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- The dog management planning process followed a court decision which held that unless the park promulgated a federal regulation specific to GGNRA, it could not implement the National Park Service's existing regulations prohibiting off leash dogs, because it deviated from the 1979 Pet Policy.
- A plan is needed because as both visitation and dog use have skyrocketed, conflicts have increased, resources have been impacted, visitor and employee safety has been compromised, and many users feel excluded from prime areas of the park because of the lack of dog management in general, and controls on off leash dogs, specifically. From 2008-2011, there were over 2700 law enforcement incidents in the park involving dogs.
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- However, the park plans a robust public engagement process, including regular public meetings, to keep the public fully aware of progress on plan implementation, and to enlist the public's help in the success of the plan.
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Draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental EIS (draft Plan/SEIS)
Communications Plan (v2 0903)

Key Messages

- This draft Plan/SEIS is a second draft of the EIS for the Dog Management Plan, in response to the substantive comments on the first draft EIS (DEIS) and the inclusion of an area newly transferred to the park..
- Because of the amount of new information and analysis, the entire document has been reissued. There is a reading guide to help direct readers to the substantive changes to the DEIS released in January 2011.
- Comment Period runs from September 6, 2013 – December 4, 2013 (midnight Mountain Standard Time; 11:00 PM, Pacific Standard Time)

Project Communications Protocol

Points of contact:

Elected officials and their staff:	Howard Levitt and Frank Dean
Media:	Howard Levitt and Alexandra Picavet
Stakeholders:	Shirwin Smith, Howard Levitt and Alexandra Picavet
NEPA and Plan Specifics:	Michael Edwards, Shirwin Smith, and Area Specialists (TBD)
General Public:	Dog Management Info Line

All meetings and phone calls with elected officials, stakeholder groups and media to be coordinated through Howard Levitt.

Notes and documents gathered by lead and filed in Project database/ Administrative Record

Consultation Letters: Drafted by contractor with review by Michael/Shirwin, sent to Shirwin for Frank's signature, and mailing.

Cooperating Agency

Presidio Trust

Potentially Affected Interest Groups

General Public

Park visitors
Park neighbors
Environmental groups
Dog walking groups
Commercial dog walkers
Former Advisory Board
Negotiated Rulemaking Committee members
Concessionaires/ Park Partners
Tourism/travel

Agencies

- Calif Dept. Fish & Wildlife
- Calif State Parks
- City and County of SF
- Marin County
- San Mateo County
- Nat. Marine Fisheries Service
- Cities in San Mateo and Marin Counties
- US EPA
- USFWS
- US-NOAA
- California Coastal Commission
- MMWD
- SFPUC

Park Partners

- PWR
- Parks Conservancy
- Programmatic Park Partners
- Presidio Trust staff

Elected Officials

- Federal:
  - Reps Speier, Huffman, Pelosi
  - Senators Boxer and Feinstein
- Local:
  - SF Supervisors Mar, Yee, Tang, Weiner, Chiu
  - Marin Supervisors Kinsey and Sears
  - San Mateo Supervisor Horsley
- State:
  - Assemblymembers Levine, Ting, Ammiano, Mullin, Gordon
  - Senators Leno, Yee, Evans, Hill

Agency Briefings:

- EPA
- Others:
- Offer and set up as needed

All Staff Notification

- Email staff announcement with attached newsletter and general FAQ's

SEISPublic meeting staff

- Training - Friday, 11/1
- More detailed FAQ on SEIS and public communication with do's and don'ts

Media

Media Briefings on 9/5:

Halfmoon Bay Review - Mark Novak
San Jose Mercury - Paul Rogers (also includes Marin IJ)
SF Chronicle - Will Kane (?)

Press Release, sent 9/5 PM

Draft to Sue Waldron and Stephanie Burkhart by 9/3/13

Public Meetings (midway through comment period)

SF - Nov. 2, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM, Fort Mason Center Fleet Room
San Mateo Co - Nov. 4, 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM, Farallone View School
Marin Co - Nov. 6, 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM, Mt. Tam High School

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

DOG MANAGEMENT
Draft Plan/ Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

Frequently Asked Questions
September 6, 2013

1. What are the goals of the draft Plan/SEIS?

- Provide a clear, enforceable policy to determine the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park
- Provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, and reduce user conflicts
- Promote the preservation and protection of natural and cultural resources and natural processes;
  Maintain park resources and values for future generations.

2. Where can I view the draft Plan/SEIS, and how can I submit comments?

Go to the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"] to review and comment online.

Copies of the plan are also available at libraries in San Francisco, Marin and San Mateo Counties, and the East Bay (full list at [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm"]).

The draft plan/SEIS is available for review and comment for 90 days – September 6 through midnight Mountain Time (11 p.m. Pacific Time) December 4, 2013.

Comments may be submitted:

- Online at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan; or
- By mailing/delivering comments to Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123-0022.
- By attending one of the public open-house meetings in early November (listed at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"] and at www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm)

Comments will not be accepted by fax, email, or in any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted.
Add caution on cant guarantee personal info; may be publicly available as part of comment

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Add new Q/A on why personal info cant be protected.

3. Why has GOGA developed a second EIS for dog management?

The park received 4,713 individual pieces of correspondence on the first draft EIS (DEIS) for dog management that was released in January 2011. That correspondence contained 8,000 substantive comments. This draft Plan/SEIS is a second draft EIS that responds to the substantive comments on the DEIS and includes analysis of dog management for the newest area of the park, Rancho Corral de Tierra. Because of the amount of new information and analysis, the entire document has been reissued. There is a reading guide to help direct readers to the substantive changes to the DEIS.

Comment [WS1]: Where do they find that reading guide?

The current situation with dog management in the park is confusing and has led to controversy and conflicts. The park intends to develop a final plan for dog management that is understandable, enforceable, provides a variety of visitor experiences and protects resources.

In this second public comment phase of the dog management project, we need to hear from a broad range of users as to whether the preferred alternative in the SEIS adequately provides a range of visitor experiences while protecting park resources within this national park system unit.

4. What's in the draft Plan/SEIS?

The plan includes six management alternatives, one of which is the park's preferred alternative, for 22 areas of the park. These 22 areas include all the major areas where dog walking currently occurs and essentially lays out the future for where and how dog walking will occur parkwide.

Comment [WS2]: Know these are just for internal use, but I'd move up the Q&A #14 that epxplainas the preferred alt to come after this mention

5. What are the key changes between the 2011 version of the plan and this current SEIS?

The Supplemental EIS:

- Incorporates new data
- Considers additional research
- Makes some changes to the impacts analysis
- Changes the management strategy to accentuate monitoring and eliminate automatic triggers
- Evaluates fencing as a tool to manage dog impacts
- Makes changes to the preferred alternative at several sites, and includes site specific alternatives and analysis for Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County, which wasn't part of the park when the January 2011 draft plan came out.

6. Does the draft Plan/SEIS ban dogs from the park?

No. The dog management planning process dismissed alternatives banning dogs from the park as not meeting the purpose of the planning effort. The range of alternatives in the Plan/SEIS permits dog walking, both on leash and under voice control, in many areas of the park. The preferred alternative includes 7 areas, including beaches, where dogs may be walked off leash under voice control and 22 park sites with areas (beaches, trails and grassy areas) open to on-leash.

7. Are there any other national park areas that allow off leash dog walking?

No. The national NPS regulation on dogs states that where they are permitted in parks, they must be on leash.

In 2002, a panel of senior NPS officials concluded that because of the special circumstances at Golden Gate, it is appropriate for the park to consider a range of alternatives that includes off leash dog walking in areas that meet certain criteria.

8. Was there public input in the development of the plan?

Yes. The plan is informed by the input of thousands of people over a 12-year period. Public involvement took the form of numerous public meetings, written comments, stakeholder presentations and discussions, and a federal negotiated rulemaking process. Most recently, the draft Plan/DEIS was open for public comment for 5.5 months and the park received over 4700 pieces of correspondence. Additional input came from senior NPS management at the regional and national level, with specialized expertise in resources and park management.

ADD Q/A – Why has this taken 12 years?

ADD Q&A – How much has the NPS spent on this dog walking rule?

9. Will the NPS really give consideration to public comment on the draft Plan/SEIS?

Yes. Every substantive comment will be carefully considered in developing a final plan. Without exception, every draft EIS released by the park since it was established in 1972 was refined and improved as a result of public comment.

10. The draft Plan/SEIS is very long. Do I have to read the entire document?

No. We have prepared a Reader's Guide to reviewing the plan, which will direct you to the sections that have changed since the first draft EIS. There is also a short Executive Summary of the plan, which is in the first 28 pages of the document. If you're interested in a particular area, see the index listings for Chapter 2 for descriptions of the alternatives and then go to the listing of alternative maps to see the alternatives for each site(s).

11. Is the draft Plan/SEIS the final dog walking regulation for GGNRA?

No. The draft Plan/SEIS is an assessment of the environmental impacts of a range of management alternatives, including the NPS Preferred Alternative. After review of public comment on the draft Plan/SEIS and any resulting changes, a notice of proposed rulemaking, based on the preferred alternative of the draft Plan/SEIS and any changes resulting from public comment, will be published for additional public comment. After consideration of the relevant comments on the proposed rule, and after publication of the final Plan/EIS and Record of Decision, the NPS will publish a final rule, which is anticipated in late 2015.

Comment [WS3]: Do you need this phrase?

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND QUESTIONS

12. Does the draft Plan/SEIS address all lands within the boundary of GGNRA?

The draft Plan/SEIS addresses dog walking in 22 specific areas within the GOGA boundary that are managed by the park. Other GGNRA owned and managed lands within the park boundary that are not directly addressed in this draft Plan/SEIS will continue to be governed by the existing NPS regulation for dog walking, 36 CFR 2.15 which requires dogs to be kept on a leash where they are allowed.

