatural, it is negligent, counter to the purpose of a national park to protect its wildlife from intentional abuse, and likely even criminal.

The simple, shameful reality is that current policies at Point Reyes National Seashore today and for decades have favored the financial well-being of commercial cattle operations over the health, well-being and the lives of the park's Tule elk and countless other mammal, animal and plant species being currently and consistently harmed by the cattle operations. These commercial businesses are the park's major source of land degradation, water contamination (by cattle manure and urine), Pacific Ocean pollution and atmospheric pollution by bovine methane emissions.

The solution to this atrocious ecological situation is simple. First and immediately remove the 3-mile-long Elk Reserve fence and allow its captive elk to access all of Point Reyes Seashore and beyond, including of course the 28,000 acres wrongly fenced off for cattle.

Second, rapidly phase out all commercial cattle operations within, say, the next three years. This simple action would dramatically reduce the leading source of this precious natural park unit's ecological damage.

For the purpose of the limited scope of this public comment form, dismantling the 3-mile-long fence could begin immediately and have only minimal impact on cattle operations whose owners will likely complain bitterly, but suffer only minor inconveniences. This would go far to reduce the deaths of more Tule elk likely this year (2022) when summer and autumn heat and drought return.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jack Gescheidt, Founder  
The TreeSpirit Project

**Correspondence ID:4243**

Correspondence: Here's my public comment for the planning process about Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore: Take down that monstrous 8-foot fence and Let the Elk roam free.

The Park Service continues to spend money on a fence to keep Tule Elk trapped out on Tomales Point at Point Reyes even though there's not enough food and water out there for the Elk, and now I have to pay for fence maintenance and to ship water and supplements out there. Stop the bad spending! Take down that fence and let the Tule Elk go get their food and water for free.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

The NPS already studied this matter, decades ago, and determined the fence should be removed.

It is requested the personnel at the National Park Service re-review the 1993 report of the Scientific Advisory Panel on control of Tule Elk in PRNS, and include it recommendation in the upcoming plan. The independent advisory panel recommended to remove the fence across Tomales Point, and develop a plan to achieve a large, healthy, free-ranging elk population. Thank you Mr Kenkel for your attention to this recommendation.

**Correspondence ID:4244**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

The NPS should put resources into creating a rewilded park. It will be necessary to plan on demolition and disposal of the many tons of concrete which now comprise the modern loafing barns at each PRNS dairy (one of which supposedly closed a year ago).

Taking down the fence is the best option, according to ecologists.

Thanks so much for reviewing my comments, putting them in the public record, and actually using them! Tomales Point cannot continue as it is, with Tule Elk held captive, starving and dying of thirst. You're the National Park Service, and should protect native wildlife. Let the elk go free to feed, drink, mingle, mate, and live their lives across the Seashore. The public knows this, you know this - so let's do it, together! Help wildlife and habitat thrive, not the ranching polluters!

**Correspondence ID:4245**

Correspondence: Proposed plans for PRNS must include the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

The elk fence has hidden costs that have not been analyzed or made public before. Besides the typical costs of fence construction and maintenance, there's the cost of park staff having to make sure the water tanks that serve the captive elk herd are maintained and kept filled, the mineral licks provided are sufficient to the herd's needs, and complaints from ranchers are responded to. Then there are the costs of the impacts on the area outside the fence: the massive amounts of invasive plants that have forced out the native, deep-rooted grasses that are true effective carbon sequesters, the elimination of habitat for indigenous animals of all sizes, the carbon created by the rotting of annual invasive gasses, and more. And because the fence only exists at the request of cattle ranchers, NPS should look at the costs of the damage the cattle do with their methane pollution the atmosphere and their manure polluting the parks' streams, lagoons and bays. These ecological costs haven't been accounted for, and need to be.

It is requested to stop using taxpayers' money to pay for the visual blight of the Elk Fence out on Tomales Point. Please stop trucking in water and minerals and whatever else to try to sustain a native herd in a non-native environment. Take down the fence, and use our taxpayers' money to actually turn the Seashore into a National Park that it deserves. Wildlife, natural habitat, clean water/soil/air, and public access should be the primary forces the Park Service supports - not a small group of politically-connected ranchers and their hoofed methane-operations.

Confining Tule elk for the benefit of private ranching interests is a breach of the public trust.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4246**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

I am writing on behalf of the nearly 900 members and supporters of Californians for Western Wilderness (CalUWild), a citizens organization dedicated to encouraging and facilitating participation in legislative

and administrative actions affecting wilderness and other public lands in the West. Our members use and enjoy the public lands in California and all over the West.

Pt Reyes National Seashore is a unit of the National Park System. The Organic Act requires that park resources be maintained unimpaired for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

Preservation of ranching was not one of the reasons that the Seashore was established in 1962. And few, if any, visitors come to see dairy and beef cattle operations. There are plenty of other places in Marin County to see those. There are no other places with Tule Elk, however. Thus, the primary focus of any plan must be the preservation and long-term protection of the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd.

This means removing the fence, so that they can roam freely in search of water and forage with sufficient moisture (since lack of that was one of the reasons given by the Park Service for the recent die-off)

Because much of Tomales Point is in designated Wilderness, it is not appropriate for water installations to be put in place there, should it be determined that supplemental water is necessary.. Any such installations should be outside the designated Wilderness, and elk be given easy and free-roaming access to them.

Ranching operations should be curtailed and eliminated across the Seashore as rapidly as possible. That is the only way that Tule Elk can be successfully managed. Predator populations should be encouraged and restored to the extent possible.

Allowing a more "natural" ecosystem regime for Tule Elk will have the added benefit of also helping to restore native plant populations in the Seashore by restoring the grazing regime that existed there before ranching was established.

Finally, the local Miwok people must be consulted and included in any plan, both with the planning and actual management, subsequently.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please inform us as the decision making process in this matter proceeds and please also inform us of further opportunities to be involved in your public decision-making processes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael J. Painter  
Coordinator

**Correspondence ID:4247**

Correspondence: To assist the NPS with its planned NEPA review of the Tomales Point area and Tule elk herd management in Pt. Reyes National Seashore, I suggest the following issues be included in your review process, and any eventual Environmental Impact Statement that comes out of it. These points are intended to insure that the park resources, including the Tule elk and native plants and animals, get the maximum protection for the public's current and future benefit.

With the fence gone, effort and money would be saved. Tule elk would have plenty of water available from the valley below.

All National Park Service resources should be directed to restoring the land to benefit the biodiversity within the park. This is what the public wants and needs, and what we need to do to help fight a biodiversity and climate crisis.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

Thank you for serious attention to my suggestions for the Tomales Point planning process. It is time for the Tule Elk Reserve to be dismantled, for the Tule Elk to roam free for water and forage, for funds to be spent on transition from ranchlands to native habitat, and for the current reserve to be transformed into a Native Coastal Habitat research area open to the public, with indigenous knowledge and practices at the forefront. Please remember your mission to protect and preserve nature for posterity.

**Correspondence ID:4248**

Correspondence: I am a taxpayer who wants you to remove the fence confining the tule elk. It is important our elk survive and are well cared for in a natural habitat, vs confined behind a fence which keeps the elk away from much needed water and forage.

Tomales Point is not a zoo. The taxpayers do not want to incur the cost of feeding and providing water to wild animals. Nor do they want to visit a zoo. A simple solution, and one that is the most cost effective, is to stop "managing" the park. Take down the fence, remove the cattle, and let nature run its course.

Moving forward the Park Service should partner closely with the Coast Miwok and scientists to re-wild the park.

Point Reyes National Seashore should plan for prompt removal of the Elk Reserve fence on Tomales Point. This will achieve Tule Elk freedom of movement to naturally water, forage, and mate, and sustain optimal health and well-being of Tule Elk throughout the Seashore.

Thank you for your attention to my public record comments on the Tomales Point planning process for Point Reyes National Seashore. Your responsibility is to the spirit of wilderness preservation and protection, and to the vast majority of Americans who have insisted that this iconic place be freed from private, for-profit, commercial business interests. We will continue to press for just that, like taking down the Tomales Point fence.

**Correspondence ID:4249**

Correspondence: Please remove the elk fence from Point Reyes National Seashore in order for the elk herds to have access to sufficient amount of water, minerals and forage.

It is an ill-founded strategy that will endlessly proliferate the same conditions over and over postponing if not abandoning the desired outcome. These efforts should not be viewed as 'job-security' as the public deserves the outcome spelled out in the original legislation setting the National Seashore up, the

elimination of cattle ranching and the reestablishment of the flora and fauna of the Tomales Point ecosystem.

Why is the NPS having separate GMPs for the leased ranch lands and for the Tule Elk Reserve? Is this not all one national park? Are you going to have a separate GMP for the southern part of the Phil Burton Wilderness area? PRNS needs to be managed as one comprehensive and coordinated part, not sliced up in pieces. As a member of the public I don't see separate areas.

First and foremost, NPS should remove the fence that separates the Tomales Point herd from private, for-profit ranching livestock and prevents the elk herd from finding forage and water in its own. This would allow a more natural existence, without interference from humans.

Thank you for listening to the public and considering the wishes of the many instead of the profits of a few.

**Correspondence ID:4250**

Correspondence: I want to thank you for taking my public comment on the Tomales Point scoping process at Point Reyes National Seashore. I cannot believe there is a Prison Fence restricting Tule Elk in our national park. What is that about? To please the cattle ranchers, and prevent the Tule Elk from being free to roam, associate, and live a good life? No more animal prisons in our national park. Point Reyes is not a zoo either. It is time to take down the elk fence.

As a taxpayer I expect the National Park Service to spend money wisely and frugally. I also expect the Park Service to prioritize wildlife over private enterprise. Therefore I ask the Park Service to stop spending money on erecting and maintaining a wildlife fence for the sole purpose of keeping native Tule Elk out of the parcels that are leased by private cattle and dairy ranch operations within a National Park.

Instead of US taxpayers footing the bill for a godawful fence to keep elk without enough water and food out at Tomales Point, the Park Service needs to take down the fence, remove the thousands of cattle impacting the land, air, and waters, and let nature be whole at Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Tomales Point management plan for Point Reyes National Seashore must include removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence, freedom of movement and association by the existing Tule Elk herds throughout the Seashore, and transition from a Tule Elk Reserve to a protected Coastal Native Habitat Reserve. Please include in this plan, the creation of safe wildlife corridors to facilitate Tule Elk migration elsewhere into the Seashore and all manner of other endeavors true to National Park Service founding mandates for natural resources protection and the enjoyment of natural features by future generations. In addition, it must include immediate cessation of the ranching succession policy in favor of immediate removal of commercial cattle operations and its ranch residential infrastructure.

