

## DRAFT ALTERNATIVES for the GGNRA in MARIN COUNTY

	<b>Current Conditions and Management</b>	<b>PREFERRED: Connecting People with the Parks Alternative 1</b>	<b>Preserving and Enjoying Coastal Ecosystems Alternative 2</b>	<b>Focusing on National Treasures Alternative 3</b>
<b>Overview</b>	<p>In Marin County, the park forms the southern core of a large network of regional, state, and federal protected lands and waters (many of which are recognized as part of the UNESCO Golden Gate Biosphere Reserve). The park manages this large expanse of preserved natural landscape, with scattered concentrations of developed facilities, to provide visitors with multiple opportunities for recreation: miles of trails, preserved historic military fortifications, and scenic and historic landscapes.</p> <p>The county features some of the most varied landscapes in Golden Gate National Recreation Area: lush woodlands, rugged coasts, sandy beaches, meadows, marshes, grasslands, and chaparral. As a result, visitors can experience an array of wildlife throughout the seasons and several different habitats in one brief hike.</p> <p>Much of this area has been managed as part of the GGNRA since it was established in 1972. A diverse set of park partners, many housed in historic structures, provides programs and facilities for visitors' education and enjoyment. These include a hostel, environmental education and arts programming, equestrian facilities, and a marine mammal rehabilitation center. Park-managed visitor facilities include a visitor center, scenic overlooks, campsites, and beaches ranging from wild and rugged below Slide Ranch to the developed recreational setting at Stinson Beach.</p> <p>National Park Service maintenance facilities, staff housing, administrative offices, and various partner offices, are also located in the park's Marin County land.</p>	<p>In this alternative, park managers would preserve the natural, cultural, scenic, and recreational qualities that are enjoyed today and would improve access to the park for all visitors. The park would enhance the facilities that support visitors' experiences in what author John Hart calls "the wilderness next door". A stronger national park identity and message would welcome people as they arrive, and improved orientation and information services would inform them of the variety of recreational experiences available in the park.</p> <p>The park lands in Marin County are an outdoor recreationist paradise, with an extensive network of trails for walks through fern-filled canyons, over windblown coastal bluffs, along rocky shores, and among redwoods and oaks. Sustainable approaches to rehabilitating facilities that are in place today would improve a number of trailheads and trails, as well as roads, parking lots, camp sites, picnic areas, restrooms, and other structures at popular destinations. Some new facilities would be developed to improve visitor services and support the growing stewardship programs. Park partners would continue to play important roles in preserving resources and offering programs and services to visitors. Public transportation and multi-modal access to all park sites would be improved.</p> <p>Important park operational uses would remain and these sites would be improved.</p>	<p>In this alternative, management would strive to further preserve and restore the dynamic, interconnected coastal ecosystems at the core of protected lands through collaborative regional partnerships. These lands provide significant swathes of protected habitat for many of the park's sensitive, rare, threatened, and endangered species. Partners would work on common goals to sustain the area's native biodiversity, reconnect fragmented habitats and migration corridors, minimize the impact of invasive species, manage for changing fire regimes, protect threatened and endangered species, and restore naturally functioning ecosystems. Proactive management would work to build resiliency to climate change into the natural environment.</p> <p>This alternative would highlight Marin's park lands and waters as living laboratories, engaging visitors in participatory science, education, and stewardship that nurture personal connections with nature and inspire advocacy.</p> <p>Exploration of trails and beaches would further highlight the park's coastal natural and cultural resources. Cultural resource sites and stories would emphasize human occupation of the coastal environment, as reflected in lighthouses, coastal defense structures, archeological sites, and agricultural land uses.</p>	<p>This alternative would welcome visitors to a vast network of open space that protects natural and cultural resources and offers many forms of recreation in a setting of national importance. Much of the area's undeveloped land is a legacy of the U.S. Army, whose coastal defense systems remain anchored in the landscape.</p> <p>The park would highlight several iconic national sites, including Muir Woods, the Golden Gate, the coastal setting of the Highway 1 National Scenic Byway and the Marin Headlands' historic Army posts.</p> <p>Although this alternative shares many characteristics of Alternatives 1 and 2, the management of the Marin Headlands' historic core would be very different. Sheltering the best preserved collection of seacoast fortifications in the country, the Marin Headlands tell the story of two centuries of evolving weapons technology and the nation's unwavering efforts to protect the Golden Gate. As a result, this alternative would focus on immersing visitors in its compelling sites and history, using and interpreting preserved structures and landscapes ranging from Battery Spencer to the Nike Missile Launch Site.</p> <p>Other important landmarks, such as the Point Bonita Lighthouse, established in 1855, also would be preserved and interpreted for visitors from around the world.</p>
