



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, San Francisco, California 94123

IN REPLY REFER TO:

A38 (GOGA-PLAN)

OCT - 1 2014

Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Mayor
City Hall
26 Corte Madera Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Re: Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Mayor Moulton-Peters:

Please forgive our delay in responding to your letter dated May 7, 2014 which expresses deep concern about text in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area's Final General Management Plan (GMP), specifically, page 124 of Volume I, that describes "improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill" which "could enhance trail and transit access to Muir Woods and other nearby park destinations". As we have discussed with you over the past months, to address this we are including an explicit statement in the final decision documents that the National Park Service will not construct a parking lot on Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill. We stand by that same commitment made in our May 19, 2014 letter responding to Congressman Huffman who expressed similar concerns to those made at well-attended public meetings on May 1 and June 18 of this year.

Regarding the statement about White Gate Ranch (page 124), a future trailhead parking lot in that area, if developed, would be intended to facilitate safe access to adjacent trails and would be sized based on several factors, including resource sensitivity, the use levels of local trails, topography, and the rural character of that site. Our understanding of those factors led to describing a possible lot as small. It is not considered a feasible site to serve as an intercept lot or staging area for visitors to Stinson Beach or Muir Woods.

Regarding the statement about Santos Meadow (page 125), the concept for a small trailhead parking lot and picnic area at Santos Meadow, a property within the jurisdiction of California State Department of Parks and Recreation, is to cooperate in their improvement of existing facilities for visitors of the horse camp and connecting state and national park trails, and of access to the adjacent NPS property at the former Banducci flower farm, which could become a stewardship center, consistent with the rural character, resource sensitivities and limited infrastructure on the NPS property.

As always, we are available to meet or provide additional information. If you have additional questions, please contact Brian Aviles, Senior Planner, at (415) 561-4942 or brian_aviles@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

cc: Congressman Jared Huffman, State Assemblymember Marc Levine, Kate Sears - Marin County Supervisor District 3, Steve Kinsey - Marin County Supervisor District 4