The original studies done by the NPS on how to manage the Tule elk showed they should be allowed to roam free. I will be tracking this process to see what the Park Service's plans are in this regard. I and the vast majority of the public want better treatment of the elk, and better treatment of the Seashore itself. We do not want to see for-profit ranches degrading our beautiful park. This is the Park Service's opportunity to do this job right. You have my support in achieving this.

**Correspondence ID:4251**



Correspondence: California's beautiful native Tomales Point Tule Elk deserve our help to survive. Prioritizing grazing cattle is killing these Tule Elk.

Almost half of the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserves herd died in the last few years due to lack of access to forage and inadequate sources of water. Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence is the only way to enable the Tule Elk to obtain sufficient food and water and will help to resolve the lack of genetic diversity which also threatens the Tomales Point herd.

Removing the fence gives the Tomales Point Tule Elk a fighting chance. Please do this for them.

**Correspondence ID:4252**

Correspondence: I am writing the National Park Service, to state that the Elk fence needs to be removed in order for the elk herds to roam freely in the park. This is the best next step for the survival of this endemic species.

Maintenance of an 8-foot fence and providing water and nutrition for captive Tule elk is not a reasonable use of funds, when the Tule elk could find adequate food and water if they were allowed to freely roam.

Viewing the Tomales Point project from an objective approach, the most cost effective long-run plan is to take down the elk fences without the interference of cattle concerns and let the herds roam in a natural manner. The health of the elk herds could be clearly addressed, as well as the flora can be given its space for natural progression and seed dispersion. This would focus on only one plan to implement, for taxpayers and NPS staff, and not take the resources with two competing approaches.

Removal of the Tule Elk Reserve fence across Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore must happen now. This must be done urgently in light of the drought and fire conditions caused by climate change. It must include a completely revised and science-based plan, enhanced by Native American ecological knowledge and practices, to cease the ranch succession policies of the past in favor of transformation to natural habitats, with well-planned wildlife corridors to aid natural and assisted rewilding restoration processes.

We need a long-range plan that supports a healthy population of native Tule Elk. It is time for the Park Service to prioritize our elk in PRNS over private cattle operations on our public land. Thank you in advance, for a plan that will include immediate removal of this unnatural and unethical eight foot fence.

**Correspondence ID:4253**

Correspondence: The following are comments addressing the upcoming plan for Tomales Point within Point Reyes National Seashore. The National Park Service should not be creating a separate plan for this area of the park, or any other area of the park as it should be included in the Park's General Management Plan and the park should be managed as one whole unit. The complex ecosystem within the park should be treated as one entity, and the health of that entire system is the responsibility of the park service. To do otherwise can only be seen as irresponsible and cruel.

It is not clear why the Park Service continues to spend taxpayer money for an unethical eight foot fence at the Tule Elk Reserve when the public has requested for years to remove the fence and let the Elk roam for free to get their water and food.

Tomales Point and its elk herd should have a wildlife management approach to management. Free access for the elk to roam, restoration of the native grasses and the elimination of invasive plants, removal of private cattle and dairy operations, and unhindered access for the public to wander the land while respecting the natural flora and fauna would increase and enhance PRNS's popularity, as well as its natural biome.

Removing the elk fence is the most impactful step the Park can take for Tomales Point, and this should be the plan review's top priority. This and total removal of all dairy and cattle operations from all of the park would have the strongest positive impacts, both ecologically and in terms of protection of the public's resources. The removal of both would benefit the return of native, deep-rooted grasses, allow the return of birds and wildlife that cannot survive in the barren fields where cattle have eaten the greenery down to the earth, and let the natural prairie reestablish itself. It could also serve as an outdoor laboratory for studying how to accelerate its healing and nurturing, information that will be increasingly important as we try to save our planet from the damages of global warming.

Thank you for taking the time to read this comment, and for inviting public input. The land in Point Reyes National Seashore belongs to the public, and should be managed for public, not for private benefit.

**Correspondence ID:4254**

Correspondence: RE: Scoping Comments on the Tomales Point Area Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore

The Resource Renewal Institute (RRI) appreciates the opportunity to provide the scoping comments before the National Park Service (NPS) initiates a formal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the 2,900-acre Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve (the planning area).

Since the 1970s, RRI's founder, the late-environmentalist Huey Johnson, has dedicated energies to the protection of the lands, waters, and wildlife of Point Reyes National Seashore for current and future generations. For example, in the 1970s, Huey founded the Trust for Public Land and, through that organization, acquired various parcels from the RCA Corporation in the 1970s. In 1976 and 1977, the Trust for Public Land announced the purchase of 2,300 acres (G Ranch and what is now Niman Ranch/Commonweal area) of coastal Marin property for eventual inclusion into the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GOGA) and Point Reyes National Seashore (PORE). More recently, RRI has dedicated significant volunteer and staff time and resources to research NPS management of PORE and GOGA lands and to participate in various public processes related to the aforementioned management.

RRI has read the NPS letter dated March 31, 2022, and understands the intent of the planning effort is to replace the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan for Tomales Point and to update the park's General Management Plan as it relates to the planning area. To date, we are aware that the NPS has identified multiple issues as part of the planning effort including the maintenance or removal of the tule elk fence; population management of the Tomales Point tule elk herd; supplemental water for the elk; wilderness management; and visitor use and infrastructure at Pierce Point Ranch. Finally, we applaud the NPS at PORE for providing meaningful opportunities for Tribes to participate in the decision-making process that affects tribal interests.

RRI's scoping comments intend to provide substantive comments regarding management activities with the Tomales Point Area; however, we also acknowledge that the outcomes associated with the Tomales

Point Area Plan (TPAP) are predicated on assumptions about adjacent land management practices found in the NPS Record of Decision (ROD) for the General Management Plan (GMPA) completed at PORE and GOGA, which is currently being challenged in court. As such, we provide a collection of proposed alternatives for the TPAP NEPA process that provide dynamic responses to management challenges currently being experienced in the planning area. RRI recommends that TPAP alternatives recognize the connection between the planning area and the adjacent lands at PORE, to the south of the Tomales Point Area.

**\*Problem Statement\***

The public has expressed concern over the NPS management of the Tomales Point tule elk herd, which has resulted in numerous die-offs in recent years.

Between 2012 and 2015 the population at Tomales Point declined by approximately 50% dropping from 540 to 283. The loss of animals is believed to be related to drought conditions, mineral deficiencies, and a population level above carrying capacity within the enclosure.

Once again, in 2021, the NPS announced a die-off of 221 elk in the Tomales Point Herd. Since then an additional 72 tule elk have died. As proposed during the 2012-2015 drought, the loss of animals is believed to be related to drought conditions, mineral deficiencies, and a population level above carrying capacity within the enclosure.

During each die-off incident, the free-ranging tule elk herds in PORE did not experience any die-offs, with populations remaining stable or declining slightly.

These "boom and bust" cycles had been anticipated in numerous publications and white papers developed since tule elk were reintroduced to PORE. Large mammalian herbivores in a restricted reserve may grow to a number that exceeds the ability of the habitat to sustain them (McShea et al. 1997b). This finite amount of food resources, when coupled with the effects of crowding, was anticipated to eventually lower reproductive rates, increase mortality, and lead to a reduction in the rate of population growth. (Porter 1992).

In addition to overpopulation, tule elk at Tomales Point are known to suffer from nutritional copper deficiencies due to poor soil/forage and Johne's disease, a cattle-borne form of paratuberculosis which transplanted elk likely to have been contracted from cattle at PORE between 1978 and 1979 (Gogan and Barrett 1986).

As a result of recent droughts, and the die-offs of tule elk at Tomales point that followed, the general public demanded a response. Initially, activists delivered water to the tule elk at Tomales Point. Eventually, the NPS bowed to public pressure and decided to forgo its "hands-off" management policy, and have delivered water and mineral supplements to the Tomales Point tule elk herd; questions remain about the viability of a business-as-usual management strategy for the Tomales Point Area. Since the release of the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan, new questions exist about vegetative succession and forage quality since the cessation of ranching in the planning area. In addition, climate-induced uncertainty in precipitation patterns and air temperature have revealed new questions about hydrology in the planning area. Both of these issues affect tule elk population dynamics, along with other wildlife species--including threatened and endangered species.

RRI believes the following alternatives should be considered to address the management challenges the NPS currently faces in the planning area:

## \*Proposed Alternatives\*

### A. No Action Alternative

The "No Action" alternative is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

### B. Elk Fence Removal Alternative

The "boom and bust" cycles associated with the artificial island ecosystem at the northern end of the National Seashore are a direct result of a 7-foot-tall, 2.4-mile elk fence at Tomales Point that bifurcates the planning area from the result of the Point Reyes Peninsula. Gogan and Barrett (1986) state: "There is an inherent conflict in attempting to manage within a Park Service natural zone an ungulate population existing under unnatural conditions, i.e., restrained by fencing to a small area without any opportunity to disperse."

The presence of the elk fence was a stipulation associated with transplanting tule elk to PORE. In their 1971 "Report on Survey of Potential Transplant Sites for Tule Elk", the California's Tule Elk Interagency Task Force stated: "An elk fence is mandatory, to the extent they cannot move to adjacent private lands and cause depredation problems or to adjacent service lands where dairy cattle are grazing."

If the existence of the elk fence is predicated on concerns regarding conflicts on adjacent NPS lands where dairy cattle are grazing, there is an opportunity to explore the possibility of fence removal based on the newly developed NPS's ROD Succession Policy for beef and dairy ranches at PORE and GOGA. The ROD and Succession policy both demonstrate the potential for conversion of dairy ranches to beef ranches in the near future, the conversion of commercial cattle ranches to lands management by Tribal governments, or the possible closure of ranch operations altogether.

Removal of the elk fence would have little effect on wilderness, so long as cattle cannot move into the wilderness area.

This alternative help the NPS meet CDFW elk management goals for the confined herds are including:

- 1) reduce the number of confined herds and reduce the frequency for removing excess animals;
- 2) enhance habitat within enclosures; and
- 3) enhance opportunities for public use and enjoyment of elk that includes wildlife viewing and education.

In particular this option would help meet the following objectives:

Objective 1.1. Eliminate one or more confined herds by 2025.

Goal 2. Enhance habitat within enclosures;

Objective 2.1. Enhance elk habitats by at least 5% by 2028.