<b>Stinson Beach north to Bolinas -Fairfax Road</b>	<p>The developed area is managed to support intensive use as a scenic recreational beach receiving a high number of visitors. A variety of facilities support activities including picnicking, beach recreation, and water recreation (swimming, surfing, windsurfing, and boogie boarding). Easkoot Creek and the dunes are managed to preserve and enhance natural habitat values. <a href="#"><u>Two public bus routes (the West Marin Stagecoach) serve this area, including recently increased weekend service in peak periods.</u></a></p>	<p><b>Diverse Opportunities Zone</b> (Beach, dunes and developed area)</p> <p>The setting and facilities would be improved to better support beach recreation, expand the creek buffer and enhance the dunes. Sustainable new facilities would replace deteriorated restrooms, showers, picnic areas, and parking lots. New facilities could include a warming hut combining park information with food service, equipment rental, and interpretive and educational programs. Maintenance</p>	<p><b>Diverse Opportunities Zone</b> (Beach and developed area)</p> <p>The current level of visitor services such as restrooms, seasonal lifeguards, and food service, would continue to support beach recreation; however, park facilities such as the central restroom and its septic system would be relocated farther from the dunes and beach to better protect natural resources. As in Alternative 1, sustainable new facilities would replace deteriorated restrooms, showers, picnic areas, and</p>	<p><b>Diverse Opportunities Zone</b> (Beach, dunes and developed area)</p> <p>Same as Alternative 1.</p> <p><b>Natural Zone</b> (Easkoot Creek corridor and surrounding park lands north to Bolinas-Fairfax Road)</p> <p>The natural ecosystem of Easkoot Creek riparian corridor and the uplands east of Highway 1 would be restored. The coastal defense structures in the vicinity</p>

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		<p>and public safety offices with ranger housing would be retained.</p> <p>The park would explore ways to improve visitor access to Stinson Beach, such as <a href="#">continuing to improve transit on weekends during the peak season and enhancing regional trail connections</a>. <a href="#">The park would also continue to work with the community and Marin County to reduce traffic through congestion management</a>.</p> <p>The NPS would continue to work with the CSD, Marin County, and the local community to find sustainable solutions to flooding and floodplain function, water use, water quality, and wastewater treatment, where these affect park resources.</p> <p><b>Natural Zone</b> (Surrounding park land north to Bolinas-Fairfax Road)</p> <p>This area would be managed to protect and restore the coastal ecosystems, and contribute to the restoration of natural processes that affect Bolinas Lagoon. Partnerships with neighboring land managers would be strengthened to achieve these goals across the broader landscape. The park would improve trails, trailheads, and directional signage to provide access to other nearby park lands.</p>	<p>parking lots. The Easkoot Creek riparian corridor would be further enhanced by re-designing the parking lot.</p> <p>Similar to Alternative 1, park managers would explore <a href="#">improved weekend alternative transportation service</a> year round in order to reduce congestion.</p> <p><b>Natural Zone</b> (Dunes, south parking lot, and surrounding park land north to Bolinas-Fairfax Road)</p> <p>The sand dunes would be restored and the south parking lot would be removed to support wetland restoration. The rest of the lands and waters in the vicinity of Stinson Beach, including the uplands, would be managed to protect and restore the coastal ecosystems, and contribute to the restoration of natural processes that affect Bolinas Lagoon. Partnerships with neighboring land managers would be strengthened to achieve these goals across the broader landscape.</p>	<p>of Highway 1 near Red Rock Beach would be preserved and interpreted.</p> <p>As in Alternative 1, other GGNRA lands and waters in the vicinity of Stinson Beach, including the uplands, would be managed to protect and restore the coastal ecosystems, and contribute to the restoration of natural processes that affect Bolinas Lagoon. Partnerships with neighboring land managers would be strengthened to achieve these goals across the broader landscape.</p>