The draft Plan/SEIS does not directly address lands within the park boundary managed by other agencies such as the Presidio Trust, Point Reyes National Seashore or the San Francisco Public Utility Commission.

13. How were those 22 specific areas chosen for inclusion in the draft Plan/SEIS?

Initially, 21 park areas were developed by the NPS as the parameters for discussion of dog management by the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management, an initial attempt to develop a new dog walking regulation for the park with direct input from stakeholder groups. The parameters set the limits for discussion, by identifying, up front, areas that would be open to consideration for on-leash dog walking, and areas open to consideration for dog walking under voice control, and areas that would not be open to consideration for dog walking. Development of the parameters was guided by a panel of senior NPS officials who, in 2002, recommended the following to the GOGA General Superintendent:

"The panel concludes that off-leash dog walking in GOGA may be appropriate in selected locations where resource impacts can be adequately mitigated and public safety incidents and public use conflicts can be appropriately managed. The panel further recommends that the park pursue both rulemaking and comprehensive planning for pet management to address suitable locations and proper management strategies."

An additional area, Rancho Corral de Tierra, was added in this draft Plan/SEIS. That site transferred to the park after the first draft Plan and EIS had already been completed. The SEIS provides the opportunity to address that new property.

14. What is a Preferred Alternative?

A preferred alternative is the alternative in an EIS which the NPS believes would best accomplish the purpose and need of the proposed action while fulfilling its statutory mission and responsibilities, giving consideration to economic, environmental, technical, and other factors. 43 CFR 46.4.20(d).

The preferred alternative in the draft Plan/SEIS includes the following key elements:

- On-leash and/or voice-control dog walking in certain, specific areas of the park where impacts on visitor experience and safety and sensitive resources were minimal,
- No dogs in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated,
- The commercial dog walking recommendation from the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee,
- A monitoring-management strategy to guide a range of park responses to non-compliance,
- Permits for private or commercial dog walkers who wish to walk more than three dogs, with a limit of 6, in seven specific areas of the park.

15. What are the current rules governing dog management at GOGA?

Currently, dog management at GOGA varies by area and is a combination of the following:

- NPS federal regulation (36 CFR 2.15) — requires that dogs be on leash wherever dog walking is permitted in an NPS area,
- GOGA Citizen Advisory Commission's 1979 Pet Policy — provisions for off-leash dog walking in certain areas of GOGA, which were never formalized as a federal regulation. This aspect of current park management is the result of the 2005 federal court decision *US v. Barley* (405 F. Supp.2d 1121 (N.D. CA 2005)),
- NPS special regulation for protection of western snowy plovers on Ocean Beach and the WPA at Crissy Field (36 CFR 7.97(d)), and
- GGNRA Compendium (compilation of park-specific rules).

Comment [WS4]: ADD a Q/A about how that was allowed to happen – since later Q21 -- it says the park adopted the policy for over 20 years

16. What is the 1979 Pet Policy?

The GGNRA Citizen's Advisory Commission's 1979 Pet Policy recommended to the park that certain, specific areas of GOGA be open to off-leash voice control dog walking. Although never formalized as a federal regulation by the NPS, this unofficial pet policy was in place within GOGA for more than 20 years.

17. Why doesn't GGNRA simply adopt the 1979 Pet Policy as its dog management regulation?

Conditions within the park have changed significantly since 1979; increased visitation, addition of park areas and increased knowledge of resources within the park must be taken into consideration in the development of any dog management regulation. An NPS rule must also be consistent with applicable statutory requirements, such as the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act; the 1979 Pet Policy was developed without any environmental analysis. In addition, the draft dog management plan/SEIS found that accepting the 1979 Pet Policy in its entirety would

not meet the purpose and need of the plan (stated previously); therefore, formalizing the Pet Policy as the dog management regulation was considered but dismissed.

18. What are the concerns about current off-leash dog walking in GGNRA?

Although the 1979 policy and current park information state that dogs off-leash in the park must be under control, the park has no legally-enforceable voice-control guidelines governing off-leash behavior, and currently many off-leash dogs are not well-controlled by their walkers. Uncontrolled, off-leash dogs create safety issues for park visitors and staff, other dogs, and are a source of conflict between dog walkers and other user groups.

Comment [WS5]: Right?

19. What is the definition of voice and sight control dog walking that would be required under a new GGNRA dog walking regulation?

As defined in the draft Plan/SEIS, voice and sight control means that dogs must be within direct eyesight of the dog walker, and that dog walkers must be able to immediately recall their dog(s) to their side so that a leash can be attached to the dog(s)'s collar, and shall demonstrate this ability when requested by Law Enforcement personnel. This definition is similar to other land management agencies that allow off-leash dog walking.

20. What are the concerns about off-leash dog walking in GGNRA?

The main concerns that the park has about off-leash dog walking relate to public and staff safety, compatibility with other user groups and potential resource impacts.

21. Why does the GGNRA draft Plan/SEIS treat dog walking differently than other areas of the National Park Service?

As described in the November 2002 Federal Panel Recommendation to the General Superintendent on Proposed Rulemaking for Pet Management at GGNRA, the park has a unique set of characteristics: sites which had historically been used for off-leash dog walking; the 1979 Citizen's Advisory Commission Pet Policy that recommended the continuation of those uses, and the park's adoption of that policy for over 20 years; management of a significant portion of the public recreational open space in San Francisco and San Mateo and Marin Counties, where residents rely on portions of that open space for exercise of their pets.

Because of these unique characteristics, the park considered a range of alternatives intended to provide a variety of experiences, including voice control dog walking, while protecting visitor experience and safety and park resources.

22. GGNRA is a national recreation area. Do national recreation areas have different management policies than national parks?

No. All units of the National Park System are guided by the same NPS Management Policies, regardless of the park's designation. Congress amended the 1916 NPS Organic Act in 1970 to make clear that the NPS must manage all units of the national park system to the same preservation standard.

23. What is "Negotiated Rulemaking," and why did GOGA use this form of rulemaking from 2006-2007 as a preliminary step in the dog management planning process?

Negotiated Rulemaking is one way that federal agencies can use to develop rules; this method requires the formal involvement of key stakeholders, along with the agency. Given the longstanding and passionate interest that various stakeholders have in this issue, and because GGNRA has a deep tradition of community engagement, the park saw value in working in partnership with stakeholders who have diverse values and views to try and develop a rule for dog management through consensus. The Committee was formed with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior to develop consensus recommendations for both voice-control and on-leash dog walking, as well as for use and limits of professional dog walking.

24. What was the outcome of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management and how will recommendations of the Committee be used by the NPS?

The Committee worked from March 2006 to the end of October 2007, but after many meetings and working sessions was unable to reach consensus on a proposed rule for all areas open for discussion. However, there was consensus on overarching guidelines for dog management and commercial dog walking as well as for a management option for one site – Oakwood Valley. All these areas of consensus have been included in two of the alternatives in the draft Plan/SEIS, and two are included in the NPS preferred alternative. Although the Committee was unable to reach consensus on a full rule, the many meetings of the Committee provided much information that aided the NPS in the development of the Plan/DEIS.

25. What should people consider when they comment on the draft Plan/SEIS?

The NPS is looking for substantive comments from the public after review of the range of alternatives, including the preferred alternative, and the impacts of those alternatives. Examples of substantive comments include providing additional factual information, noting issues or impacts NPS may have failed to consider, inconsistencies, and other comments of substance, as opposed to comments voicing like or dislike without an underlying rationale.

26. Once a final rule is issued, how will it be enforced?

The park will enforce the final rule as it does all other rules. The park will depend on the active involvement of user groups to support implementation of the rule by assisting in education and outreach to their members.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

DOG MANAGEMENT
Draft Plan/ Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

Frequently Asked Questions
September 6, 2013

1. **What are the goals of the draft Plan/SEIS?**

   - Provide a clear, enforceable policy to determine the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park
   - Provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, and reduce user conflicts
   - Promote the preservation and protection of natural and cultural resources and natural processes;
     Maintain park resources and values for future generations.

2. **Where can I view the draft Plan/SEIS, and how can I submit comments?**

   Go to the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"] to review and comment online.

   Copies of the plan are also available at libraries in San Francisco, Marin and San Mateo Counties, and the East Bay (full list at [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm"]).

   The draft plan/SEIS is available for review and comment for 90 days – September 6 through midnight Mountain Time (11 p.m. Pacific Time) December 4, 2013.

   Comments may be submitted:
   - Online at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan; or
   - By mailing comments to Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123-0022.
   - By attending one of the public open-house meetings in early November (listed at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"] and at www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm)

   Comments will not be accepted by fax, email, or in any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted.

3. **Why has GOGA developed a second EIS for dog management?**

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The park received 4,713 individual pieces of correspondence on the first draft EIS (DEIS) for dog management that was released in January 2011. That correspondence contained 8,000 substantive comments. This draft Plan/SEIS is a second draft EIS that responds to the substantive comments on the DEIS and includes analysis of dog management for the newest area of the park, Rancho Corral de Tierra. Because of the amount of new information and analysis, the entire document has been reissued. There is a reading guide to help direct readers to the substantive changes to the DEIS.

The current situation with dog management in the park is confusing and has led to controversy and conflicts. The park intends to develop a final plan for dog management that is understandable, enforceable, provides a variety of visitor experiences and protects resources.

In this second public comment phase of the dog management project, we need to hear from a broad range of users as to whether the preferred alternative in the SEIS adequately provides a range of visitor experiences while protecting park resources within this national park system unit.