Goal 3. Enhance opportunities for public use and enjoyment of elk that include wildlife viewing and education.

Objective 3.1. Increase elk viewing and educational opportunities by 20% by 2023.

### C. Elk Range Expansion Alternative

Elimination of the range restriction for the confined herd would satisfy CDFW goals as expressed in the 2018 Elk Conservation and Management Plan; however, the NPS could use this planning process to envision the re-establishment of a healthy tule elk population on a range which has returned to a natural successional regime outside of the planning area.

RRI believes this alternative is consistent with overall elk management plan goals and objectives from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) 2018 Elk Plan.

#### D. Tule Elk Corridor Alternative

Tule elk in California have been through a series of genetic bottlenecks with undetermined effects. The population of tule elk at Point Reyes' has been estimated to contain the lowest level of genetic variation (or heterozygosity) of all the herds in the state of California, based upon an analysis of translocations and bottlenecks (McCullough et al. 1996). This low level of genetic variation is due to CDFW policy that prohibits the translocation of tule elk from PORE due to the prevalence of Johne's disease. The Point Reyes elk herd relies on its genetic makeup and diversity to cope with ' the challenges of its environment (see aforementioned challenges in the Problem Statement).

A corridor should be explored to help connect the Tomales Point herd to the other herds in PORE to enhance genetic diversity.

#### \*Critical Information Required for the NEPA Process\*

Effective conservation and management of elk requires reliable information on population size, density, age structure, fecundity (birth rates), mortality (death rates), sex ratio, and their use of habitats throughout the year and over time. This information will be necessary in the planning process moving forward.

In California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Elk Conservation and Management Plan (2018), CDFW state's that they are currently collaborating with the NPS to 1) identify/establish specific vegetation management thresholds for Tomales Point; and 2) determine the prevalence of Johne's disease within tule elk at Tomales Point. RRI understands that the former was scheduled to be completed in 2021, while the later work is ongoing. Please provide the most up-to-date information on both of these processes with CDFW to help RRI and the public ascertain a more complete understanding of forage availability and disease prevalence within the planning area.

Please disclose the current costs for maintenance of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Please disclose costs associated with the removal of the elk fence at Tomales Point.

Please disclose the Tomales Point elk management activities (e.g., hazing) and associated costs.

Please produce information on water resources within the planning area, such as stock pond, spring, and seep abundance, distribution, and estimated productivity. Please produce visual aids (i.e., maps) that present spatial and topographical characteristics of these water resources.

Please disclose the annual costs associated with providing supplemental water and mineral supplements, to date, to provide the public with the full costs associated with that program.

Please produce an inventory of threatened and endangered species within the planning area. Please provide visual aids (i.e., maps) that present spatial representation of species distribution within the planning area.

Please produce an inventory of flora and fauna within the planning area. Please provide visual aids (i.e., maps) that present spatial representation of species distribution within the planning area.

Please produce Please provide visual aids (i.e., maps) that present spatial and topographical representation public recreational opportunities within the planning area.

**\*Conclusion\***

In 1979, a statewide tule elk management plan was prepared by the Tule Elk Interagency Task Force with an overall goal "to ensure the continued growth of healthy, free-roaming tule elk herds of sizes that are ecologically compatible with the suitable habitats of California."

The Tomales Point elk herd's limitation to Tomales Point is an historical artifact of their reintroduction onto an area bounded by historic ranches areas the intent to restrict their movements to a protected preserve. If they are to remain as part of the Seashore's fauna and ecological processes, they should eventually become free- ranging throughout most of the Seashore's zones where conditions allow.

RRI believes that the management decisions born out of this planning process can help the state of California realize this long-held vision for the tule elk.

Sincerely,

Chance Cutrano  
Director of Programs  
Resource Renewal Institute  
8 Bolinas Rd, Suite 3A  
Fairfax, CA 94930

**Correspondence ID:4255**

Correspondence: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Tomales Point. Why is this area being treated separate from Point Reyes National Seashore? As it is within the boundaries of the seashore it should be interwoven within the fabric of the rest of the seashore and the ecosystem allowed to become whole instead of piecemeal. A visitor should be able to walk/hike the entirety of the park. And the native grasses and wildlife (including elk) should be able to roam freely within all areas of the park. Please remove the elk fences and let the park be an actual park.

The Park Service should not be spending so much money to maintain fencing at Tomales Point Reserve. There are all the expenses for materials, then all the hidden costs and time for labor, operations, administration, and rancher-pleasing. As a concerned citizen for the elk, please spend the money to remove the fence and free the Elk.

I respectfully ask that the Tule Elk Reserve fence be taken down now. National Park Service and Point Reyes National Seashore funds supplied by the American taxpayer should be used to create wild and

healthy freedom for the Tule Elk and other wildlife. Public access to vast swaths of the Seashore now blocked by ranching barbed/electric wire and formidable gates, which is not acceptable on public lands. Please investigate, enforce, and punish cattle ranching families that continue to degrade and pollute our Seashore's lands, waters, and air. Superintendent Kenkel and all of you at the NPS: It is time to get your priorities and mandates straight. Please serve the interests of wildlife, habitat, visitors, and posterity.

A national park should have a minimum of fencing, especially fencing that prevents natural migration of a native species.

Point Reyes National Seashore, after 60 years from its founding, should be a national pride of astounding biodiversity, global climate research, and honor of the public trust in perpetuity. Please emphasize and prioritize the importance of protecting our native Tule elk in the upcoming plan, which would include the removal of the fence across Tomales Point.

**Correspondence ID:4256**

Correspondence: I am writing to you specifically to address your plans for Tomales Point in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As they currently stand, they need to be incorporated into the General Plan for the Seashore - not as a separate part of it. It does not make strategic or economic sense to treat them as a part-as-to-of-themselves. The steps to restore the flora and fauna for all areas must be incorporated into the dynamics of the plan at the outset.

The current plan of what is called a 'co-habitation' - which is a farce - is wasteful in a number of ways. Instead of letting the elk populations roam the land to access the water and flora they have evolved to need for subsistence, it often needs to be trucked in to keep populations at levels 'mandated by a plan'. Not only do these resources need to be expended to keep the herds alive - then later, National Park Service personnel go and cull the population when it exceeds their some-how-agreed upon 'rancher-acceptable' number.

Rather than maintaining the elk fence, troughs and mineral licks, the NPS could better use these resources to develop educational materials and programs about Tule elk.

As an endemic species, Tule elk benefit the land, and allowing them to freely roam in Point Reyes National Seashore will enhance the park overall.

Thank you for your attention to my comments. Tomales Point should be an open area, not fenced in because ranchers use false arguments against Tule Elk. Cattle by the thousands at Point Reyes Seashore cause exponentially more damage than a few hundred Tule Elk. The Park Service should protect and help wildlife and their habitats, not promote private, for-profit ranching. The fence needs to come down, and the ranchers need to stop interfering with wildlife, polluting streams, and hassling Park visitors. The ranchers need to either give up some of their privileges, or get out of the Park. The American people will be watching how you approach what's right for Tomales Point and our National Park.

**Correspondence ID:4257**

Correspondence: Re: Tomales Point Area Plan + Elk Herds  
April 10, 2022

Dear PRNS Superintendent:  
North Bay Seismic Design

PO Box 55, Inverness, California 94937

Tel/Fax: (415) 663-8161

NBSD@horizoncable.com

I am writing you to urge to you preserve the Elk herds in the Point Reyes National Seashore, and to help the best interests of these noble wild creatures.

I dive (when abalone season is open .... ), surf, live, and work in the Park or within 2 miles of the Park boundaries, and have done so for 3-4 decades (diving since 4/1/1986, living since early 1998).

I love to interact with the Tule Elk, whom I see as some of the very last wilderness available anywhere I have been to, and which give the Park credibility and reason for its existence. The Elk herds should protected, now and forever.

For that reason, I would propose the following:

- Removal of the Elk Fence;
- Limited population management of the Tomales Point Tule Elk herd, and only for the best interests of the herd;
- Provision of water in times of need;

As for visitor use at Pierce Point Ranch, I know from personal experience these noble animals tolerate humans well (in the Park, not elsewhere necessarily, like the Lost Coast), and therefore there should be no or very limited restrictions for visitors, even as clueless as some of these tend to be; even elephant seals have adjusted well recently to clueless humans lacking respect for giants.

Us humans have done enough damage with our greed and selfishness all over the planet; it is time to reverse the insane damage we have done to life everywhere, and learn to live within our means while learning to respect the fabric of life which surrounds us. It does not belong to us, but instead it is our responsibility to protect it.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

### **Correspondence ID:4258**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent:

The National Park Service (NPS) announced that it has initiated a new planning process to address "complex wildlife, resource, and wilderness management issues" at Tomales Point at Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS). The planning area includes the 2,900-acre Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve where native tule elk, once thought to be extinct, were reintroduced in 1978.

The NPS anticipates completing the Environmental Impact Statement by the end of 2024. Once completed, this plan would replace the 1998 Tule Elk Management Plan and the NPS General Management Plan for the planning area. NPS discusses how this planning is separate from the recent General Management Plan Amendment which addressed ranching within the park and free-ranging tule elk.

Point Reyes National Seashore is one of a handful of national park units that permit livestock grazing. The purpose of the Tomales elk fence is to exclude tule elk from dairy and beef ranch leases. In the recent General Management Plan process, the NPS proposed to remove the elk fence and restore the Seashore to public use by sunseting ranching under Alternative F, which would have allowed all elk to roam free. Instead, the NPS approved an alternative which keeps elk trapped behind the fence, expands commercial agricultural activities, and extends ranch leases for up to 20 years. This is all related, and we believe that a separate Tomales Point Area Management Plan is too narrow.

1. Instead of a separate implementation planning process, this needs to be a General



Management Plan Amendment. NPS is trying to use a narrow implementation planning process by starting with proposing to update its 1998 Elk Plan which detailed how to manage elk at Tomales Point, instead of starting at the top of its planning pyramid and deciding how the broader lands and resources of Tomales Point should be managed. A General Management Plan (GMP) amendment should be undertaken, not an updated yet narrow Elk Plan. The GMP should come first, not this Tomales elk implementation plan. Implementation plans should tier off a broader GMP amendment. Implementation plans can discuss in a detailed, site-specific way how to carry out the more-general GMP decisions. Yet PRNS wants to do this planning process in reverse, pre-determining the outcome of a revised Elk Plan at Tomales Point. Instead, NPS needs to review a GMP amendment for Tomales Point. See the NPS planning process descriptions below:

General Management Plan - This is a broad umbrella document that sets the longterm goals for the park based on the foundation statement. The general management plan (1) clearly defines the desired natural and cultural resource conditions to be achieved and maintained over time; (2) clearly defines the necessary conditions for visitors to understand, enjoy, and appreciate the park's significant resources, and (3) identifies the kinds and levels of management activities, visitor use, and development that are appropriate for maintaining the desired conditions; and (4) identifies indicators and standards for maintaining the desired conditions

Implementation Plans -These plans provide project- specific details needed to implement an action in an area of a park and explain how the action(s) helps achieve long-term goals.