<b>Highway 1 and Panoramic Highway</b>	<p>Stretches of these roads pass through or run alongside park lands. Though the roads are not federal jurisdiction, as the underlying land manager, the park cooperates with Caltrans and Marin County for management of the road and rights-of-way to protect park resources.</p> <p>Highway 1, a segment of the Pacific Coast Highway, is a designated national scenic byway. In general, the park land in this area is managed to preserve and enhance resources and offer access to park sites and recreational activities. Park managers work with other agencies to assure that needed changes in the roadway preserve the scenic rural character of the setting.</p>	<p><b>Scenic Corridor Zone</b></p> <p>These park lands would be managed to enable visitors traveling by car, bicycle, and transit to enjoy spectacular views of the Pacific coast, and to provide trail access to park sites.</p> <p>The park would collaborate with Caltrans, Marin County, and other land managing agencies to improve the roadways and trail crossings for the safety and enjoyment of park visitors. New facilities could include overlooks and trailheads with parking, restrooms, interpretive exhibits, picnic areas, enhanced trail and transit connections, and a unified wayfinding system. A small trailhead parking area could be developed in the vicinity of the former White Gate Ranch. Improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill would enhance trail and transit access in this area.</p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b></p> <p>As in Alternative 1, these park lands would be managed to enable visitors, traveling by car, bicycle, and transit, to enjoy spectacular views of the Pacific coast, and to provide access to park sites.</p> <p>Under this alternative, greater emphasis would be placed on collaboration with Caltrans and other agencies to further protect and restore the coastal ecosystem. In the event of a catastrophic landslide, park managers would encourage abandonment of Highway 1 between Muir Beach and Stinson Beach in the affected segment. Interpretive exhibits could illustrate the dramatic impacts on coastal ecosystems caused by constructing and maintaining the highway.</p>	<p><b>Scenic Corridor Zone</b></p> <p>Same as Alternative 1.</p>

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		Improvements would fit with the rural character of the area. Park managers also would seek to minimize impacts to natural resources caused by road use, maintenance, and drainage.		
<b>Slide Ranch</b>	This area is managed by a park partner to operate an environmental and farm education center in a natural landscape with public access to trails and the shoreline. Slide Ranch provides day and overnight experiences for children, provides healthy eating, healthy living, and environmental awareness. The rocky shoreline is managed to protect natural, ecological, and scientific values.	<p><b>Diverse Opportunities Zone</b> (Developed area)</p> <p>This area would be managed to enhance the environmental and farm education center facilities and provide improved facilities for public day use of the site, including a picnic area, trail access, and a scenic overlook.</p> <p><b>Natural Zone</b> (Land surrounding the developed area)</p> <p>The landscape that surrounds the educational programs would be managed to enhance its natural and scenic values, retain flexibility to adapt to coastal geologic processes, and provide for public trail use and access to the coast.</p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b></p> <p>The existing environmental education center and farm education program would be relocated to a more sustainable and geologically stable site in a less remote location. The area would be managed to promote restoration of coastal resources and to allow for natural geologic processes to continue unimpeded. A modest trailhead near Highway 1 would be provided to support visitor access to the rugged coast, but all other structures and farm areas would be removed to allow for restoration of natural conditions.</p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b></p> <p>Same as Alternative 2.</p>
<b>Lower Redwood Creek</b> (former Banducci flower farm and surrounding area)	This area is managed to preserve and enhance natural processes in the creek, floodplain, and surrounding natural landscape. The National Park Service works with other land managers in restoration and preservation of the watershed and in protection of threatened and endangered species like Coho salmon and the red legged frog. Park managers have developed plans and strategies to restore Redwood Creek and wetlands at nearby Big Lagoon. Existing residential structures provide housing for volunteers who contribute to site restoration and stewardship.	<p><b>Natural Zone</b> (Majority of Lower Redwood Creek)</p> <p>Park managers would continue to restore the natural coastal ecosystem, and the riparian habitat of Redwood Creek while providing improved trail connections to Mt. Tamalpais State Park and other area trails, including the Coastal Trail. All unnecessary structures would be removed.</p> <p><b>Evolved Cultural Landscape</b> (Developed area and adjacent approximately 6-acre site)</p> <p>Park managers would preserve the rural, pastoral character of the landscape. Facilities related to stewardship relocated from Muir Woods, and equestrian uses relocated from Golden Gate Dairy could be accommodated in this zone. The stewardship center, incorporating a native plant nursery, would reinvigorate the horticultural traditions of the site and engage the community. Existing buildings would support park programs and operations.</p> <p>The NPS would work with California State Parks to provide a small trailhead parking and picnic area near the Santos Meadow horse camp, and improve access to the equestrian facilities from Franks Valley Rd. (MW Rd.)