4. What's in the draft Plan/SEIS?

The plan includes six management alternatives, one of which is the park's preferred alternative, for 22 areas of the park. These 22 areas include all the major areas where dog walking currently occurs and essentially lays out the future for where and how dog walking will occur parkwide.

5. What are the key changes between the 2011 version of the plan and this current SEIS?

The Supplemental EIS:

- Incorporates new data
- Considers additional research
- Makes some changes to the impacts analysis
- Changes the management strategy to accentuate monitoring and eliminate automatic triggers
- Evaluates fencing as a tool to manage dog impacts
- Makes changes to the preferred alternative at several sites, and includes site specific alternatives and analysis for Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County, which wasn't part of the park when the January 2011 draft plan came out.

6. Does the draft Plan/SEIS ban dogs from the park?

No. The dog management planning process dismissed alternatives banning dogs from the park as not meeting the purpose of the planning effort. The range of alternatives in the Plan/SEIS permits dog walking, both on leash and under voice control, in many areas of the park. The preferred alternative includes 7 areas, including beaches, where dogs may

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be walked off leash under voice control and 22 park sites with areas (beaches, trails and grassy areas) open to on-leash.

7. Are there any other national park areas that allow off leash dog walking?

No. The national NPS regulation on dogs states that where they are permitted in parks, they must be on leash.

In 2002, a panel of senior NPS officials concluded that because of the special circumstances at Golden Gate, it is appropriate for the park to consider a range of alternatives that includes off leash dog walking in areas that meet certain criteria.

8. Was there public input in the development of the plan?

Yes. The plan is informed by the input of thousands of people over a 12-year period. Public involvement took the form of numerous public meetings, written comments, stakeholder presentations and discussions, and a federal negotiated rulemaking process. Most recently, the draft Plan/DEIS was open for public comment for 5.5 months and the park received over 4700 pieces of correspondence. Additional input came from senior NPS management at the regional and national level, with specialized expertise in resources and park management.

9. Will the NPS really give consideration to public comment on the draft Plan/SEIS?

Yes. Every substantive comment will be carefully considered in developing a final plan. Without exception, every draft EIS released by the park since it was established in 1972 was refined and improved as a result of public comment.

10. The draft Plan/SEIS is very long. Do I have to read the entire document?

No. We have prepared a Reader's Guide to reviewing the plan, which will direct you to the sections that have changed since the first draft EIS. There is also a short Executive Summary of the plan, which is in the first 28 pages of the document. If you're interested in a particular area, see the index listings for Chapter 2 for descriptions of the alternatives and then go to the listing of alternative maps to see the alternatives for each site(s).

11. Is the draft Plan/SEIS the final dog walking regulation for GGNRA?

No. The draft Plan/SEIS is an assessment of the environmental impacts of a range of management alternatives, including the NPS Preferred Alternative. After review of public comment on the draft Plan/SEIS, a notice of proposed rulemaking, based on the preferred alternative of the draft Plan/SEIS and any changes resulting from public comment, will be published for additional public comment. After consideration of the relevant comments on the proposed rule, and after publication of the final Plan/EIS and Record of Decision, the NPS will publish a final rule, which is anticipated in late 2015.

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ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND QUESTIONS

12. Does the draft Plan/SEIS address all lands within the boundary of GGNRA?

The draft Plan/SEIS addressed only lands that are owned and managed by GGNRA. It does not directly address lands within the park boundary managed by other agencies such as the Presidio Trust, Point Reyes National Seashore or the San Francisco Public Utility Commission.

The draft Plan/SEIS addresses dog walking in 22 specific areas of the approximately 20,000 acres within the GOGA boundary that are managed by the park. Other GGNRA owned and managed lands within the park boundary that are not directly addressed in this draft Plan/SEIS will continue to be governed by the existing NPS regulation for dog walking, 36 CFR 2.15 which requires dogs to be kept on a leash where they are allowed.

13. How were those 22 specific areas chosen for inclusion in the draft Plan/SEIS?

Initially, 21 park areas were developed by the NPS as the parameters for discussion of dog management by the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management, an initial attempt to develop a new dog walking regulation for the park with direct input from stakeholder groups. The parameters set the limits for discussion, by identifying, up front, areas that would be open to consideration for on-leash dog walking, and areas open to consideration for dog walking off-leash, under voice control, and areas that would not be open to consideration for dog walking. Development of the parameters was guided by a panel of senior NPS officials who, in 2002, recommended the following to the GOGA General Superintendent:

"The panel concludes that off-leash dog walking in GOGA may be appropriate in selected locations where resource impacts can be adequately mitigated and public safety incidents and public use conflicts can be appropriately managed. The panel further recommends that the park pursue both rulemaking and comprehensive planning for pet management to address suitable locations and proper management strategies."

An additional area, Rancho Corral de Tierra, was added in this draft Plan/SEIS. That site transferred to the park when the first draft Plan and EIS had already been completed. The SEIS provides the opportunity to address that new property.

14. What is a Preferred Alternative?

A preferred alternative is the alternative in an EIS which the NPS believes would best accomplish the purpose and need of the proposed action while fulfilling its statutory mission and responsibilities, giving consideration to economic, environmental, technical, and other factors. 43 CFR 46.4.20(d).

The preferred alternative in the draft Plan/SEIS includes the following key elements:

- On-leash and/or voice-control dog walking in certain, specific areas of the park where impacts on visitor experience and safety and sensitive resources were minimal,
- No dogs in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated,
- The commercial dog walking recommendation from the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee,
- A monitoring-management strategy to guide a range of park responses to non-compliance,
- Permits for private or commercial dog walkers who wish to walk more than three dogs, with a limit of 6, in seven specific areas of the park.

15. What are the current rules governing dog management at GOGA?

Currently, dog management at GOGA varies by area and is a combination of the following:

- NPS federal regulation (36 CFR 2.15) — requires that dogs be on leash wherever dog walking is permitted in an NPS area,
- GOGA Citizen Advisory Commission's 1979 Pet Policy — provisions for off-leash dog walking in certain areas of GOGA, which were never formalized as a federal regulation, This aspect of current park management is the result of the 2005 federal court decision *US v. Barley* (405 F. Supp.2d 1121 (N.D. CA 2005)),
- NPS special regulation for protection of western snowy plovers on Ocean Beach and the WPA at Crissy Field (36 CFR 7.97(d)), and
- GGNRA Compendium (compilation of park-specific rules).

16. What is the 1979 Pet Policy?

The GGNRA Citizen's Advisory Commission's 1979 Pet Policy recommended to the park that certain, specific areas of GOGA be open to off-leash voice control dog walking. Although never formalized as a federal regulation by the NPS, this unofficial pet policy was in place within GOGA for more than 20 years.

17. Why doesn't GGNRA simply adopt the 1979 Pet Policy as its dog management regulation?

Conditions within the park have changed significantly since 1979; increased visitation, addition of park areas and increased knowledge of resources within the park must be taken into consideration in the development of any dog management regulation. An NPS rule must also be consistent with applicable statutory requirements, such as the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act; the 1979 Pet Policy was developed without any environmental analysis. In addition, the draft dog management plan/SEIS found that accepting the 1979 Pet Policy in its entirety would not meet the purpose and need of the plan (stated previously); therefore, formalizing the Pet Policy as the dog management regulation was considered but dismissed.

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18. What are the concerns about current off-leash dog walking in GGNRA?

Although the 1979 policy and current park information state that dogs off-leash in the park must be under control, the park has no legally-enforceable voice-control guidelines governing off-leash behavior, and currently many off-leash dogs are not well-controlled by their walkers. Uncontrolled, off-leash dogs create safety issues for park visitors and staff, and are a source of conflict between dog walkers and other user groups.

19. What is the definition of voice and sight control dog walking that would be required under a new GGNRA dog walking regulation?

As defined in the draft Plan/SEIS, voice and sight control means that dogs must be within direct eyesight of the dog walker, and that dog walkers must be able to immediately recall their dog(s) to their side so that a leash can be attached to the dog(s)'s collar, and shall demonstrate this ability when requested by Law Enforcement personnel. This definition is similar to other land management agencies that allow off-leash dog walking.

Comment [SES1]: Addressed above.

20. Why does the GGNRA draft Plan/SEIS treat dog walking differently than other areas of the National Park Service?

As described in the November 2002 Federal Panel Recommendation to the General Superintendent on Proposed Rulemaking for Pet Management at GGNRA, the park has a unique set of characteristics: sites which had historically been used for off-leash dog walking; the 1979 Citizen's Advisory Commission Pet Policy that recommended the continuation of those uses, and the park's adoption of that policy for over 20 years; and management of a significant portion of the public recreational open space in San Francisco and San Mateo and Marin Counties, where residents rely on portions of that open space for exercise of their pets.

Because of these unique characteristics, the park considered a range of alternatives intended to provide a variety of experiences, including voice control dog walking, while protecting visitor experience and safety and park resources.

21. GGNRA is a national recreation area. Do national recreation areas have different management policies than national parks?

No. All units of the National Park System are guided by the same NPS Management Policies, regardless of the park's designation as a national park, national recreation area, national historic site, national lakeshore or other (there are 35 types of national park units). Congress amended the 1916 NPS Organic Act in 1970 to make clear that the NPS must manage all units of the national park system to the same preservation standard.

22. What is "Negotiated Rulemaking," and why did GOGA use this form of rulemaking from 2006-2007 as a preliminary step in the dog management planning process?

Negotiated Rulemaking is one way that federal agencies can develop rules; this method requires the formal involvement of key stakeholders, along with the agency. Given the longstanding and passionate interest that various stakeholders have in this issue, and because GGNRA has a deep tradition of community engagement, the park saw value in working in partnership with stakeholders who have diverse values and views to try and develop a rule for dog management through consensus. The Committee was formed with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior to develop consensus recommendations for both voice-control and on-leash dog walking, as well as for use and limits of professional dog walking.