(Part 2 of NPS Management Policies 2006.

[https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP\\_2006.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP_2006.pdf) )

NPS says it intends to include both programmatic and site-specific analysis, and this should be clarified and explained.

2. The Tomales Elk Reserve fence needs to be removed. The public has overwhelmingly supported<sup>1</sup> protection of tule elk and restoration of Point Reyes National Seashore to natural conditions with wildlife, over commercial livestock management.

Free-roaming tule elk have already spread across the ranch-leases and reached the Tomales Point elk exclusion fence: there are presently elk on both side of the fence. Connectivity should be created by removing the fence.

3. Drought mortality of tule elk is unacceptable. NPS admits that the impetus for this planning process is the extreme drought conditions over the past several years (Dear Interested Party Tomales Point Area Plan PDF at

<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=333&projectID=108690&documentID=119614>). The Tomales Point Tule Elk herd has been the subject of national controversy at Point Reyes National Seashore. In 2015 during an extreme drought, the NPS announced the population behind the elk fence declined from 540 to 2862.

While NPS attributes this recent elk die-off in its press release to "poor forage quality," and asserts "there is no evidence that the population decline is due to dehydration and a lack of water," NPS is well aware of the scarcity of fresh water on the Tomales Point peninsula. Elk die- offs on Tomales Point occurred between 2012 and 2015, resulting in the death of 250 elk that were attributed to a lack of fresh water by NPS personnel in April of 2015.<sup>2</sup> These news stories characterized the Park Service position as drought being the suspected cause of the elk death, drying ponds and grasses, the latter of which became inedible, and quoted NPS biologist Dave Press as stating, "While we were out on

the range conducting our annual census, we observed the ponds had gone dry." (Later, after a public outcry over the fact that the Park Service had allowed the old stock ponds in the enclosure to go dry, the Park Service changed its story, and in August 2015 officially denied that the lack of available water had played a role in the elk die-off).<sup>3</sup> This denial is in spite of the fact that the biologists who wrote the 1998 Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk Plan expressed concern that the ponds were a factor in determining the ability of the elk enclosure to support its population:

The peninsula of Tomales Point ranges from a narrow tip to over a mile and a half wide at the fence line enclosing the elk range. There are no natural year-round streams. The natural streams have significant flows only during the rainy winter months. From late spring to late autumn, only spring-fed seeps would provide water for elk if not for the existence of eight water impoundments originally built for cattle. Elk regularly use these impoundments, but it is unknown to what extent they may supply the population with an artificially high water source. The elk range does receive significant moisture in the form of summer fog and condensation during the dry season. The impoundments are considered as a possible means to manage tule elk under this plan. The water impoundments are a factor in determining the ability of the elk range to support its population. While clearly an artificial construction, caution should be taken to ensure that any alteration of artificial water sources does not impact other species of special concern. Otherwise, a return of the elk range to its native condition of seep-fed springs is considered desirable to maintaining viable populations.

[https://www.nps.gov/pore/learn/management/upload/planning\\_tule\\_elk\\_mp\\_ea\\_1998.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/pore/learn/management/upload/planning_tule_elk_mp_ea_1998.pdf) at 12. (Emphasis added.)

In the context of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the General Management Plan being prepared to govern Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area, numerous commentators called NPS's attention to the lack of fresh water available to elk on Tomales Point during drought conditions. In August of 2020, after ponds dried up on Tomales Point, a group of volunteers brought in water for the elk to address concerns about dehydration<sup>4</sup>. Photographs of elk that died in the mud of dried-up watering holes attest to the reality that scarcity of fresh water appears to be at least a contributing cause to elk mortalities on Tomales Point. Once again in 2020, Park Service officials denied that lack of fresh water was a factor in the die-off<sup>5</sup>.

In 2020, hikers photographed dead and emaciated elk behind the fence at Tomales Point and brought it to the attention of the NPS.

In April 2021, NPS issued a press release disclosing a population decline in the Tomales Point elk herd, from 445 animals to 293 animals<sup>6</sup>. This loss of 152 elk occurred in the midst of a prolonged drought. The ultimate cause of this die-off (and previous die-offs) is the confinement of the Tomales Point elk herd behind the fence, on lands that do not reliably provide for all of this elk herd's survival needs.

As NPS is well aware, the soils on Tomales Point are deficient in key minerals needed by tule elk to survive and thrive. The Sheridan-Baywood soil type, associated with copper deficiencies problematic for tule elk, is known to dominate Tomales Point, according to the Park Service's own Tule Elk Management Plan<sup>7</sup>. These soil deficiencies and the dietary problems they cause for tule elk at Point Reyes are so well-known that they have been documented in multiple scientific studies. Gogan et al (1988) reported antler deformities in elk on Tomales Point, which they related to copper deficiencies<sup>8</sup>. Gogan et al. (1989) found that plants and soils at Tomales Point were deficient in copper (an

essential trace element), molybdenum, and sulfur-sulfates, and that elk were showing "gross signs of copper deficiency," which may have been a contributing factor in the death of two elk in Spring of 1979. Cobb (2010) found that the most common cause of death for tule elk at Point Reyes was starvation, often accompanied with copper and selenium deficiencies<sup>10</sup>.

While NPS officials have repeatedly denied that scarcity of water on Tomales Point is a serious issue for the elk, this assertion is beside the point, and does not absolve the National Park Service of its culpability for mismanaging NPS lands and resources and directly causing this unnatural biological crisis. Regardless of whether the repeated elk die-offs on Tomales Point are caused by a lack of fresh water, by inadequate forage quantity, by dietary deficiencies related to the particular soil composition on Tomales Point, or some combination of these factors, the inevitable conclusion is the same: Resources available to the tule elk population confined on the 2,600 acre Elk Reserve at Tomales Point are often inadequate to sustain the captive population in a healthy state, particularly under drought conditions. If the NPS is going to hold wild animals captive (which the undersigned groups find inappropriate), NPS has an obligation to provide them adequate food, water and anything else they need to stay healthy.

NPS has an affirmative legal responsibility to conserve tule elk, as elucidated in a letter to the NPS of August 31, 2020, authored by Katherine Meyer, Director of the Animal Law and Policy Clinic at Harvard Law School<sup>11</sup>. NPS also has an affirmative legal duty to provide wildlife and natural resources on Point Reyes National Seashore "maximum protection" and leave them "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6(a); 54 U.S.C. § 100101(a). The enabling legislation for this Park Service unit specifies that this National Seashore was established "to save and preserve, for purposes of public recreation, benefit, and inspiration, a portion of the diminishing seashore of the United States that remains undeveloped ...." Pub. L. No. 87-657, 76 Stat. 538 (1962). Interdicting the freedom of movement of native wildlife for the benefit and convenience of livestock operations that lease Park Service lands, resulting in large-scale die-offs of tule elk, violates these legal mandates.

Under NPS policy, "Natural resources will be managed to preserve fundamental physical and biological processes, as well as individual species, features, and plant and animal communities .... By preserving these components and processes in their natural condition, the Service will prevent resource degradation and therefore avoid any subsequent need for resource restoration."<sup>12</sup> Furthermore, "Biological or physical processes altered in the past by human activities may need to be actively managed to restore them to a natural condition or to maintain the closest approximation of the natural condition when a truly natural system is no longer attainable."<sup>13</sup> Under the alternative adopted for the Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk Management Plan, "The Seashore will attempt to manage free-ranging herds using minimal interventions to achieve viable populations as part of dynamic ecosystem processes."<sup>14</sup> Fence removal is necessary to restore the natural migrations and dispersals of tule elk on Point Reyes National Seashore, to maximize opportunities to achieve viable populations, and to restore dynamic ecosystem processes. Under the Point Reyes National Seashore Tule Elk Management Plan, "Their limitation to Tomales Point is an historical artifact of their reintroduction onto an area bounded by historic ranches and the intent to restrict their movements to a protected preserve. If they are to remain as part of the Seashore's fauna and ecological processes, they should eventually become free-ranging throughout most of the Seashore's natural zones where conditions allow."<sup>15</sup> More than two decades later, it is long past time for NPS to

implement this goal of its own Tule Elk Management Plan. The Park Service's refusal to do so--along with increasing drought, die-offs, and the facts described herein--also constitutes significant new information about management of the Tomales Point herd that the agency must consider under NEPA. See 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(d)(1); 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9(c)(1)(ii) (1978). To prevent an irreversible and irreversible commitment of resources while it analyzes this information, 40 C.F.R. §§ 1502.2(f), 1506.1(a), the agency cannot continue status quo management that causes another irreversible die-off of elk in the Tomales Point herd.