</p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b></p> <p>Park managers would continue to restore the native coastal ecosystem, including Redwood Creek and endangered salmon habitat, the riparian corridor and adjacent wetlands, and the uplands that were planted with heather and eucalyptus. Visitors would have opportunities to participate in stewardship activities in the restoration of the natural systems. All facilities and structures would be removed unless needed to support stewardship, restoration activities and trail use. The California Coastal Trail could also connect at this park site.</p> <p>Park managers would work with Marin County and state parks to explore realignment of Franks Valley Road to reduce impacts to Redwood Creek. To further protect the creek's endangered salmon, park managers could collaborate with the community to increase water storage capacity for use during the dry season.</p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b></p> <p>Same as Alternative 2.</p>

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		<p>A sustainable approach to providing for water and wastewater treatment would be identified and implemented. To further protect the creek's endangered salmon, park managers could collaborate with the community to increase water storage capacity for use during the dry season.</p> <p>Park managers would work with Marin County and California State Parks to explore realignment of Franks Valley Road to reduce impacts to Redwood Creek.</p>		
<b>Muir Beach</b>	<p>This small but popular beach lies at the mouth of Redwood Creek and at the confluence of several park trails. The NPS manages the beach, creek, parking lot, and picnic area. The park's has completed planning and design for extensive wetland and creek restoration of areas inland from the beach. <a href="#">The Muir Woods shuttle passes through this community during peak periods, but does not currently stop. Transit service is provided to the community via Marin Transit Dial-A-Ride service.</a></p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b></p> <p>The NPS would manage the area to restore and sustain the wetlands and creek, with improvements for beach and trail access that preserves the community's natural setting. The NPS would continue to collaborate with the community, Community Services District, and Marin County to understand and address water quality issues that impact park resources.</p> <p><b>[Steering Committee: Needs to determine if the area should be subdivided into NATURAL and SCENIC CORRIDOR zones. We could also defer to the Big Lagoon Plan/EIS and exclude from GMP?]</b></p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b></p> <p>Same as Alternative 1.</p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b></p> <p>Same as Alternative 1.</p>
<b>Golden Gate Dairy and vicinity</b>	<p>The developed area along Highway 1 is managed to support a small equestrian facility and the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department that is housed in historic dairy ranch buildings. A small buffer area protects a tributary to Redwood Creek. The surrounding uplands are managed to provide trail connections through a natural coastal landscape.</p>	<p><b>Evolved Cultural Landscape</b> (Developed area only)</p> <p>The historic structures and setting would be managed to preserve the rural character while continuing to support park and community services such as the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department. Site improvements to accommodate a small trailhead and public transit stop, and enhance the creek corridor, would be included. Equestrian facilities, except as needed for a small volunteer horse patrol, would be relocated to Lower Redwood Creek. Non-historic residences on Highway 1 could be removed if they do not contribute to essential community services or park operational needs</p> <p><a href="#">The NPS would continue to work with Caltrans to improve the safety of Highway 1 for park visitors.</a></p>	<p><b>Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone</b> (Developed area and surrounding uplands)</p> <p>The area would be managed to preserve the historic structures and pastoral landscape and protect the coastal prairie and scrub habitat.</p> <p>The historic structures could be adaptively reused for a science and stewardship center or for local community services that are consistent with park goals. Nearby non-historic residences could be removed if they do not contribute to essential community services or park operational needs that are moved out of Muir Woods. The rest of this park site could be restored to its natural condition. Equestrian use would be provided on designated trails in the area.</p>	<p><b>Evolved Cultural Landscape</b> (Developed area only)</p> <p>The area would be managed to preserve the pastoral landscape and historic structures and stories associated with past dairy ranching.</p> <p>The historic structures could be adapted for use to support equestrian and other recreational uses, park operations, and local community services that are consistent with park goals. The rest of this park site could be restored to its natural coastal conditions.</p> <p><b>Natural Zone</b> (Surrounding uplands)</p> <p>Same as Alternative 1.</p>

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		<p><a href="#">including exploring regularly scheduled transit connections to reduce vehicle traffic.</a></p> <p><b>Natural Zone</b> (Uplands)</p> <p>The uplands surrounding the dairy would be managed to preserve and enhance the natural setting and provide connections to trails in adjacent Mount Tamalpais State Park.</p>		