23. What was the outcome of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management and how will recommendations of the Committee be used by the NPS?

The Committee worked from March 2006 to the end of October 2007 but, after many meetings and working sessions, was unable to reach consensus on a proposed rule for all areas open for discussion. However, there was consensus on overarching guidelines for dog management and commercial dog walking as well as for a management option for one site – Oakwood Valley. All these areas of consensus have been included in two of the alternatives in the draft Plan/SEIS, and two are included in the NPS preferred alternative. Although the Committee was unable to reach consensus on a full rule, the many meetings of the Committee provided much information that aided the NPS in the development of the Plan/DEIS.

24. What should people consider when they comment on the draft Plan/SEIS?

The NPS is looking for substantive comments from the public after review of the range of alternatives, including the preferred alternative, and the impacts of those alternatives. Examples of substantive comments include providing additional factual information, noting issues or impacts NPS may have failed to consider, inconsistencies, and other comments of substance, as opposed to comments voicing like or dislike without an underlying rationale.

25. Once a final rule is issued, how will it be enforced?

The park will enforce the final rule as it does all other rules. The park will depend on the active involvement of user groups to support implementation of the rule by assisting in education and outreach to their members.

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT

For Immediate Release

Contact: Howard Levitt, 415-561-4730/415-725-8589
Alexandra Picavet, 415 561-4732/415-786-8021

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental EIS available for public comment

On Friday, September 6, 2013, the National Park Service (NPS) released a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Dog Management Plan (draft Plan/SEIS) for Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The draft Plan/SEIS will be open for public comment for 90 days, until December 4, 2013.

The draft Plan/SEIS follows a previous draft Plan/EIS, released in January 2011, that generated 4700 comment letters. As a result of the evaluation of the public comments, NPS determined that a Supplemental EIS was warranted. The Supplemental EIS incorporates new data, considers additional research, makes some changes to the impacts analysis, changes the management strategy to accentuate monitoring and eliminate automatic triggers; evaluates fencing as a tool to manage dog impacts; makes changes to the preferred alternative at several sites, and includes site specific alternatives and analysis for Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County. This new site in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area was added to the park in December 2011, after the development and release of the draft Plan/EIS.

Comment [EMB1]: I think we need to keep it simple and not confuse.

The overall purpose of the dog management planning project at Golden Gate is to determine the manner and extent of dog walking in appropriate areas of the park, provide a clear, enforceable dog management policy, provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, reduce user conflicts and preserve and protect natural and cultural resources and natural processes.

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- [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/ggnra"] -

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DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT

For Immediate Release

Contact: Howard Levitt, 415-561-4730/415-725-8589
Alexandra Picavet, 415 561-4732/415-786-8021

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental EIS available for public comment

On Friday, September 6, 2013, the National Park Service (NPS) released a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Dog Management Plan (draft Plan/SEIS) for Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The draft Plan/SEIS will be open for public comment for 90 days, until December 4, 2013.

The draft Plan/SEIS follows a previous draft Plan/EIS, released in January 2011, that generated 4700 comment letters. As a result of the evaluation of the public comments, NPS determined that a Supplemental EIS was warranted. The Supplemental EIS incorporates new data, considers additional research, makes some changes to the impacts analysis, changes the management strategy to accentuate monitoring and eliminate automatic triggers; evaluates fencing as a tool to manage dog impacts; makes changes to the preferred alternative at several sites, and includes site specific alternatives and analysis for Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County. This new site in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area was added to the park in December 2011, after the development and release of the draft Plan/EIS.

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SHARP PARK WORKING GROUP STATEMENT AND LIST OF FINDINGS

Sharp Park is a 417-acre multiple use facility owned and maintained by the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, located in the City of Pacifica, San Mateo County within the boundary of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. In the 1920's, a golf course was built on the western side of Sharp Park around the wetland complex, Laguna Salada. As late as the 1970's, the San Francisco Garter Snake and the California Red-legged Frog were abundant on the property. However, for the last 30 years, the population has been endangered and threatened, respectively. Multiple reports from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and San Francisco Recreation and Park Department have pointed to the short-term need to restore Laguna Salada.

After the conclusion of 2010's summer public process, the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department convened a working group of land managers with interest in the property:, Dave Holland (San Mateo County), Steve Rhodes (City of Pacifica), Dawn Kamalanathan (San Francisco Recreation and Park Department), and Amy Meyer (Facilitator). Staff of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area also participated in discussions of the working group.

The working group engaged in research, site visits, and guest speakers to determine the following:

According to the US Geological Survey, beach erosion dominates the coast in northern San Mateo County from Daly City to Pt. San Pedro, with over 98% of the shoreline eroding over the last several decades: the rate (0.6 m/yr) has increased by 50% over the long-term average (Dallas and Barnard, 2011). This erosion is linked, in part, to a sharp reduction in the sediment supply from San Francisco Bay over the last century. Looking ahead, by 2100 we can expect global sea level to rise by 0.6m to 2.0 m (Rahmstorf, 2007; Pfeffer et al., 2008; Jevrejeva et al., 2010). In addition, there is an observed increase in the size of the storm waves striking this region (Allan and Komar, 2006). Further sediment supply reductions, accelerated sea level rise and more powerful storm waves combined will put increasing stress on beaches and adjacent ecosystems, likely accelerating coastal erosion rates over the coming decades.

54 USC §100707

As a long term goal, the working group finds a naturally managed system is the most sustainable approach to manage the property's coastal acreage. To this end, the seawall should not be further armored or heightened. A technical study by the various land owners and regulators, taking into account sea level rise, is recommended to continue to explore feasible transitions into a naturally managed "barrier lagoon" without undue risk to the protected species, adjacent property, and human life. This longer term goal will minimize management costs while creating a more naturally sustainable system for the protected species.

Findings:

a) 54 USC § 100707

b) The San Francisco Garter Snake is endangered. The California Red-legged frog is threatened.

c) San Francisco Garter Snakes have been subject to human, hawk, dog, cat and other predation.

d) Annual flooding of fresh water from the hills is captured in the golf course. Historically, the water was discharged into the ocean.

e) Sharp Park is a managed environmental system which includes seasonal pumping of Laguna Salada to control peak winter flooding. The pumping system is located at Horse Stable Pond.

f) In 2005, United States Fish and Wildlife Service sent a letter to Recreation and Park Department

54 USC § 100707

g) Maintaining the existence of the seawall will continue to accelerate beachfront erosion, changing the natural beach profile.

h) With consideration of the needs for sustainable species habitat and the more natural function of a barrier beach and lagoon system, the golf course could be redesigned to coexist with viable populations of sensitive species in the long term.

i) Winter flooding regularly occurs now in the residential area north of the golf course from a combination of water from the hills captured by the golf course and sea water. If the golf course is redesigned to support a more naturally functioning barrier beach and lagoon system, it must provide a solution to periodic flooding of the residential area.

j) If the decision is made to support a more naturally functioning barrier beach and lagoon system and golf remains a use on the property, design costs and future maintenance need to be addressed within a sustainable management plan.

k) The short term and long term management plans must be integrated and funded for a design that progressively moves from solving short-term problems to a long-term sustainable management program.

USGS quote courtesy of Patrick Barnard (USGS in Santa Cruz). Mr. Barnard's area of expertise is coastal resources.

Literature Cited:

Allan, J.C. and Komar, P.D., 2006. Climate controls on US West Coast erosion processes. Journal of Coastal Research, v. 22, no. 3, p. 511-529

Dallas, K.L., Barnard, P.L., Anthropogenic influences on shoreline and nearshore evolution in the San Francisco Bay coastal system, Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science (2011), doi:10.1016/j.ecss.2010.12.031

Jevrejeva, S., J. C. Moore, and A. Grinsted (2010), How will sea level respond to changes in natural and anthropogenic forcings by 2100?, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 37, L07703, doi:10.1029/2010GL042947.

Pfeffer, W.T., Harper, J.T. and O'Neel, S., 2008. Kinematic constraints on glacier contributions to 21st-century sea-level rise. Science, 331, p. 1340-1243

Rahmstorf, S., 2007. A semi-empirical approach to projecting future sea-level rise. Science. Volume 315, p. 368-370

Dear Howard,

Here is the draft summary of the SNPL management plan. Thanks again for the opportunity to complete such a challenging task.

A few notes:

*** As you know, the plan has 60 pages and over a hundred subheadings. I tried to pull out portions of the most important aspects, however the result is a series of paragraphs with no real closure, as opposed to an essay-like summary. Addition of subheadings may improve matters.**

*** In the interest of maintaining my relationship with Daphne, I would appreciate it if she saw a copy of this before it goes out.**

*** I have underlined parts you may want to read carefully, as they deal with the more controversial parts of the plan. I would like Daphne to check on these points as well, as I am extrapolating to some degree in the summarization of concepts.**

*** I included the "Qualifier" because the plan is quite thorough in its scope (as it should be), and though I believe a summary is useful, facts may be more easily taken out of context when the supporting facts are missing. The fact that opponents of leash restrictions can more easily take facts out of context may well be a good reason not to release a summary.**

*** I didn't notice this the first time around, but the low number for SNPLs on Ocean Beach is 15 in the intro and 20 in the description. I have used 15 for the summary.**

*** As always, I am open to your suggestions. And yes, the wording in the last heading is a joke.**

Thanks,

George

A Summary of the
Snowy Plover Management Plan
Ocean Beach, San Francisco
May, 1998

A Qualifier
This summary of the Snowy Plover Management Plan was written to provide a brief overview of plans to protect this species on Ocean Beach. The full plan explains in much greater detail the context and rationale for the actions both already undertaken and proposed. We encourage you to read the full plan for a broad understanding of the processes involved in protecting the plover.