In April 202 press release, the NPS references its Tule Elk Management Plan, and characterizes this year's elk die off as part of "a process called natural or self-regulation." However, the cause of these repeated die-offs of rare native wildlife is completely unnatural: the 8-foot tall fence across the width of Tomales Point, blocking the natural movements and migration of tule elk. This artificial barrier prevents elk from dispersing naturally to areas with more abundant surface water, better forage quality, and/or adequate soils that support nutritionally appropriate vegetation. It is appalling that the Park Service is intentionally and artificially blocking the movements of native wildlife in a manner that results in their deaths. Furthermore, we are concerned that the periodic dieoffs of tule elk that result from their artificial confinement on Tomales Point could result in this population dropping below minimum viable population thresholds. Elk are harem breeders, with a few males doing most of the breeding, which skews the ratio of males to females contributing their genes to the following year's calves of the year. Tule elk on Point Reyes are known to have low genetic heterozygosity, making population viability a particular concern<sup>16</sup>. Compounded by genetic bottlenecks, these unnatural, drought-induced die-offs, may also increase the Tomales Point herd's susceptibility to disease such as Johne's Disease, a cattle-borne illness found in nearby dairy operations. The elk enclosure fence at Tomales Point Elk Reserve is an integral part of the Pastoral Zone landscape, which it borders, and it was designed explicitly to exclude elk from accessing Park Service lands leased for cattle grazing, for the convenience of ranching and dairying operations. This elk enclosure fence is out of compliance with Park Service policy, which states, "When the determination has been made through a planning process that it is appropriate for a facility to be constructed within park boundaries, all facilities will be integrated into the park landscape and environs with sustainable designs and systems to minimize environmental impact. Development will not compete with or dominate park features or interfere with natural processes, such as the seasonal migration of wildlife or hydrologic activity associated with wetlands."<sup>17</sup> Emphasis added. Its removal is necessary to come into conformance with Park Service policy. Point Reyes National Seashore is a unit of the National Park Service, not a zoo or safari park, where animals are artificially confined in an unnatural or quasi-natural setting. Maintaining this captive herd at Tomales Point "runs counter to the NPS policy of not maintaining captive herds for the enjoyment of visitors but instead to maintain wild populations within natural habitats." 1998 PRNS Tule Elk Management Plan at 54. Droughts may increase in frequency and intensity with climate change, and NPS needs to adapt its management accordingly--this should be reviewed in the EIS. All stock ponds, springs, seeps, and streams should be mapped and surveyed. Herd unit typical home ranges should be mapped and overlaid with water resources. Planning for regular maintenance of stock ponds should be analyzed so that these drought disasters do not happen again.

See the Appendix for a detailed description of water resources and mapped elk herds on Tomales Point: Coda et al. 2020.

4. Hazardous downed fencing needs to be cleaned up. Wildlife photographer Matthew Polvorosa Kline discovered tule elk snagged in old and downed fencing inside the Tomales Elk Reserve, apparently causing death as the elk could not free itself. This is absolutely unacceptable in a famous National Seashore where the Organic Act mandates non-impairment of natural resources.

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Tule elk bull with antler snagged in old, downed fencing inside Tomales Elk Reserve. Photo: Mathew Polvorosa Kline, Tomales Elk Reserve, 2020.

Tule elk bull with antler snagged in old, downed fencing inside Tomales Elk Reserve. Photo: Mathew Polvorosa Kline, Tomales Elk Reserve, 2020.

5. Population management of Tomales Elk Reserve elk needs to be scientific. Very high mortality from drought events occurred, as this an elk "zoo" not a natural habitat. Before

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European contact, local tule elk may have been able to migrate completely out of Point Reyes area in times of drought, to more well-watered marshy areas such as the Central Valley. Future population management of tule elk herds should take a secondary stance until all commercial livestock are removed from the park unit, as beef and dairy cattle are the current limiting factor with respect to carrying capacity, forage resources, water supplies, range management, and other park resources. The Tomales Elk Reserve is an artificial population management area where NPS states it allows "nature to take its way," yet the fence is not natural, and only present in order to originally keep tule elk from entering cattle ranch-leases. Now that free-roaming tule elk herds have expanded across the ranch-leases, even to the outer side of the Tomales Elk Reserve exclusion fence, this becomes a moot point. Elk are already present in the dairy and beef ranchleases. The Tomales Elk should be allowed to escape this arid peninsula and intermix with the free-roaming elk, as a national park unit intends.

Culling of elk within and outside of the Tomales Elk Reserve is unacceptable. Instead, alternatives should be analyzed that remove the fence and remove commercial livestock operations in the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area as a connected action to better tule elk management within the Seashore.

6. Supplemental water and minerals were supplied to Tomales Elk Reserve elk only after extreme public outcry, protests, and media attention: this is unacceptable. In 2021, attorneys from the Animal Law Clinic at Harvard Law School sued the NPS over the elk die-off at Tomales Point 18. Conservationists petitioned the Park Service to remove the fence 19, as hundreds protested against leasing parkland to commercial beef and dairy operations in the Seashore. Public outcry eventually pushed the NPS to temporarily supply water to the elk.

We do not want to rely on NPS to manage these elk herds during drought conditions. Again, the fence should come down and these trapped elk be allowed to roam into the larger Seashore area and find water resources. The free-roaming elk herds did not suffer drought mortality, and apparently have access to better water resources.

7. More than 85% of the Reserve is within the Philip Burton Wilderness, making elk management difficult. Wilderness management should not include an artificial fence that traps native wildlife in a poorly-watered area, where hikers experience dying elk and dead elk carcasses due to drought kill because elk could not naturally migrate to find better resources. This does not comport with Wilderness values. Park staff, under

constant public pressure, found creative ways to use old routes to enter Tomales Point to  
18 <https://apnews.com/article/ca-state-wire-animal-rights-parks-travel-lifestyle-0954273933da397a37140bc2e8923d19>

19 <https://www.westernwatersheds.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Elk-Die-Off-2021-APA-petition-final.pdf>

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deliver water by vehicles to the dying elk herds during the extreme drought of 2021, highlighting the difficulties of managing wildlife and also keeping to Wilderness mandates. Removing the fence would immediately alleviate this difficult management problem.

8. Invasive species should be managed with a detailed plan for control and elimination from the Tomales Point area. We noted invasive radish in the southern part of the Tomales Elk Reserve, apparently escaped from adjacent dairy silage fields. This nonnative weed should be controlled, and an Invasive Plant Management Plan developed.

9. Coastal prairie native plant communities need to be restored here, not just passively, but actively. During field visits we observed native coastal prairie grasses gradually being released from heavy livestock grazing pressure, that are beginning to expand into Tomales Point grasslands. Native grasses observed in Tomales Point:

- a. Purple needlegrass (*Stipa pulchra*)
- b. California oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*)
- c. Blue wildrye (*Elymus glaucus*)
- d. Creeping wildrye (*E. triticoides*)-in swales and low areas.
- e. Sandberg bluegrass (*Poa secunda*)
- f. Melic grass (*Melica imperfecta* or *torreyana*)
- g. Red fescue (*Festuca rubra*)
- h. Pacific reedgrass (*Calamagrostis nutkaensis*)
- i. Tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia cespitosa*)

A diversity of ferns, forbs, and shrubs form a mosaic of open grassland and north coastal scrub habitats. Active restoration could involve local volunteers collecting seed from native plants, growing these in nurseries, and planting out into the area. A Native Plant Restoration Management Plan should be developed as part of this review. Management  
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actions such as studying tule elk grazing influence on native plant communities, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge with local tribes such as cultural fire and prescribed fire plans to open up some shrub areas should be reviewed.

10. Sensitive and Threatened/Endangered Species Need Inventorying, Monitoring, and Management. Federally threatened California red-legged frogs (*Rana draytonii*) may inhabit stock ponds and springs on Tomales Point, and management for this rare species should be analyzed with respect to drought, stock pond maintenance, and other water resources.

Salmonids may use streams and inshore coastal marine habitats, pinnipeds and cetaceans may use Tomales Point coastal habitats, snowy plovers may use beaches, rare butterflies may be present in recovering coastal prairies, and rare plants may occur on the peninsula. Other species could be present that need to be reviewed in this EIS. A narrow elk management plan ignores the many other significant biological resources that are potentially present on Tomales Point. This is another reason why a broad GMP amendment needs to be analyzed, not a narrow implementation plan just for elk.

11. Cultural Resources need to be surveyed and inventoried. This should include indigenous artifacts, cultural landscapes, and oral histories of surviving tribal representatives both federally recognized and not federally recognized tribes. Traditional Ecological Knowledge should be included in this analysis.

12. Pierce Point Ranch is managed well as a visitor experience that is interpreted as to its dairy history. This should serve as a model for other dairies and beef ranches as their commercial livestock operations are removed from the Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

These many alternatives should be considered, especially the publicly popular removal of the Tomales Elk Reserve fence, allowing tule elk to connect to other free-roaming tule elk herds, and find adequate water and forage.

We hold that it is inappropriate for any agency to exclude native wildlife from suitable habitats on any public lands, least of all units of the National Park Service, on which the protection and preservation of native wildlife supersedes any and all commercial uses, including ( and in this case, particularly) livestock production. We ask the National Park Service to come into compliance with its statutory mandates requiring responsible wildlife stewardship, freeing the confined tule elk population on Tomales Point and allowing them the freedom to roam throughout Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate National Recreation Area and engage in the natural process of seeking out adequate forage and water necessary for their survival. Due to the emergent mortality events during recurring droughts, we urge NPS to provide solutions that can be applied to release the tule elk of Tomales Point from their unnatural confinement and maximize their chances of survival.

**Correspondence ID:4259**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kenkel,  
Point Reyes Seashore  
Ranchers Association

For nearly two decades, the Point Reyes Seashore Ranchers Association (PRSRA) has engaged with the Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) regarding tule elk management. Seashore Ranchers are directly affected by PRNS elk management decisions. In 1974, Mervin McDonald, our neighbor, friend, and beef rancher, was kicked off the Pierce Ranch on Tomales Point so that the National Park Service could introduce tule elk. To avoid conflicts with other ranching within PRNS, an activity that pre-existed the PRNS by more than a century, a fence was constructed to keep the elk off the ranch lands. This was a sensible decision, as the introduction of elk was not to harm the ranching. Ranching was a historic, cultural use that PRNS was, and still is, charged to protect.

As predicted, the introduction of elk into an area without elk predators resulted in overpopulation of elk. In 1998, a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process was initiated to create an elk management plan to contend with the population problem. The 1998 Environmental Assessment (EA) considered opening or removing the Tomales Point elk fence. The document clearly describes the conflicts that this course of action "would create". It states:

"Agricultural land uses in the seashore are approved for a period of years with lease and permit renewals occurring over the next 20 years. Removing the fence or installing gates could easily be implemented only after ranching activities terminate." [emphasis added]

Therefore, in 1998, it was understood that the fence was necessary and should stay to protect the ranches. The current, operative plan is still the 1998 Elk Management Plan. The plan directed the PRNS to move a portion of the elk to the Limantour wilderness. More specifically, the relocated elk were to be established within the new 18,000-acre elk range (attachment A). Note that the proposed elk range

did not overlap the ranch lands (attachment B). The plan presented to the public states:

"Managing elk using relocations and scientific techniques would not result in the displacement of ranching activities within the seashore and existing conditions would continue within the seashore as a result of the ability to manage elk on the restricted Tomales Point elk range."