<p><b>Tennessee Valley</b>(including Miwok Stables and Oakwood Valley)</p>	<p>This area is managed to accommodate intense and varied visitor uses. A major trailhead, multiple trails, a hike-in campground, and an equestrian center are in the upper end of the valley. A site in the lower valley contains a nursery operation, the park’s small volunteer horse patrol, and an environmental education program. The majority of the valley is managed as a natural landscape with a trail system that provides access to a variety of destinations and landscapes. Remnants of former agricultural uses, including farm ponds, fence lines, and nonnative trees, remain in the landscape. The creek corridor and shoreline are managed to protect sensitive natural resources. <a href="#">Transit and trail connections from the Tamalpais Valley community along Tennessee Valley Road is poor.</a></p>	<p><b>Diverse Visitor Opportunities</b> (Tennessee Valley trailhead and the Miwok Stables area)</p> <p>Trailhead area site improvements, including potable water, restrooms, and an improved picnic and parking area, would enhance this “portal” to the park that supports continued hiking, biking, and equestrian activities. A small food and information kiosk could be included in this area.</p> <p>In collaboration with Marin County and the community, park managers would work to bring transit <a href="#">on peak season weekends</a>, extend a multi-use trail to connect with the Mill Valley Bike Path (and the SF Bay Trail), and manage traffic congestion. Equestrian facilities would be retained and could be expanded to areas adjacent to Marincello Road. Site improvements would be made to incorporate best management practices and protect the adjacent riparian area. The NPS would continue to work with equestrian operators to expand programs that benefit the public.</p> <p>Modest facilities could be located within this zone that support stewardship, restoration, education, youth programs, and the volunteer horse patrol relocated from lower Tennessee Valley.</p> <p><b>Diverse Opportunities Zone</b> (Oakwood Valley)</p> <p>Visitor access improvements, including trailhead and parking, picnicking, and restrooms, would be provided in this zone to support access to the trail system with improved connections to <a href="#">Marin City</a>. <b>(Sausalito? Tam Valley?)</b></p> <p><b>Natural Zone</b> (From the trailhead to the ocean and the surrounding uplands including Oakwood Valley)</p>	<p><b>Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone</b> (Tennessee Valley trailhead and the Miwok Stables area)</p> <p>This area would be managed to retain its traditional equestrian uses and provide for a minimal level of visitor facilities and an improved trailhead to support visitor access to the extensive network of trails. Modest facilities could be located within this zone that support stewardship and restoration activities and the volunteer horse patrol that are currently located in lower Tennessee Valley.</p> <p><b>Natural Zone</b> (From the trailhead to the ocean and the surrounding uplands including Oakwood Valley)</p> <p>Park managers would preserve and enhance the native coastal ecosystem and allow visitors to experience the wild character of the valley. Non-historic facilities and structures would be removed. Unnecessary management roads, including Marincello Road, could be converted to trails, or removed if not historic, and natural processes restored.</p> <p>The main Tennessee Valley trail would be converted to a multi-use trail, and the remaining dams and artificial ponds would be removed. Native wetland and riparian habitat would be restored in these areas.</p>	<p><b>Scenic Corridor Zone</b> (Tennessee Valley trailhead and the Miwok Stables area, including the trail to the beach)</p> <p>The area would be managed to establish a visitor facility that provides orientation and services to support the recreational and educational opportunities available in this region of large undeveloped open spaces. Equestrian, environmental education and stewardship uses would be retained in improved sustainable facilities.</p> <p>The trail and ocean beaches would also be managed to promote hiking, biking, and equestrian touring on a “trail to the sea.” Modest and rustic facilities could be provided that support these recreational activities including overnight accommodations that complement the scenic touring experience.</p> <p><b>Natural Zone</b> (Surrounding uplands including Oakwood Valley)</p> <p>Outside the trail corridor, the area would be managed to protect undeveloped coastal habitat and outstanding natural features that are backdrops to the scenic corridor experience.</p>

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		<p>The existing multi-use trail would be enhanced to support family groups and improve accessibility.</p> <p>All facilities and structures would be removed. Unnecessary management roads could be converted to trails and natural processes restored. Primitive, walk-in group camping could be retained at Haypress and Chaparral. Existing functions could be accommodated closer to the trailhead.</p> <p>The scenic hills that surround the main trail corridor and the developed zones would be managed to preserve and enhance the undeveloped coastal habitat, outstanding natural features, and scenic views of a large contiguous natural area extending to the north and south. An improved, more sustainable trail system would provide access to the variety of settings. The remaining dams and artificial ponds would be removed. Native wetland and riparian habitat would be restored in these areas.</p>		