Introduction
Ocean Beach has been a popular recreation area in San Francisco for more than a century. Ocean Beach is also home to a small, pale-colored shorebird, the snowy plover, whose numbers have been greatly reduced in recent years, primarily as a result of habitat loss. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) listed the snowy plover as a "threatened" species in 1993. In order to protect this vulnerable bird, some beach activities that have previously been taken for granted can no longer occur.

Between 15 and 85 non-breeding snowy plovers use Ocean Beach for 10 months of the year, where they are subject to intense recreational pressure, and may be impacted by Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) and City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) operations. The actions proposed in the management plan are in addition to those already implemented, such as enforcement of existing leash regulations and changes in operation of heavy equipment.

Why do we need to write a plan and what will it tell us?
Following broad directives in the National Park Service (NPS) mission and the narrower scope of the Endangered Species Act, the need for this plan is dictated by requirements that the GGNRA consider impacts on threatened and endangered species and their habitats in all park plans.

The objectives of the plan are to provide background on public use and government operations on Ocean Beach, recommend actions that will prevent and minimize disturbance to plovers and their habitat, protect GGNRA and CCSF resources and provide for public safety. While the plan addresses a myriad of issues, it is intended to be adaptive in nature and updated as necessary.

The Snowy Plover's History at Ocean Beach
Ocean Beach today looks significantly different than it did when CCSF first began manipulating the dune line more than 130 years ago. The city has moved the shoreline westward, mined sand and built three seawalls. Throughout this time, snowy plovers have used the beach, and while no records of nesting plovers exist, they probably nested there before this period of extensive development and shoreline alteration. Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO) and the GGNRA have surveyed the plover population since 1979, and has found that numbers of birds tend to vary with the width of the beach and plover habitat loss in the San Francisco Bay. Wintering Snowy Plovers currently can be found from stairwell 21 south to Sloat Blvd. Plovers do not currently nest on Ocean Beach, and attempts to nest would probably be unsuccessful because of intense recreational use.

GGNRA and USFWS staff began informal meetings regarding the snowy plover in 1994, when CCSF requested a permit to move sand on Ocean Beach to protect the Oceanside wastewater treatment facility. Continued CCSF sand movement requests led the USFWS to ask the NPS to expedite a draft of the required snowy plover management plan by the end of 1995. It is important to understand that CCSF sand movement has no relation to enactment of the plan, and only expedited its completion.

How do we know what threatens the Snowy Plover on Ocean Beach?

To develop an effective management plan, the park needed information on the various impacts that snowy plovers actually and might potentially face. The park's wildlife biologist and trained volunteers began monitoring the snowy plovers on Ocean Beach late in 1994. Monitoring has included population counts, spatial distribution of plovers, patterns of use by people and dogs, levels of disturbance from all sources, and documenting changes in disturbance levels following implementation of protection measures.

Visitor Activities

Visitor activities such as campfires, horseback riding, bicycling and kite flying were determined not to have significant impacts on plovers, as long as existing laws are enforced and levels of these activities do not dramatically increase. The study found that days of extremely high visitation may result in displacement of disturbance on plovers on a few days each year, but that such disturbance was so infrequent that it did not merit managing visitation.

Unleashed pets were also monitored and were found to represent the greatest recreational threat to snowy plovers and migratory shorebirds on Ocean Beach. As opposed to all other visitor activities, many dogs instinctively focus on and chase birds, and these disturbances can be prolonged and difficult to avoid. The management plan goes into much greater detail on this issue, and we encourage concerned pet owners to read the plan in its entirety.

Local and Federal Government Operations

Most GGNRA and CCSF operations, including beach cleanups, patrols, habitat restoration and interpretive programs were found not to significantly impact plovers on Ocean Beach. Heavy equipment operations, nighttime vehicle operation, shoreline manipulation and back-and-forth driving on Ocean Beach were found to have the potential to impact plovers and have already been curtailed within the snowy plover habitat area (except during emergencies). Sand movement and large debris removal will be allowed only during the annual, approximately six-week period when plovers are absent from Ocean Beach.

Predation

No predation of snowy plovers has been documented on Ocean Beach, and predation by either feral or native animals does not appear to be a significant problem for these plovers. Predation is much more common during breeding season, when predators target vulnerable chicks and eggs.

How will the park protect the Snowy Plover?

The park has already begun moving forward in efforts to protect the plovers:

Monitoring and Resource Management

The park's wildlife biologist, in coordination with PRBO, will continue to oversee several types of long-term plover monitoring, including monitoring disturbances, attempts at breeding, and the effects of oil and sewage spills. The park will continue to enhance plover habitat and restore native vegetation on Ocean Beach.

Management Zoning

The park will continue to manage Ocean Beach as a natural area, and will review all but routine, daily activities in the snowy plover management area (e.g. sand movement, dune restoration, special events, etc.) under the National Environmental Policy Act. (is this the correct extension of NEPA?).

Interpretation and Public Information

The GGNRA recognizes that the best way to protect the snowy plovers on Ocean Beach is to provide a wide spectrum of opportunities for visitors and park staff to learn about the plovers. In this spirit, park biologists have trained interpretive and law enforcement rangers as well as maintenance staff about the snowy plover management plan. Park visitors can read interpretive signs, explaining the status of the plover, along the snowy plover management area. Interpretive programs allowing visitors to see plovers in their native habitat have been ongoing since 1996. The park has also produced and distributed thousands of brochures on the "Plight of the Plover" and "Enjoying the Park with your Dog." The GGRNA Public Information office will issue press releases to alert the public of use restrictions and changes in management practices.

(Alt wording: Interpretive signs, brochures and programs designed to inform the public about the "Plight of the Plover" have been implemented over the past several years.)

Public Use Restrictions

Pets must be leashed in the snowy plover management area. No other public use restrictions are proposed, although disturbance monitoring will continue in order to determine if other uses of the beach begin to form threats to the plover. As in the past, dogs may continue to be off leash under voice control north of stairwell 21 and south of Sloat. Note that restrictions for GGNRA and CCSF operations are outlined above.

Will these protection measures allow Snowy Plovers to nest on Ocean Beach?

As noted above, there are no known records of plovers nesting on Ocean Beach, and the park does not intend to encourage breeding because reproductive success would likely be higher in quieter locations. However in the extremely unlikely event that plovers do nest on Ocean Beach, the park will allow only low impact activities such as walking, fishing, surfing and birding within 200 meters of nests.

(I'm thrilled/infuriated/befuddled.) How can I obtain a copy of the full (brilliant/oppressive/enlightening) plan? (I'm not exactly clear on this procedure)

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

Your letter of June 19, 2013 to Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has been forwarded to me for a response.

As you know, the issue of dog use at Rancho Corral de Tierra has been an extremely challenging one for us. We have been copied on the letters written to your office by Montara Dog Group, along with Crissy Field Dog Group that have expressed concern with signs that have been installed at Rancho that indicated that dogs were not permitted on large areas of the property. These groups felt that these signs came with no prior public notice or input. They also expressed concern that the upcoming Supplemental EIS/Dog Management Plan will describe the current No Action alternative as reflective of the current allowable areas of dog use at Rancho.

Comment [CC1]: May want to indicate that there was extensive outreach conducted on this.

Regarding the permissible dog use at Rancho, as you know, the national regulation on dog use in areas managed by the National Park Service (36 CFR 2.15) requires that where they are permitted, dogs must be on a leash. Through discussions with interested stakeholder groups prior to acquisition, park staff worked to identify prime dog walking areas. Based on this information, and a desire to take a cautious approach regarding areas of resources sensitivity and balancing various user groups on the trails at Rancho, the Superintendent exercised his authority pursuant to the national regulation to limit dog walking to those prime areas and restrict dogs from other portions of the site though the park Compendium of rules.

At the time, we considered this a minor change to use, since the prime areas of dog use were still open to dogs. However, from letters received from Montara Dog Group and from discussion with others in the community, it is clear that for many people in the community surrounding Rancho this is viewed as a large change in use. Therefore, effective July 2, I have rescinded the Compendium entry that prohibited dogs on sections of Rancho. All of the property will be open to on-leash dog use under the provisions of 36 CFR 2.15. We will also revise the map on our website, and modify the signs in the field to reflect the regulations.

We will contact Bill Bechtell and other interested stakeholders directly to communicate this change.

This decision will affect the No Action Alternative in the upcoming SEIS. In that plan, the No Action Alternative will permit dogs on leash throughout Rancho, per 36 CFR 2.15. We understand that Montara Dog Group would like the No Action alternative to reflect the unsanctioned and illegal off leash dog use that occurred prior to NPS ownership, but there is no legal basis for us to do that.

We will connect with your office prior to release of the upcoming SEIS, and seek your advice on how to spread the word as widely as possible. We will also hold a public meeting at Rancho midway during the public review process of the SEIS, and will again seek your advice and participation in that meeting.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

Your letter of June 19, 2013 to Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has been forwarded to me for a response.

As you know, the issue of dog use at Rancho Corral de Tierra has been an extremely challenging one for us. We were copied on the letter written to your office by the Crissy Field Dog Group and Montara Dog Group that expressed concern with signs recently installed at Rancho that indicated that dogs must be on leash and that dog walking is not permitted beyond two areas of the Rancho adjacent to neighborhoods. These groups felt that the signs and restrictions came with no prior public notice or input. They also expressed concern that the upcoming Supplemental EIS/Dog Management Plan would use this current status of permitted dog walking area at Rancho as the No Action alternative, instead of the unrestricted, on and off-leash dog walking that occurred in years prior to National Park Service (NPS) ownership.