The California Department of Fish and Game and the National Park Service recognized the potential conflicts between introduced tule elk and established ranching activities. These concerns were evaluated in the EA and there are statements and promises in the 1998 Elk Management Plan that should have fully protected the ranchers. These statements and promises encouraged the public to support the preferred plan alternative. The PRNS clearly understood its responsibility to manage pursuant to the plan. A few years later, PRNS informed the public, in its publication "2001, A Year in Review" (attachment C):

"Since their release, the new herd has been carefully monitored to ensure animals remain within the seashore boundaries, do not interfere with cattle ranches within the park and are not shedding the organism that causes Johne's disease." [emphasis added]

During the years following the relocation, PRNS actively managed the elk to keep them off ranch lands. If elk wandered out of the designated elk range and onto a seashore ranch, PRNS staff would put them back. Inexplicably, PRNS later stopped managing the elk and allowed the elk to populate the ranch lands, contrary to the plan as PRNS and the public understood the plan. PRNS staff also halted the successful elk contraception program that was underway at Point Reyes. The scientist from the Science and Conservation Center, Dr. Jay F. Kirkpatrick, who was directly involved with the Point Reyes tule elk contraception program, in a letter (attachment D) stated:

"While the number of elk treated (cows only) was below that to achieve zero population growth, it had a stabilizing effect on the entire herd and actually slowed growth to historic lows." "After the completion of the project [tule elk contraception], PORE reluctantly continued using the approach for about two more years but there were political reasons why PORE finally chose to retreat from this approach. The real tragedy was that they had everything in place to continue on, increase application and make a significant change in the elk population." "I am dismayed that such a scientifically valid approach was jettisoned by the park and everyone sat around for over 15 years watching the problem get larger and larger with little more than hand wringing."

This PRNS decision to halt elk management unsurprisingly resulted in the very conflicts analyzed in the EA. Later, the PRNS changed its position and claimed that the 1998 Elk Management Plan did not contemplate elk on the ranch lands and that the plan gave them no direction to manage. This new Tomales Point Area plan must be clear so that reinterpretation of the plan will not happen.

#### Point Reyes Seashore Ranchers Association

The recent General Management Plan Amendment (GMPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) attempted to resolve the problems caused by tule elk on the ranch lands. The GMPA updated the elk management on all of land used for ranching. PRSRA families are not adequately protected by the new elk management plan. The PRNS has decided to leave an unworkable maximum number of elk on the ranches and the ranches will suffer continued adverse effects. Nevertheless, PRSRA will abide by the plan as described in the Final EIS for the GMPA.

PRSRA understands that there are new drought conditions that are affecting the elk on Tomales Point. New management techniques - improving water sources using minimum tools, improving forage quality where brush has invaded by way of fire and/or targeted grazing by other species, managing populations by way of contraception and/or culling, etc. should be analyzed in the upcoming EIS.

”



Updates to NEPA documents are used to inform portions of the analyses where conditions have changed - not to ignore the current plan and to start from scratch. Here, drought conditions are new. Protecting ranch lands from elk impacts is not new. Removing or altering the fence is not appropriate or allowable. Fence removal was fully evaluated in 1998. The relevant conditions have not changed. The analysis was done in 1998 in a legal NEPA process. The current analysis to update the 1998 Elk EA and Management Plan should not reconsider the removal of the Tomales Point elk fence because certain members of the public don't like the fence.

Just as the recent GMPS EIS was carefully limited to within the ranching boundaries, this new Tomales Point Area Plan must be limited to the Tomales Point Area - behind the Tomales Point Fence. There can be no crossover of affects, or spill over effects of this new plan on the ranch lands. All elk impacts to the ranch lands were fully evaluated in the GMPA EIS. The GMPA includes maximum numbers of elk that can be on ranch lands. The Tomales Point Elk herd is not currently on ranch lands. Allowing any of these elk to enter any existing ranch lands within PRNS would be allowing a new herd to be established. This is prohibited by the recent GMPA. It would also create new impacts and risks to ranchers not considered in the recent GMPA EIS.

PRSRAs suggests that the "Tomales Point Area Plan" be renamed "Tomales Point Elk Range Plan". Tomales Point Elk Range is a defined area - an area defined by a fence. "Tomales Point Area" could be interpreted as an area that extends beyond the existing fence line. Authorized agricultural uses exist outside of the Tomales Point Elk Range and should not be included in this EIS. If this Tomales Point Area Plan is properly limited to the Tomales Point Elk Range, PRSRA will be happy to help with the process as necessary.

PRSRAs members have been identifying elk impacts and have attempted to work with PRNS on this issue since PRNS began to allow tule elk to leave the designated elk range and take up residency on seashore ranches. Attached are some of the relevant communications between PRNS and PRSRA (attachments E, F, G).

Dr. Laura A. Watt is arguably one of the foremost experts on the establishment, planning processes, law, policy and history of the Point Reyes National Seashore. In her paper entitled *The Continuously Managed Wild: Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore* (attachment J), she states:

At Point Reyes, the question of which herds are more wild-those on Tomales Point behind a fence, or those raiding the cattle pastures in the pastoral zone-is symptomatic of a muddled approach to wildlife management that is putting the seashore's historic ranching operations in danger.

Dr. Watt's paper, as published in the *Journal of International Wildlife Law and Policy*, contains data and analysis that should be used in this current Tomales Point Area Plan EIS.

PRSRAs has also been actively participating in the most recent planning processes. Attached are the PRSRAs scoping comments for the Comprehensive Ranch Management Plan EA (attachment H) as well as the scoping comments for the GMPA EIS (attachment I). The background information and tule elk sections are relevant to this Tomales Point Area Plan. Also attached is a copy of the 2014 Elk Report prepared by Ethan L. Lane (attachment K).

PRSRAs appreciates the opportunity to comment on yet another PORE planning process. As the Association has mentioned in prior communications, we are concerned with the piecemeal approach to updating the 1980 General Management Plan. Keeping these various plan amendments properly separated can be a challenge. It is important that this Point Reyes Area Plan does not include or overlap with any other planning area where the analyses have been completed. Here, the Tomales Point Elk Range fence is a clear and unambiguous boundary. It is comforting to PRSRAs that this Tomales Point Area Plan will not affect any ranch lands currently authorized for agricultural production.

Thank you,

PRSRAs

**Correspondence ID:4260**

Correspondence: To Point Reyes National Seashore Planning Team:

May 6, 2022

Please consider the following scoping issues in your process for developing a Tomales Point Area Plan at Point Reyes National Seashore:

A. Need to supplement water and feed for tule elk in the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve based on:

1. Determination of whether elk significantly utilized supplemental water supplied in troughs during the last half of year 2021 south and then north of Upper Pierce Point Ranch.
2. Impact of supplementation facilities (tanks, pipes and troughs) and means to supply and maintain them on the preservation of the aesthetic and natural values (sensitive plant species and mosaic of rare coastal prairie and scrub) that were the reasons for the designation of Tomales Point in the John Burton Wilderness Area at Tomales Point.

B. Assess Optimum Population Size | Density of Elk Throughout the Seashore Considering:

1. Establishment of an upper limit or range of the total population of elk in the Reserve (carrying capacity) based on past annual censuses that would minimize their deaths due to deficient forage quality and quantity caused by future droughts. This density of elk needs to be evaluated and adjusted to maintain its positive effects on preservation of sensitive plant species and rare mosaic of coastal prairie / scrub, particularly in the Reserve.
2. Removal of the 8-foot enclosing fence to allow elk access to the Pastoral Zone, which could naturally limit their density to their carrying capacity in the Reserve similar to what may be occurring in the free ranging Limantour Herd.
3. Assess and address mitigation for the potential economic costs of free ranging elk to ranch leasees throughout the Pastoral Zone based on estimated and actual costs currently incurred by leasees on "C" dairy and "D" non-dairy livestock Ranches where elk are congregating.
4. Propose methods for assessing and maintaining carrying capacity of elk throughout the Seashore including the Pastoral Zone and Reserve. Such methods for maintaining carrying capacity should include contraception, lethal removal, and translocation.

C. General Considerations:

Various proposed, alternative management actions and their analysis should range from the status-quo to the complete removal of livestock while allowing free ranging native ungulates (elk and deer) throughout the Seashore. To guide the selection of the preferred alternative, the economic costs to the ranch leasees and the National Park Service (taxpayer) must be assessed for implementation and operation of all alternatives. This is in addition to an assessment of the alternatives' positive and negative effects to the natural environment.

The above proposals were more fully addressed in a letter dated June 24, 2021 to Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland and Deputy Director of NPS, Shawn Bengé, attached. Five professional wildlife managers familiar with these issues, including myself, signed it. For implementation of the proposal, the letter also called for an amendment to the General Management Plan for the Seashore and establishment of an expert panel to help formulate solutions.

Scoping for the Tomales Point Area Plan and EIS should consider this letter's salient points and numerous references. They include the pragmatic efficiency of maintaining elk density in the Reserve when it comes near its carrying capacity as it recovers from its current decline. In addition, a high priority should be given by NPS to Calif. Dept. of Fish & Wildlife's goal to

"Reduce the number of confined (tule elk) herds and the frequency for removing excess animals" as stated in its "2018 Elk Conservation and Management Plan".

Attachment: Ur. to Sec. Haaland

**Correspondence ID:4261**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

I submitted comments on the above-referenced subject on April 27, 2022. Those comments are incorporated herein by reference.

In my previous letter, I focused on the fact that you intend to do planning in reverse by starting with an elk implementation plan and then going backwards under NPS planning procedures and writing a general management plan (GMP) in line with the already-decided implementation plan. I gave several reasons why you can't do that under the NPS GMP statute and your planning and NEPA procedures.

I focus here on what the GMP should cover. A GMP is supposed to cover an entire park. PRNS is approximately 72,000 acres in size of which approximately 18,000 acres are ranched. The portion of GGNRA that you manage is approximately 20,000 acres in size of which approximately 10,000 acres are ranched. Tomales Point is small in comparison, approximately 2,900 acres in size.

When you did a GMP that only covered the ranching areas, contrary to what GMPs are supposed to cover, you indirectly made decisions on how areas outside the ranching area would be managed by keeping land management boundaries in place without regard to whether that was detrimental to management of those unaddressed areas and their natural resources, including elk. Therefore, this GMP should cover not only Tomales Point and the other areas not covered by the 2021 Ranching GMP, but the ranching area itself. If you don't open the 2021 GMP to necessary amendment, it will preclude management options for Tomales Point, like removal of the elk fence or creating a fenced corridor to allow Tomales Point elk to breed with the wild, free-roaming Limantour herd. I believe the 2021 GMP is subject to legal challenge for that reason alone.