<p><b>Marin Headlands: Marin City Ridge, and Gerbode Valley</b></p>	<p>This extensive area is managed to preserve natural resources and processes, continue habitat restoration, protect sensitive species and habitats, and allow for continued trail use, trail improvements, and primitive camping.</p> <p>Marin City Ridge was added to the park in 2001. The NPS has managed this area as part of the adjacent Marin Headlands, supporting public access on the trails that connect to the community, and protecting and restoring natural habitats.</p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b> (majority of the Marin Headlands extending south of Tennessee Valley)</p> <p>This area would be managed to preserve the undeveloped wilderness-like character of the landscape, preserve natural resources and processes, continue habitat restoration, protect sensitive species and improve the trail system with more sustainable trails and better connections to adjacent communities. Visitor amenities could include expanded primitive and accessible camping opportunities. The NPS would collaborate with other agencies to develop a community trailhead in Marin City.</p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b> (Marin City Ridge, and Gerbode Valley)</p> <p>This area would be managed to restore and preserve the undeveloped coastal corridor of contiguous habitat and natural resources, and the outstanding open space and wild character of these lands. The non-historic facilities and infrastructure would be removed and the land restored to a natural condition. Unnecessary management roads could be converted to trails, or removed if not historic, and natural processes restored. Opportunities would be explored to provide trail connections from these park lands to local communities.</p>	<p><b>Natural Zone</b></p> <p>Same as Alternative 1.</p>
<p><b>Marin Headlands: Fort Barry and Fort Cronkhite</b></p>	<p>Within this area, historic structures and their settings are preserved or adaptively reused for recreation, education, and other uses including park operations. Adaptive use of historic structures is the foundation of the robust program of park partners who preserve buildings and offer programs that further the mission of the park. <a href="#">Planned road, trail, and transit projects will improve access for visitors and partners.</a></p> <p>Park operations located in the area include a fire station, roads and trails maintenance facilities, public safety offices, and a large native plant nursery.</p>	<p><b>Diverse Opportunities Zone</b> (Lower elevations of Rodeo Valley along Bunker Road and Fort Barry and Fort Cronkhite)</p> <p>This zone would be managed to provide visitors with a variety of recreational, educational, and stewardship activities. Visitor amenities could be expanded to include improved trailheads, accessible trails, camping, picnicking, and orientation. These facilities would welcome visitors and give access to the adjacent natural areas. Fort Cronkhite would become the visitor portal to the Headlands.</p>	<p><b>Sensitive Resources Zone</b> (Rodeo Lagoon and most of the Rodeo Valley uplands south of Bunker Road)</p> <p>This area would be managed to preserve and restore coastal habitat for threatened and endangered species. Visitor access would be highly controlled and restricted to designated trails in this zone.</p> <p><b>Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone</b> (Rodeo Beach, Fort Cronkhite and Fort Barry)</p> <p>These areas would be managed to maintain the</p>	<p><b>Historic Immersion Zone</b> (Rodeo Valley, Fort Barry and Fort Cronkhite)</p> <p>These areas would be managed to showcase the stories and structures of military history and the transition from Army post to national park. Infrastructure and landscapes within this area would be restored (at varying levels of historic preservation treatment) to be evocative of the military era, while protecting threatened and endangered species habitat. Structures could continue to be used for a diversity of purposes, including use by park partners,</p>

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	<p>Recreational experiences supported in the area include beach and water activities such as swimming and surfing, and land based activities including hiking, bicycle riding, and horseback riding.</p> <p>The upland areas are managed to preserve natural resources and processes, continue habitat restoration, protect sensitive species and habitats and allow for continued trail use.</p>	<p>This alternative would build upon the nucleus of existing programs offered by the park and its partners that contribute to the concept of a "Center for the Environment". Rehabilitated structures and limited new construction would continue to be used by the park and its partners to provide visitors with an expanded menu of opportunities that are strongly linked to the park's purpose. Programs would focus on environmental education, science, history and culture, recreation, healthy lifestyle activities and special events. Housing for staff, interns, and volunteers of the park and its partners would be provided within this zone. A warming hut combining information and food service would be developed in a location near both the beach and a transit stop, replacing the existing chapel visitor center.