Regarding the permissible dog walking use at Rancho, the national regulation on dog walking in areas managed by the NPS (36 CFR 2.15) requires that where they are permitted, dogs must be on a leash; this is the applicable regulation for any new lands acquired by the NPS. In addition, through discussions with interested stakeholder groups prior to acquisition, park staff worked to identify prime dog walking areas. Based on this information, and a desire to take a cautious approach regarding areas of potential resource sensitivity and other visitor uses at Rancho, dog walking was limited to those prime areas identified by the community for the interim period prior to the completion of the dog management plan. A map showing this restriction was posted on the park's web site and distributed to members of the community shortly after Rancho transferred to the NPS.

At the time, we considered this a reasonable and minor change to use, since the prime areas of dog use were still open to dog walking and we received little negative feedback from the community. However, from the recent letters received from Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group, and from discussion with others in the community, it is clear that many people in the community surrounding Rancho, alerted to the status of dog walking by the new signs, view this as a large change in use, especially when compared to their use of the site prior to the NPS ownership. Therefore, effective July 2, I have rescinded the restriction of dog walking at Rancho, which opens all of the property available to on-leash dog walking. Our field staff have been fully briefed on this change, and we will update the map on our website and modify the signs on site to reflect this change. We will also contact Bill Bechtell and other interested stakeholders directly to ensure that the word gets out about this change.

Comment [EMB1]: Should make clear in this sentence that this doesn't apply to off-leash.

This decision will also affect the No Action Alternative in the upcoming SEIS, which will be revised to reflect this changed management status. We understand that Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group believe the No Action alternative should reflect the unsanctioned off-leash dog use that occurred prior to NPS ownership, but that is a management status we could not legally continue under NPS regulations. Thus it would not constitute the current, NPS management status which the No Action alternative should reflect.

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

We will connect with your office prior to release of the upcoming SEIS, which will now occur in early fall. We will also be holding public open house meetings during the SEIS public review and comment process; one of those meetings will be in San Mateo County, close to Rancho. We would welcome your participation in that meeting.

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Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Statement regarding Representative Speier's letter to the House Appropriations Committee

Representative Speier has requested that the House Appropriations committee deny the NPS funds to implement a plan and rule for dog management at the GGNRA until the Secretary of the Interior satisfies Congress that is had utilized GGNRA resources "in a manner which will provide for recreation and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land management and planning."

Since 2002, the NPS has been working with the public to develop a plan for managing dog use in the park. This has entailed the commission of a federal panel to attempt a negotiated rulemaking process, the preparation of two detailed draft plans, and numerous public meetings and presentations involving thousands of interested stakeholders. Currently, the public is reviewing and commenting on a Proposed Rule for Dog Management. The comment period expires on May 25, 2016. The next step will be a review of public comment on the proposed rule, as well as on the Supplemental Draft Dog Management Plan, and the preparation of a Final Plan and Rule. This is expected to be completed in late 2016.

The precise purpose of the dog management planning effort is to produce a plan that is consistent with sound principles of land management and planning. This includes accommodating a wide variety of recreation opportunities in the areas of the park that are in demand by all visitors, and protecting park resources for the future. Under the proposed rule, dogs would be permitted in all 22 areas studied in the planning process. Of the park's miles of beaches, over 35% would be open for dog use; most of that would be off-leash. Of the park's 147 miles of trails, over 46 miles, or 36%, would be open to do use on leash. At Fort Funston, the most popular dog area in the park, over 40% of the usable space would be open to off-leash dog use, and most of the site's trails would be open to on-leash dog use. At Crissy Field, nearly all of the site would be open to dog use, including nearly .75 miles of beach and 1/3 of the large airfield where off-leash dog walking would be permitted.

While the final rule for dog management is likely to opposed by some users, completion of the planning process later this year should amply satisfy the test of

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National Park Service, Office of Professional Responsibility
Summary of Findings of the Investigation of the January 29, 2012 law enforcement action at Rancho Corral de Tierra in Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Mateo County, California

Investigation

Exemption 5

The investigation was concluded on April 17, 2012.

Incident Narrative

On January 29, 2012, Rancho Corral de Tierra had been under the management of the National Park Service for less than seven weeks. Many users of the park had been accustomed to walking their dogs off leash at Rancho Corral de Tierra, despite the fact that the site was in private ownership, and despite San Mateo County rules that prohibited off-leash dog use. Because of this history, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area had determined to have a period in which visitors would be warned for violation of the leash law, rather than cited under the federal rule in effect at the site (16 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 2.15) that requires that where dogs are permitted in the park they must be on a leash.

While on solo foot patrol at Rancho Corral de Tierra on January 29, 2012, an NPS Ranger contacted a visitor who she had seen approaching her with one of his two dogs off leash. Having been told by other park visitors that a ranger was citing visitors for off-leash dogs, the man attached one of his dogs onto the leash of the other dog when he saw the ranger. The ranger then contacted the man and told him that because the park is in an educational period while the community was learning the new rules, she was going to issue him a warning for his violation.

Exemption 6

Exemption 6

Witness Interviews

Exemption 5

Exemption 5

Findings

Use of ECD: With the valid law enforcement authority she possessed, the ranger had the right to use objectively reasonable force to affect the detention of the man. Exemption 5

Exemption 5

Scope of Authority: The ranger was within NPS jurisdiction, possesses an NPS-issued law enforcement commission that gives her full law enforcement authority as outlined in 16 United States Code, Section 1a06(b), and was working within supervisory direction when she contacted the man for walking his dog off-leash and asked him for identification and/or his name and date of birth.

Effective Communications: While it is likely that the ranger could have been more responsive to one or more of the questions posed by the man being detained and two of the witnesses who joined the encounter, the investigation determined that the ranger gave clear direction to them, and her instructions and intent were understood,. Therefore, she met the minimum standards of professional conduct in her communications.

December 14, 2012

Memorandum

Re: Definitions of voice control

As GGNRA develops the Supplement EIS for dog management, we were requested by the park's Visitor and Resource Protection Division to develop a clearer, less subjective definition of voice control that could be more easily enforced. The background on this subject:

- The Draft EIS that went out for public comment in 2011 defined voice control (in Appendix E, ROLA Guidelines) as:

  > Each off leash dog must be under voice and sight control at all times, meaning that dog walkers must be able to recall their dog promptly, and shall demonstrate this ability when requested by law enforcement personnel.

- The 2012 GGNRA Compendium contains the following definition of voice control – there is currently a question as to whether this is enforceable:

  > VOICE CONTROL means dogs are within earshot and eyesight of the owner/handler and respond immediately to commands to return to leash when called.

- A review of other agencies and municipalities rules on voice control found that none are more specific that require a prompt or immediate response (see attached summary). The one agency who seemed to provide more specificity, Marin Parks and Open Space, when contacted noted that this was not their regulation, but rather how they verbally described voice control to the public.

  > Returns to handler immediately when called (two calls with a return limit of 15 seconds). Dogs are required to remain within 30 feet of the handler when on fire roads.

- For the dog EIS, we requested advice from Cindy Machedo, the Director of Animal Services of Marin Humane, who was a representative on the dog management Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. She has long experience overseeing the Basic and Advanced Animal Law Enforcement Academies at Marin Humane Society. She advises that we describe vc more broadly. Voice control should elicit a prompt response, but that response may be different for different dogs/owners - the most prompt response for some dogs may not be an immediate return to owner, but a down and stay response. Since the goal of voice contol in an incident is to have the dog stop what it's doing immediately, that response would be effective. Based on Cindy's input, here's a proposed revision:

  > Each off leash dog must be under direct voice and sight control at all times, meaning that dog walkers must be able to gain immediate control of their dogs by demonstrating that their dog can positively respond to commands with limited command attempts.

Overall, there are two outstanding questions:

1. How to define voice control for the dog management plan; is the proposed text sufficiently objective, specific and enforceable?
2. (Time permitting) Is a definition of voice control in the park compendium, prior to the completion of the dog plan/rule, enforceable?

Shirwin Smith_121412

Site Specific Recommendations

Comment [JLW1]: Each of these sections should be carefully reviewed—I have tried to update them, but I don't have all the information needed.

Interpretive and Educational Programs, Media, and Facilities 2009-2019

Section Description. The following site-specific recommendations are based on the foundational information and parkwide recommendations detailed in this document, as well as the ideas generated at the stakeholder workshops. They represent the tangible implementation of the ideas, meanings, and strategies generated during the planning process.

The Golden Gate National Parks embrace three urban counties covering over 70,000 acres. Although the units are disjointed, the park stretches over 70 miles north to south. Collectively they harbor a vast array of both natural and cultural resources that are accessible to over seven million residents within an hour's drive.

The park's interpretive program is varied and vast. Listed below are descriptions for twenty-two specific visitor destinations in the park, current programs and strategies to be employed to achieve the park's overall interpretive goals.

I. MARIN AREA--Muir Woods, Redwood Creek Watershed, Tomales Bay, Olema Valley/Bolinas Ridge, Stinson Beach, Muir Beach, Tennessee Valley, Point Bonita, Rodeo Valley, Fort Cronkhite, Fort Barry, Nike Missile Site, Fort Baker, Battery Spencer, Conzelman Road

Overarching Recommendations:

- Public transportation to these areas must be improved to facilitate audience access and diversity.
- The National Park Service identity should be elevated through better signage, use of the Arrowhead and Golden Gate Parks logos, and increased ranger presence.