Sincerely,

**Correspondence ID:4262**

Correspondence: Captive Tule Elk Herd at Tomales Point in Point Reyes National Seashore Lacks Water and Needs Help

In a disturbing replay of National Park Service (NPS) neglect during the drought of 2011-2015, the Park Service is again allowing the old stock ponds in the Tomales Point Tule Elk Reserve<sup>1</sup> to go dry. These ponds are an essential water source for the captive Tule elk<sup>2</sup> because there are no perennial streams in the reserve. During that drought, approximately 250 out of 500 elk died for lack of water. We are concerned that NPS is going to let that happen again.

In order to fully understand the effect of the current drought on the estimated 445 Tule elk in the reserve now<sup>3</sup> it is necessary to understand where the elk are located and where the ponds are that they rely on.

A detailed study by wildlife biologist McCrea Cobb was published in 2010 that delineated the home ranges of four distinct herds in the elk reserve which he named the North Herd, the Plateau Herd, the White Gulch Herd and the South Herd.

Below is a page from that study that delineates the four home ranges. As Cobb's text below his map states, there is little spatial overlap among the four tule elk herds. That is clear from viewing the telemetry fixes of collared elk taken every three days from 2005 to 2008. In other words, individual elk from one herd rarely go into another herd's home range and that includes never using ponds located in another herd's home range.

**Correspondence ID:4263**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kenkel:

**INTRODUCTION**

I am responding to your March 31, 2022, notice to interested parties and your news release of the same date inviting comments on how to develop a plan for the future management of 2,900-acre Tomales Point. I have read your notice and press release and, unfortunately, your announced method for developing a plan for Tomales Point is deeply flawed, as explained below.

Any discussion of what you plan to do has to begin with applicable law. In 1978 Congress passed the following NPS legislation:

General management plans for the preservation and use of each System unit ... shall be prepared and revised in a timely manner by the Director ... General management plans for each System unit shall include-

- (1) measures for the preservation of the area's resources;
- (2) indications of types and general intensities of development (including visitor circulation and transportation patterns, systems, and modes) associated with public enjoyment and use of the area, including general locations, timing of implementation, and anticipated costs;
- (3) identification of and implementation commitments for visitor carrying capacities for all areas of the System unit; and

1 NPS has always stated that Tomales Point was 2,600 acres in size, but here it is described as being 2,900

acres, an unexplained increase in size of nearly 12%.

- (4) indications of potential modifications to the external boundaries of the System unit [or part thereof], and the reasons for the modifications.

54 U.S.C. § 100502. (Emphasis added.)

You should be very familiar with this law because you just completed a general management plan (GMP) for 18,000 acres of Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) and 10,000 acres of Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) that is fenced off and dedicated to private, subsidized, commercial ranching. Nowhere in your notice to interested parties do you explain why you did a GMPA for the ranching area and why you are not doing one for Tomales Point.

In order to implement this law, NPS has written detailed procedures to be followed for all NPS planning. These procedures are in Part 2 of NPS Management Policies 2006. [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP\\_2006.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/policy/upload/MP_2006.pdf) The procedures provide, in part, as follows:

**2.1.1 Decision-making**

The National Park Service will use planning to bring logic, analysis, public involvement, and accountability into the decision-making

process. Park planning and decision-making will be conducted as a continuous, dynamic cycle, from broad visions shared with the public to individual, annual work assignments and evaluations. Each park will be able to demonstrate to decision-makers, staff, and the public how decisions relate to one another in terms of a comprehensive, logical, and trackable rationale.

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## 2.2 Major Elements of Park Planning and Decision-making

A documented, comprehensive, logical, trackable rationale for decisions will be created through several levels of planning that are complementary and become increasingly detailed. The process begins with determining why the park was established and what resource conditions and visitor experiences should exist there; the process will become increasingly focused on how resource conditions and visitor experiences should be achieved.

The following planning elements are part of an interrelated framework that will inform NPS decision-making:

2

+ Foundation Statement - The planning process begins with the development of a foundation statement that is based on the park's enabling legislation or presidential proclamation and that documents the park purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values and primary interpretive themes. It also includes any relevant laws and executive orders that apply to the national park system or to the individual park unit.

+ General Management Plan - This is a broad umbrella document that sets the long-term goals for the park based on the foundation statement. The general management plan (1) clearly defines the desired natural and cultural resource conditions to be achieved and maintained over time [i.e., how Tomales Point resources should be managed over time]; (2) clearly defines the necessary conditions for visitors to understand, enjoy, and appreciate the park's significant resources, and (3) identifies the kinds and levels of management activities, visitor use, and development that are appropriate for maintaining the desired conditions; and (4) identifies indicators and standards for maintaining the desired conditions.

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+ Implementation Plans - These plans provide project-specific details needed to implement an action [from the GMP] in an area of a park and explain how the action(s) helps achieve long-term goals [of the GMP].

(Emphasis and holding added.)

In summarizing these last three paragraphs, the Foundation Statement is to set forth the park's purpose, as described in the founding legislation, and to include any laws relevant to planning, such as the 1916 NPS Organic Act ("to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein" and to allow human use only to the extent it won't harm resources)<sup>2</sup> and the park legislation ("shall be administered ... without impairment of its natural values ... consistent

with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment." )<sup>3</sup> The GMP sets the long-term goals for the park (or, in this case, Tomales Point) including clearly defining the desired natural and cultural conditions to be achieved and maintained over time and the kinds of management activities appropriate for maintaining those desired conditions. Implementation Plans are written to carry out in more specific detail the long-term goals of GMPs. For example, if a long-term goal of a GMP for

2 54 U.S.C. § 100101

3 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6 (Emphasis added.)

3

Tomales Point were to restore the vegetation of Tomales Point from its current nonnative vegetation to the coastal prairie that existed before cattle were brought to Tomales Point, an implementation plan would address in detail how to accomplish that long-term goal. Similarly, if a GMP decided that Tomales Point should be used to hold a herd of wild elk captive, an implementation plan might consist of building an elk-proof fence across the peninsula to contain the elk. It might also include what criteria would control any culling and whether to provide the herd with water or forage, to the extent necessary to keep them alive and healthy.

That brings me to your plan as laid out in the notice to interested parties and your news release.

You are going in reverse under the above-described NPS planning procedures. You are trying to begin with an implementation plan for keeping the elk captive at Tomales Point, a place where, even you admit, lacks adequate water, minerals and forage for the elk during droughts, and then, after finishing that, you plan to create a GMP for the management of Tomales Point that is consistent with that narrow-focused captive elk plan you will have just developed. That is the reverse of how the NPS planning system actually works where, as shown above, the GMP step comes before the implementation steps under it. The GMP is where the decision is made, with public input, as to how a park (or, here, Tomales Point) and its resources are to be managed. Implementation plans, such as an elk management plan, carry out in site-specific detail the more general decisions about resource management made in a GMP. In a nutshell, you are starting from where you want to end up in the planning process and writing the GMP to be consistent with that. This is contrary to the GMP statute, the GMP planning procedures, NPS's NEPA procedures, the NPS Organic Act and the PRNS legislation.

#### DISCUSSION

In the second and third paragraphs of your notice to interested parties, you outline four points for how you see the planning process proceeding. Your points and my comments in response are set forth below.

Point 1. You state in the second paragraph of your notice to interested parties that the planning process will culminate in a Tomales Point management plan, and you anticipate doing an EIS for the process.

The above language is somewhat vague about the planning process. After reading all four points of your plan, I realize you do not plan to do a GMP first, in accord with NPS planning procedures, but you plan instead to start with updating the old 1998 Elk Plan and then you are going to go in reverse in your planning system steps to the top of the planning pyramid where you plan to modify the 1980 GMP to be

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consistent with the already-decided, lower-level implementation plan regarding the elk.

You need to start with a GMP, like you did recently for ranching, for several reasons.

The first reason you must start with a GMP is because the GMP is the first step in NPS's planning system. That is clear from what is quoted above. Implementation plans follow and carry out decisions in a GMP, not the other way around.

The second reason you must start with a GMP is because the 1980 GMP did not address keeping the elk at Tomales Point. Thus, you have nothing to update in the 1980 GMP. This calls into question the basis for even doing the 1998 Elk Plan in the first place given that there was no decision in the 1980 GMP to hold elk captive at Tomales Point and thus no decision to implement in an implementation plan. The 1998 Elk Plan was unauthorized under the NPS planning procedures.

The third reason you must start with a GMP is that even if the 1980 GMP did address the elk at Tomales Point, it's been 42 years since the 1980 GMP was completed. The GMP statute says GMPs "shall be prepared and revised in a timely manner." 54 U.S.C. § 100502. Your planning procedures state that "GMP reviews may be needed every 10-to-15 years but may be needed sooner if conditions change significantly." NPS Management Policies 2006 at § 2.3.1.12.

We are way past the 10-to-15-year mark. Furthermore, there is that language "may be needed sooner if conditions change significantly." You have stated in your press release that you are starting this new planning process because "[c]urrent management guidance ... did not anticipate these drought conditions or consider climate change, resulting in emergency actions taken to provide supplemental water and minerals for the Tule elk." (Emphasis added.) Obviously, your finding of an "emergency" shortens the normal 10-to-15-year period under the planning procedures.

The fourth reason you need to start with a GMP is that the administrative record contains evidence of the fact that the park determined in the late 1990s that it was the appropriate time to do a new, park-wide GMP. Later, when the park was set to release a draft GMP and DEIS that contained a number of alternatives, including some to reduce ranching, the then-Superintendent was transferred to another park and the GMP planning process mysteriously ended. There was never an explanation as to why the superintendent was transferred or why the GMP planning process was terminated.

Point 2. You also state in that second paragraph of your notice that the Park Service intends to include both programmatic and site-specific analysis to inform  
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wilderness and elk herd management decisions that can be implemented when the plan is final.

Trying to combine both programmatic and site-specific analysis to inform wilderness and elk herd management decisions<sup>4</sup> that can be implemented when the plan is final is contrary to NPS Management Policies 2006 and the DO-12 NEPA Handbook. I will await the DEIS to address this in detail. You attempted to do this with your GMP A for the ranching area but fell far short of accomplishing it. All the leases and their ranch operating agreements (ROAs) for the 31 ranches will require EAs (and possibly some EISs) because that is where site-specific analysis and implementation plans will necessarily occur. That this is necessary is very clear in

reading the NPS management policies and the DO-12 NEPA Handbook.