</p> <p>Fort Barry and other historic sites and structures within this zone would continue to support programs provided by the park and its partners consistent with the concept described for Fort Cronkhite. Equestrian facilities would be supported in this area of the Headlands. This zone would also continue to provide for park operational needs including maintenance, public safety, staff offices, and a stewardship-nursery facility. The chapel at Fort Barry could be adapted as a multi-use meeting and program facility.</p> <p><b>Natural Zone (Uplands)</b> This area of Marin Headlands would be managed as part of the extended natural landscape, with emphasis on the protection and restoration of habitat for threatened and endangered species.</p> <p><b>Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone (Rodeo Beach and seacoast fortifications)</b> This zone would be managed for the enjoyment of the beach, trails, and other outdoor recreation and educational opportunities. The landscape would be managed to preserve and interpret the military features and structures in the natural coastal setting.</p> <p><b>Sensitive Resources Zone (Rodeo Lagoon)</b> This area would be managed to preserve and restore coastal habitat for threatened and endangered species. Visitor access would be highly controlled and restricted to designated trails.</p>	<p>military identity of the area, provide for higher levels of visitor use, and provide educational programs, surfing, fishing, and other outdoor recreation opportunities. The adjacent forts would be managed to protect and interpret the national register historic district while allowing for reuse of the buildings for park programming and operations that could include a new visitor center. Habitat restoration within this zone would be consistent with the preservation of the military landscape. Equestrian facilities would be accommodated in this area.</p> <p><b>Historic Immersion Zone (Nike Missile Site)</b> Same as Alternative 1.</p>	<p>but partners would be encouraged to incorporate into their programming an association with military history and conservation of open space. Equestrian facilities would be accommodated in this zone.</p> <p>Much of the visitor immersion would be interpretive, incorporating the latest technological and multimedia advances to bring history alive in new and nontraditional ways. Interpretive themes would address the various military periods. Preservation of the historic military resources would be consistent with natural resource protection.</p> <p><b>Historic Immersion Zone (Nike Missile Site)</b> Same as Alternative 1.</p>

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		<p><b>Historic Immersion Zone</b> (Nike Missile Site) The restored compound would continue to provide visitors with an experience that is evocative of its historic use.</p>		
<b>Capehart Housing Area</b>	The National Park Service manages this area of housing (referred to as <i>Capehart</i> after the Senator who sponsored the military housing act), located at the intersection of the two roads that access the Marin Headlands, to provide workforce housing for park and partner staff.	<p><b>Park Operations Zone</b></p> <p>The residences on the north side of Bunker Road would be removed to provide for creek restoration and to create a more scenic entrance to Rodeo Valley. These units could be replaced with new sustainable workforce housing constructed on the south side of Bunker Road. A new park operational facility would be considered within this zone. Housing units removed to construct this facility could be accommodated in another location.</p>	<p><b>Sensitive Resources Zone</b></p> <p>All structures in the area would be removed; riparian and upland habitats would be restored, and fragmented habitat would be reconnected where possible.</p>	<p><b>Diverse Opportunities Zone</b></p> <p>Some Capehart residences would be replaced with a new visitor center and facilities on the south side of the Bunker Road to serve other park uses and operational needs.</p>
<b>Conzelman, Bunker, and McCullough Roads</b> (including Battery Spencer and Hawk Hill)	This area is managed to preserve historic and natural resources and scenic views of the Golden Gate and Pacific Ocean. The area protects sensitive species and habitats. Scenic driving, bicycling, and walking the California Coastal Trail are popular activities. <u>Planned road, trail and transit projects will improve access for visitors and reduce congestion at scenic overlooks.</u>	<p><b>Scenic Corridor Zone</b></p> <p>Managers would highlight the fundamental coastal resources, military fortifications, and spectacular views of the Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco Bay, and the urban skyline of San Francisco from the roads. Safe pedestrian, bike, and motor vehicle access to overlooks and to interpretive and recreational opportunities would be provided. Some overlooks would be improved with amenities such as interpretive signs, restrooms, and benches.</p>	<p><b>Scenic Corridor Zone</b></p> <p>Same as Alternative 1, except that outside of the immediate road corridor, the area would be managed to protect and restore coastal habitat that supports the threatened mission blue butterfly. Visitor access would be highly controlled and restricted to designated trails in this zone.</p>	<p><b>Historic Immersion Zone</b></p> <p>The roads and adjacent parklands would be managed to focus visitors on the coastal geology and the military fortifications, and to engage them in the exploration of these stories. Deteriorated military sites and features would be restored. New or improved trails throughout the area, including the California Coastal Trail, would help connect the visitor to the geologic and military resources and to follow a historic route while being mindful of protecting habitat for threatened and endangered species.</p>