- The Marin Headlands Visitor Center needs better directional signage and identification as a visitor center. Often visitors do not enter the center because it looks like a church.
- A mobile visitor center and bookstore could bring park services and interpretation to the public where they are—on beaches, trailheads, etc.
- Relationships with program partners and volunteers should continue to be enhanced with reciprocal benefits and marketing—a "seamless" experience should be facilitated for visitors.
- Curriculum-based programs should be expanded to reach college students, and more emphasis should be placed on cultural stewardship as well as a watershed-wide high school education program.
- Programs and services that extend students interaction with park partners to their parents should be considered to help build a broader, more diverse audience.
- Consider adding more "warming huts" in higher visited areas to encourage return visitors and longer stays.
- Use electronic media and social marketing tools more effectively to market parks and programs, and encourage virtual visitation and extended interpretive experiences.
- Increase stewardship volunteer opportunities.

A. Muir Woods

Site Description: Muir Woods is the only old-growth coastal redwood forest in the Bay Area and one of the last on the planet. It is estimated that nearly 2 million acres of forest just like Muir Woods once covered a narrow strip along the coasts of California and Oregon. Today, 97% of this has been impaired or altered and most coastal redwoods now grow on protected second and third growth forests or

managed timber plantations. Thanks to William Kent's preservation efforts, Muir Woods was spared this fate and remains as a very accessible yet prime example of an old-growth forest.

The forest along Redwood Creek in today's Muir Woods was spared from logging due to limited access. Redwood Creek contained one of the Bay Area's last uncut stands of old-growth redwood. Congressman William Kent bought 611 acres here in 1905. To protect the redwoods he donated 1/2 of the land to the Federal Government and, in 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt declared it a national monument. Roosevelt suggested naming the area after Kent, but Kent wanted it named for conservationist John Muir.

Muir Woods has a rich and varied history, from its use by the Coastal Miwok people, to its early days of tourism, to an era of conservation, to modern preservation. In each era, the forest has been affected by the actions of humans, for better or for worse.

Over 50 species of birds have been identified in Muir Woods over a year's time. A deep, wooded redwood canyon is a specialized habitat. Although this old growth forest supports spotted owls and pileated woodpeckers, the overall lack of food is the primary reason for the apparent scarcity of birds. "Birds, as is generally the case in a redwood forest, are conspicuous by their absence - Steller's jays being the only bird seen in any numbers."

Comment [JLW2]: Quote Reference?

"*This is the best tree-lovers monument that could possibly be found in all the forests of the world*," declared conservationist John Muir when describing the majestic coast redwoods of Muir Woods.

Implementation Strategies: A 1990 interpretive plan for Muir Woods described four distinct zones of visitor experience. The first is the “Welcoming Zone” in which the identity of Muir Woods is established, and basic orientation is provided.

The next zone, from the visitor center to the first bridge, is the "Decompression Zone" in which exhibits introduce the site's themes. "Zone Three," from the second bridge to Cathedral Grove, is where a self-guided nature trails explores themes in greater depth. "Zone Four," beyond Cathedral Grove, is where an intimate experience with Muir Woods can occur without interpretive media.

A package of proposals intended to solve some of the traffic and congestion problems that affect visitors to Muir Woods is included in a draft Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan for Southern Marin County. These proposals include removing the parking lot at the entrance to Muir Woods, developing satellite parking areas, instituting a shuttle system, and relocating the concessionaire facility and visitor center. The feasibility of each of these proposals needs further study, and a public review process is yet to be completed, but all would have major implications for interpretive services at Muir Woods. Long term studies of the Redwood Creek Watershed and Big Lagoon are also underway that will include recommendations that will deeply affect Muir Woods. A "Visitor Experience, Resources Protection" study, a component of the transportation plan, is currently underway and will produce important information that will help shape the future interpretive program at Muir Woods.

Comment [JLW3]: Does the GMP provide a preferred alternative here? This section needs to be updated by Mia.

It is likely that some of these proposals will be implemented in the mid to long-range future. Consequently, the Muir Woods interpretive site plan will assume that many of the proposals will come to fruition during the life of the plan. If they do not, the existing zone concept will continue to be the organizing principle for interpretation at Muir Woods, with only minor modification in information/orientation, personal services, and interpretive media.

Information/Orientation/Way Finding:

- **External Intercept Facility**—A satellite parking area/shuttle hub and visitor contact station should be developed.
    - Highway signs are in the process of being installed to direct Muir Woods visitors to this facility, which should include the fee collection facility and serve as a multi-agency information center.
    - Informational wayside exhibits at the shuttle pickup points will provide information about the access route, time schedules, available facilities and services, pertinent regulations and program offerings.
    - An audio tour may be offered on the shuttle bus to communicate information in different languages, highlight the importance of urban parks and provoke awareness of park features in a broader context such as watersheds, coastal systems or early settlement patterns.
    - The shuttle buses will unload passengers near the trailhead entrance. A small interpretive contact station, sensitively located, will give visitors a sense of arrival and provide orientation. It will complement the setting without impacting the natural systems or viewshed. Restrooms will be located nearby. The kiosk may serve as an interpretive sales outlet and fee-collection station. Informational wayside exhibits, perhaps with bulletin cases, will augment the staffed facility and help disperse visitors. Visitors will be informed of the various tour loops to help them structure their visits within their time and physical constraints and learn that they will encounter less development and fewer people the farther they walk.
- **Newly Landscaped Parking Lot**—The current parking lot, newly landscaped, will open a vista of the big trees, a sense of expectation and a gateway to discovery. The park folder received on the shuttle bus and

low-profile wayside exhibits along the trail will connect visitors with the values of Muir Woods.

- **Wayfinding Tools—**Multi-lingual and universally accessible wayfinding tools such as maps and signs should be expanded.
- **Radio Information—**Provide a park radio station for Highway 101, and explore Garmin and other technology.
- **Advance Organizer—**Provide an menu of recommendations for desired visitor experiences to help people plan their visit—this could be available online and at the external intercept.

Personal Services: Personal services will continue to be a key element in the overall interpretive program. Guided walks, talks, demonstrations, and roving and stationed interpreters all contribute personalized touches to visitors' experiences at Muir Woods.

The current visitor center is also the fee collection station, staffed by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. Its staff is skilled in providing visitors orientation, information and interpretive aids. An interpretive contact table at the park entrance, staffed primarily by volunteers, augments the visitor center.

- **Visitor Center—**The visitor center should be remodeled to make it more efficient for fee collection and dissemination of park information.
- **Concession Facility—**The current concession facility should be relocated and/or redesigned to provide shelter for visitors during inclement weather and also serve as a convening space for educational groups or special programs. Currently there is no educational space to convene school/group programs.
- **Location for Ranger Programs—**Identify an optimal location within the park for ranger-led programs.

- **Tours and Programs**—Daily mini-talks, 15-minute presentations given primarily by interns and volunteers, introduce visitors to redwood ecology, the NPS and critical issues. One-hour tours that offer a more in-depth look at redwood ecology and stewardship are scheduled daily. Special programs such as ranger-led hikes, full-moon programs and the winter and summer solstices reach out to local audiences to foster personal identity with national parks and the earth's natural cycles. Annual special events at Muir Woods include Earth Day, Founders Day, International Migratory Bird Day and Coastal Cleanup.
    - All of these regular and special programs will continue
    - More evening programs should be introduced
    - Drama and historical storytelling should be added to the program repertoire, with an emphasis on Traditional Ecological Knowledge
    - Expand programs outside of the woods
    - Create a "Field Institute" to increase life-long learning
- **Junior Ranger Programs**—The junior ranger program is an important self-guiding youth and family activity. The NPS will continually evaluate and improve the program booklet and supporting materials.
- **Office Space**—Office space for park staff is inadequate and inaccessible. The work area should be renovated incorporating universal design standards and adequate work and storage space for park staff.
- **Field Institute**—Consider developing a field institute for expanding life-long learning opportunities.
- **Historic District**—included for visitor access

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits—**Twenty-six new wayside interpretive panels were completed and installed in 2003/4. They will contribute to an inspiring experience for years to come, providing information and provocation on the old-growth forest, the influence of climate change in shrinking their range, redwood ecology and the significance of the Redwood Creek watershed. Topics include the multi-layered canopy, species diversity, seasonal changes, redwood burls, the role of fire, endangered species and ecological connections in the forest. A wayside exhibit beyond the first trail loop commemorates the site of the United Nations' assembly in 1945. In addition, trailhead information signs provide visitors with trail and hiking information, including maps.
- **Interpretive Exhibits--**Future interpretive exhibits will focus on providing seasonal activity information to visitors at the beginning of their visit to the woods.
- **Visitor Center Exhibit Area—**The exhibit area of the proposed visitor center, at either the park entrance or the shuttle hub, will present the Muir Woods preservation story and its connections with the conservation movement in the United States. Exhibits will interpret past and present ecological restoration and monitoring procedures and techniques. Interpretive media will link Muir Woods' significance as part of a biosphere reserve with other Bay Area sites, including John Muir NHS and the Phleger Estate.
- **Book Store—**The Parks Conservancy's bookstore will continue to carry a variety of theme-related items. Merchandise sold by the concessionaire will also be of good quality and thematically relevant to the park.
- **Concession—**Signage complements park message
- **Print Media**

- Publications will include an expanded selection of self-guiding brochures, multilingual publications, a watershed hiking map, a natural history guide, booklets on the cultural heritage of Muir Woods and Redwood Creek, children's materials and stewardship kits.
- Handouts will be updated and improved in both format and content and posted on the park's website.