Point 3. You also state in that second paragraph of your notice that the intent of the planning effort is to replace the 1998 tule elk management plan for Tomales Point and to address, where appropriate, any updates to the park's 1980 GMP as it relates to the Tomales Point area.

Point 3 is like Point 1 in that they both involve the relationship between GMPs and implementation plans. Incorporated herein by reference is my discussion under Point 1.

As is clear from the GMP statute and the NPS planning procedures, you have to start with a GMP here. Implementation plans have no role in the NPS planning system unless and until there is a GMP that has a decision in it that needs to be implemented. As discussed above, the 1980 GMP did not address whether elk should be held captive at Tomales Point at all.

All of this also calls into question the very validity of the 1998 Elk Plan as something to build on because it was, and is, an implementation plan and implementation plans under NPS's planning procedures are only done to carry out decisions previously made in GMPs. 5 Since the 1980 GMP made no decision to keep the elk locked up at Tomales Point, there was no basis under NPS's planning procedures for doing the 1998 elk implementation plan to hold the elk there then and, similarly, there is no basis for revising and using that implementation plan now. It is, and always has been, a nullity.

4 The planning process is about more than wilderness and elk herd management. It should be about what is

the best way to protect, restore and preserve the natural environment of Tomales Point while allowing human use

but only to the extent it doesn't impair the natural environment, all in accordance with your responsibilities under

the NPS Organic Act and the PRNS legislation.

5 As discussed above, a GMP is "a broad umbrella document that sets the long-term goals for the park ... [It] clearly defines the desired natural and cultural resource conditions to be achieved and maintained over time [i.e.,

how Tomales Point should be managed over time]." Implementation plans "provide project-specific details

needed to implement an action in an area of the park and explain how the action(s) help achieve long term goals [of

the GMP]." NPS Management Policies 2006, Part 2. (Emphasis and holding added.)

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When NPS began to think about a management plan for the elk locked up at Tomales Point in the mid-1990s, that is when NPS should have realized there was no GMP decision to hold the elk at Tomales Point and a GMP should have been done then covering, preferably, all of PRNS, or at least Tomales Point.<sup>6</sup> The 10- to 15-year period under NPS planning procedures for GMP reviews had passed since the short and extremely general 1980 GMP that mostly focused on GGNRA.<sup>7</sup>

As discussed under Point 1, you cannot re-do a 24-year-old, low level, implementation plan that had no GMP elk decision above it to implement regarding management of the Tomales Point and use it to create/revise a new (or revised) GMP for Tomales Point. This is a backwards approach that is contrary to law and your management policies. You must start with a GMP, and if that GMP results in



a decision to not keep the elk (and other wildlife) locked up at Tomales Point, there will be no need to do a new or updated version of the 1998 elk implementation plan. You are trying to avoid doing an actual GMP for Tomales Point because you don't want to open to the public the question of how Tomales Point should be managed, especially with respect to the elk, and it is at that level that that decision has to be made. Your determination to drive the NPS planning system in reverse makes this entire planning process a sham.

Whether the 1980 GMP had covered the Tomales Point elk or not, NPS needs to do an original GMP (and EIS) which would focus on various subject matters at Tomales Point, including whether elk should be held captive there without adequate water, minerals, and forage for the benefit of private ranching (and at the cost of almost 500 elk deaths in the past nine years - and counting). Skipping the GMP, which is the vehicle for deciding how an area should be managed, and starting with an implementation plan, which is supposed to only implement resource decisions made in the upper-level planning step of a GMP, is not consistent with the GMP statute or NPS's planning procedures. It's obvious from your description of how you intend to proceed that you have already decided to keep the elk locked up at Tomales Point just like NPS had already decided to keep the public park lands dedicated to ranching before the GMP A process for the ranching area was completed with statements in the press like: "It's not a question of whether ranching will continue, but how it will be done."

Point 4. In the third paragraph of your notice, you go on to state that NPS has identified a number of issues that it intends to address as part of the planning effort, namely (1) maintenance or removal of the tule elk fence, (2) population management of the Tomales Point tule elk herd, (3) supplemental water for the elk in times of need (supplemental food is not mentioned even though nearly 500 of the 6 Actually, as noted above, a new GMP planning process was started at about that time, but it was mysteriously discontinued.

7 GGNRA has already done a new GMP for all the land it manages.

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elk have starved to death in the past nine years) (4) wilderness management and (5) "visitor use and infrastructure management at Pierce Point Ranch."

This all flies in the face of the GMP statute, the resource protection language in both the Organic Act and the PRNS legislation, the planning procedures and the DO-12 NEPA Handbook.

The first issue, "maintenance or removal of the elk fence," is raising the question of whether Tomales Point should be used for holding an elk herd captive. That kind of basic question is what a GMP is for. How should Tomales Point be managed? If the 1980 GMP had decided that a herd of elk should be held captive at Tomales Point, it would not be appropriate to raise the question at the later implementation stage. To do so would make NPS planning circular. Under NPS planning and NEPA procedures you don't reopen decisions made at the GMP level in a subsequent, lower-planning level implementation plan. NPS DO-12 Handbook, § 7.4. <https://www.nps.gov/goga/learn/management/upload/-1939-NPS-2001-DO-12-Handbook.pdf>

The fence question is certainly relevant to the Tomales Point planning process and is another reason why you must proceed with a GMP and not an implementation plan because the question here is a GMP-level one of whether Tomales Point should

be used to hold a wild herd of elk captive, especially when the area they would be held captive in is unfit for them.

The very fact that you just completed a ranching GMP that used the fence to define the northern boundary of the ranching area is very strong indication that there is no way you will now seriously consider removing the fence and allowing the elk to roam in a natural, wild state and consume water, minerals and forage that you have set aside by the fence for what you've decided is a higher use of public park land, namely private, subsidized, commercial ranching. Again, the ranching GMPA is more evidence that you have already made up your mind that the elk herd will continue to be confined to Tomales Point.

The second and third issues about "population management of the elk herd" and "supplemental water for elk in times of need" (but not supplemental food, even though lack of food is what you always say has been killing them), strongly hints at the fact that you have already decided to keep the herd locked up (and starving) at Tomales Point. Otherwise, why write a plan on managing Tomales Point elk population numbers (culling) and on whether to give the Tomales Point elk water (but not food) unless you have already decided to keep the elk locked up at Tomales Point? Again, this whole planning process you are proposing is an already-decided sham.

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You should be deciding first, in a GMP, how Tomales Point should be managed in accordance with the Organic Act ("to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein" and to allow human use only to the extent it won't harm resources)<sup>8</sup> and the language in the PRNS legislation requiring you to manage the seashore "without impairment of its natural values, in a manner which provides for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment."<sup>9</sup> Only after a GMP planning process that results in a decision to keep the elk locked up at Tomales Point would it be time to attempt to write a defensible implementation plan on how to manage the elk and other wildlife in that locked-up unnatural environment that is not suitable for sustaining elk (and other wildlife) during a drought. <sup>10</sup>

The fourth issue you intend to address is "wilderness management." Point Reyes was designated a wilderness on October 18, 1976, and the designation included Tomales Point. 90 STAT. 2515. Your wilderness management policies provide, in part, as follows:

The Superintendent of each park containing wilderness resources will develop and maintain a wilderness management plan or equivalent planning document to guide the preservation, management and use of these resources. The wilderness management plan will identify desired future conditions, as well as established indicators, standards, conditions, and thresholds beyond which management actions will be taken to reduce human impacts on wilderness resources.

Management Policies 2006, § 6.3.4.2.

It is my understanding that in spite of the NPS directive above the Seashore has never developed a wilderness management plan in the past 46 years as to Tomales Point (or the rest of the wilderness area in the Seashore). Obviously, it is time to do

one for Tomales Point and, preferably, all 33,373 acres of wilderness in the park. This is all the more reason to not start the planning process for Tomales Point with an update to the nullity called the 1998 Elk Plan.

The fifth issue to address in the planning process is, as you describe it, "visitor use and infrastructure management at Pierce Point Ranch." Like wilderness management, Pierce Point Ranch is totally unrelated to updating an

8 54 U.S.C. § 100101

9 16 U.S.C. § 459c-6 (Emphasis added.)

10 Elk are not the only animals that the woven-wire fence prevents from roaming as nature intends. The fence also prevents deer and smaller animals, such as coyotes and bobcats, from getting past it and roaming into and

out of the elk reserve.

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implementation plan for holding elk at Tomales Point. Furthermore, why list visitor use as an issue limited to Pierce Point Ranch? You need to cover visitor use as it relates to the entire Tomales Point. Most people actually skip the ranch on their hikes to the two biggest destinations, Tomales Point and McClures Beach. Thus, visitor use in general is yet another reason to start with a GMP, not an elk implementation plan that never had any Tomales Point elk decision in the 1980 GMP to authorize it in the first place. Visitor use and Pierce Point Ranch should be two separate issues and they have nothing to do with elk management at Tomales Point and the updating of an elk implementation plan. They should be part of a new GMP along with all the other normal GMP/NEPA topics such as soils, vegetation, water quality and quantity, wildlife, endangered species, etc.

CONCLUSION

In summary, proceeding as you propose to do here is wrong for all the reasons discussed above. It will also involve more cost and management time than if you just follow your planning procedures and do the GMP now, as you did with ranching, and do any implementation plan(s) later, as necessitated by the GMP.

#### **Correspondence ID:4264**

Correspondence: Dear Superintendent Kenkel ;

Enclosed please find 16,623 comments from Center for Biological Diversity supporters urging you to tear down the Tomales Point elk fence and manage Tomales Point for native wildlife and natural ecosystems - not livestock owners.

The Park Service should ensure elk connectivity corridors and let Tomales Point elk, connect with the park's two free-roaming herds in Limantour Wilderness and Drakes Beach. And no culling or hunting of elk should happen here. There's ample carrying capacity to allow the Tomales elk to expand throughout Point Reyes - no need for elk "population management." These beautiful native animals, not private cattle operations, should be the first priority in Point Reyes grasslands.

Additionally, the Service should work actively to restore Tomales Point's natural coastal prairie vegetation; consult with tribal entities (Coast Miwok and Graton Rancheria) on a cultural inventory of important sites, archeology, and cultural landscapes at Tomales Point; and use prescribed fire/cultural fire to maintain the area's grassland and shrubland mosaic.

Finally, an economic analysis of the value of elk ecotourism on Tomales Point must be

a part of the planning process.

Thank you for your attention to the enclosed letters.

Demographics - Demographics Report - PEPC ID: 108690

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