<b>Kirby Cove</b>	This area is managed to provide access to the beach and a small group camping area. The historic coastal fortifications and forest plantation are preserved.	<p><b>Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone</b></p> <p>This area would be managed for beach access, camping, and would support additional uses by visitors on the San Francisco Bay Water Trail. Rustic cabin accommodations could be developed, maintaining the setting and character of this park site. The coastal fortifications would be preserved and interpreted.</p> <p>Habitat restoration would continue outside of the historic forest with removal of invasive nonnative vegetation and expansion of mission blue butterfly habitat.</p>	<p><b>Evolved Cultural Landscape Zone</b></p> <p>The park resources and stories associated with coastal fortifications would be highlighted and camping would promote appreciation of views of the Golden Gate Bridge and the wild-urban interface between the park and city of San Francisco. Facilities would provide visitors with access to the beach and San Francisco Bay Water Trail.</p> <p>Habitat restoration would continue outside of the historic forest with removal of invasive nonnative vegetation and expansion of mission blue butterfly habitat.</p>	<p><b>Historic Immersion Zone</b></p> <p>The park resources and stories associated with coastal fortifications would be highlighted and overnight accommodations would promote appreciation of views of the Golden Gate Bridge and the wild-urban interface between the park and city of San Francisco. Facilities would provide visitors with access to the beach and San Francisco Bay Water Trail.</p> <p>Habitat restoration would continue outside of the historic forest with removal of invasive nonnative vegetation and expansion of mission blue butterfly habitat.</p>
<b>Point Bonita</b>	The lighthouse and several structures, including a	<b>Historic Immersion Zone</b>	<b>Historic Immersion Zone</b>	<b>Historic Immersion Zone</b>

**DRAFT ALTERNATIVES for the GGNRA in MARIN COUNTY**

	<b>Current Conditions and Management</b>	<b>PREFERRED: Connecting People with the Parks Alternative 1</b>	<b>Preserving and Enjoying Coastal Ecosystems Alternative 2</b>	<b>Focusing on National Treasures Alternative 3</b>
<b>Lighthouse Complex</b>	small outbuilding, bridge, and access trail, are preserved. Visitors are immersed in an authentic historic setting with interpretation about the site's maritime and military history. Access is highly managed.	The park would continue to preserve the historic structures and interpret the site's maritime and military history. The coastal environment and the sensitive marine habitat would be protected.	Same as Alternative 1.	Same as Alternative 1.
<b>Offshore Marine Environment</b>	The GGNRA has jurisdiction through a management lease over a 1,000-foot-wide fringe of coastal waters immediately offshore. Park management of these areas accommodates public uses including water recreation (swimming, surfing, and boating) and noncommercial fishing. The area supports research, inventory, monitoring, and consultation and cooperation with other resource managing agencies.	<p><b>Scenic Corridor Zone</b> (All offshore areas except Point Bonita Cove and Bird Rock)</p> <p>Park managers would work to preserve the integrity of the marine environment, while accommodating public uses including swimming, surfing, boating, and noncommercial fishing. Management actions would protect the marine habitat, rocks, sea caves, and other natural features of the area in coordination with the Monterey Bay and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuaries. This zone would support the San Francisco Bay Water Trail where appropriate.</p> <p><b>Sensitive Resources Zone</b> (Offshore areas at Point Bonita Cove and Bird Rock)</p> <p>The park would preserve sensitive marine resources—intertidal resources, seabirds, and marine mammals—in these two locations. Visitation would be highly restricted to protect resources that are easily disturbed. Park approved research would be the primary activity in this zone, but would be conducted in a manner that is highly protective of sensitive resources.</p>	<p><b>Scenic Corridor Zone</b> (Offshore areas except Muir Beach and Point Bonita)</p> <p>Same as Alternative 1.</p> <p><b>Sensitive Resources Zone</b> (Offshore areas around Muir Beach and Point Bonita)</p> <p>The park would preserve sensitive marine resources—intertidal resources, Redwood Creek salmonids, seabirds, and marine mammals—in these two locations. Visitation would be highly restricted to protect resources that are easily disturbed. Park approved research would be the primary activity in this zone, but would be conducted in a manner that is highly protective of sensitive resources.</p>	<p><b>Scenic Corridor Zone</b> (All offshore areas)</p> <p>Park managers would work to preserve the marine environment and accommodate public uses including water recreation (swimming, surfing), boating, and noncommercial fishing.</p>