- **Audio-tour—**The feasibility of a multi-lingual audio-tour of Muir Woods, to complement the self-guided trail map, will be investigated and there is a strong probability that an audio-tour will be developed within the life of this plan, in conjunction with an external intercept facility.
- **Website**—The NPS will continue to develop the Muir Woods web page as a resource for information, trip planning, extended learning experiences, the junior-ranger program, access to archival materials and updates on planning efforts. Web visitors will have virtual opportunities to experience the forest canopy, glimpse a spotted owl nest or go underwater to view spawning salmon. Internet links will be established between Muir Woods and John Muir NHS as well as other sites relevant to John Muir and conservation history. Additional web resources could include:
  - Podcasts of soundscape research "Sounds of the Woods"
  - Podcasts and video of docent and staff stories
  - Favorite photo page for visitors to post their photos
- **Interpretive materials/CD for bus tours—**More than 20% of visitation to Muir Woods comes from bus tours. Providing interpretive materials and training to bus drivers/tour companies would augment tours and prepare visitors for their experience at the park.
- **Equipment for Enhanced Wildlife Viewing—**Research and obtain equipment to enhance wildlife viewing such as infrared lighting.

Education: Targeted outreach brings 3rd through 5th-grade students from diverse backgrounds to the monument for curriculum-based educational programs. Teacher workshops and an NPS pre-site visit to the class are prerequisites for participation. This program will continue.

- **A dedicated education space** should be created in the remodeled concessionaire space.

Cooperating Association: The Parks Conservancy collects entrance fees at the visitor center and manages the bookstore. The Parks Conservancy provides the "welcoming hand" orientation at the monument entrance. Its theme-related sales items, exhibit space and personal contacts with visitors complement NPS programs. Parks Conservancy personnel receive training in visitor service, natural and human history, interpretive skills and emergency response.

- This role should be evaluated for expanded opportunities and efficiencies as the new external intercept facility and the new concession contract comes online.

Park Partners:

- **Programmatic Partners—**Programmatic park partners at Muir Woods include Lomo Lodge, Hillwood Academy, Green Gulch Zen Center and Slide Ranch. All offer lifelong learning opportunities and expanded interpretive and educational programming. The partners reach diverse audiences and extend their outreach into targeted communities. These partners all have long associations with Muir Woods and the early years of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. NPS staff will work with these partners to connect their programs closer to the resources of the park. When staffing permits, the NPS will explore interpretive seminars,

Elderhostel programs and professional-development retreats that could include the partners' staffs and use their facilities.

- **Concessions—**The concession facility is well situated for evening programs, special events and exhibits; these will be continued and expanded. The NPS trains the concession staff in basic informational skills and collaboratively explores opportunities for outreach and product development that would support park efforts. Future concession operations may include shuttle bus operations or shuttle hub management. Interpretive and informational functions will be integrated into those concession services, should they materialize.
- **State Parks—**Increased collaboration with state parks and other partners will be increased for providing youth and visitor experiences.

Volunteers: Trained Muir Woods volunteers and interns present programs, staff the information table, rove through the woods and provide support for special events. Large volunteer events are scheduled several times a year to promote critical issues and support resource-restoration initiatives. The successful Muir Woods volunteer program will be expanded in the future as opportunities present themselves.

- **Transportation—**Transportation for volunteers should be subsidized or provided in conjunction with the intercept facility. The visitor shuttle should also expand its hours.
- **Stewardship Staff—**Additional stewardship staff is needed to support and coordinate volunteer activities in coordination with the Redwood Creek watershed opportunities such as monthly beach clean ups, trail keepers, etc.
- **Watershed Program—**Multi-agency watershed program should be sustained and expanded.

B. Redwood Creek Watershed (Mia Updating Language)

Site Description: Historically, Redwood Creek had a prodigious salmon run, but due to years of habitat degradation and heavy fishing this steady flow of returning spawning salmon has been reduced to a mere trickle. In the 1930's the Civilian Conservation Corps straightened the creek with rip-rap walls and cleared all the deadfall and logjams out of the stream. They did so in an effort to beautify the stream without realizing that they were destroying important spawning and rearing habitat for the salmon. Since then, nearly two million visitors a year walking along the streambanks have contributed to excessive erosion and the depletion of stream side vegetation.

Big Lagoon is the estuary which connects Redwood Creek to the ocean at Muir Beach. This area provides crucial habitat to the salmon when they are making the transition from living in the stream to living in the ocean. Unfortunately much of this estuary was filled to build a parking lot and create pasture land for farming.

Two different species of salmon are found in Muir Woods; the Coho or Silver salmon and the Steelhead salmon (formerly steelhead trout). Although the Coho begin and end their lives in Redwood Creek, the Steelhead battle their way up the creek, spawn and race back out to sea in hopes to return home the following year to Redwood Creek.

The National Park Service is now planning to restore much of Big Lagoon. Efforts are underway along Redwood Creek to monitor fish populations, revegetate the watershed and restore fallen logs for salmon to lay their eggs.

Comment [JLW4]: Does this need to be updated?

Information/Orientation/Wayfinding:

- **Internet—**Visitors will continue to rely on word-of-mouth and, increasingly, online internet trip planning to learn about the watershed.

- **Road Signs—**Road signs on Highway 1 and Panoramic Highway will direct visitors to destinations within the watershed.
- **Printed Media—**Printed information on Golden Gate's trail network will also serve to attract new visitors to the watershed.
- **Kiosks**—Kiosks at key locations will provide onsite orientation.
- **Restoration Project—**Wayfinding will be updated.

Personal Services: Interpretive services will be offered throughout the watershed, at times (generally weekends) and locations of high visitor use, dependent on staff and volunteer availability.

- **Roving Interpretation—** Roving interpretation at high-visitation sites such as Muir Beach will be a priority.
- **Public Hikes and Programs—** Programs to introduce Parks Conservancy members, local visitors and park neighbors to lesser-known areas in the watershed; promote critical issues; and interpret research or restoration work will be offered periodically.
- **Cooperative Programming—**Collaborative programs with other agencies, partners and neighbors will be expanded for outreach to target audiences, and evaluated for their effectiveness.

Interpretive Media:

- **Trailhead Kiosks—**Kiosks at Big Lagoon, Golden Gate Dairy, Coastal Trail trailhead, Deer Park trailhead, Dipsea Trail, and Four Corners will provide information, maps, program information and updates on restoration activities.
- **Wayside Exhibits—**Wayside exhibits at key locations will interpret significant watershed features and stories.

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- **Self-guiding Publications—**Publications will interpret the watershed's natural and cultural history; provide maps and information about recreational opportunities; and facilitate experiences for special audiences such as youth, disabled visitors and birdwatchers. Initially, the Redwood Creek watershed will be featured in a guide to the Coastal Trail which passes through it.
- **Webpage—**An expanded web page, possibly including an on-line newsletter, will inform the public about the status of planning and restoration activities and provide program information.
- **Facilities—**Park staff will evaluate existing facilities for possible rehabilitation to provide opportunities for in-depth, multi-day, lifelong learning experiences that may include workshops, seminars, classes, retreats and summer camps. Potential sites include Hillwood Academy, Lomo Lodge, the ranger residence, the Caddell House at the Golden Gate Dairy and the barn in Kent Canyon.
- **The Alan Watts Library—**The library in Camino del Cañon will be considered as a possible research and library center. Park neighbors will be invited to provide additional public services and park orientation at sites such as the Tourist Club, Green Gulch Farm and the Pelican Inn.

Volunteers: The large-scale, varied restoration activities in the Redwood Creek watershed will continue to offer optimal opportunities for volunteerism, from internships to focused volunteer days, to assisting researchers.

Education: The cultural stories of the watershed, the opportunities this setting affords to participate in research and monitoring, and the outdoor laboratory it offers local schools suggest strong potential for curriculum-based education. The interpretive staff will explore options for cooperative projects with the USGS, Point Reyes NS and NOAA.

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- **High School Program—**A watershed-scale high school education program should be developed.

C. Tomales Bay

Site Description: The long blue finger of Tomales Bay points seaward, straight along the San Andreas Fault from the north end of the Olema Valley out to the Pacific. This sheltered 12-mile-long estuary can be accessed by car, bicycle, canoe, kayak, or sailboat. Waterfowl include blue herons, cormorants, osprey, egrets, sandpipers, and gulls—as well as wintering birds such as scoters and Brant geese.

Clams, oysters, crabs, fish, and a rich variety of marine life live in the depths of Tomales Bay. The fish not only attract fishermen, but also natural predators such as birds and seals. The Tomales Bay Ecological Reserve is a marshy, tidal wildlife sanctuary, home of many shorebirds, wading birds, and waterfowl.

Information/Orientation/Wayfinding: The NPS will develop a trail map of the area and perhaps a site bulletin to distribute at area visitor centers, including Point Reyes, Tomales Bay State Park and the Tomales Bay Ecological Reserve. Information will also be available on the Internet.

A trailhead kiosk will be placed at Martinelli Ranch to orient users to the trail system in the area. The exhibit will identify major points of interest and destinations and provide information about safety, the terrain and pertinent park regulations.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits—**The NPS will evaluate the potential for additional wayside exhibits along the trail.
- **Website—**Advance organizing information will be available on the web.

D. Olema Valley/Bolinas Ridge

Site Description: Olema Valley—a rolling landscape of grassland and forest—stretches ten miles from Tomales Bay to Bolinas Lagoon. Part of the Golden Gate National Parks, this area has been shaped by geologic forces and changing patterns of human use.

Grazing cattle and Victorian farmhouses imbue the Olema Valley with a pastoral, rural charm. This lovely landscape stretches for nine miles between the dark slopes of Bolinas and Inverness ridges. Olema Valley's historic farms and fields offer pleasant roadside scenery on the way north.

Its redwood and fir forests provided lumber used to build San Francisco; logging transformed parts of the ridge into grassland and chaparral. The top of Bolinas Ridge offers bird's-eye views up and down the San Andreas Rift Zone.

Thanks to a recent study by National Park Service historian Dewey Livingston, the area's fascinating ranching past is coming to light. The study details life in the Olema Valley from the time of the Mexican rancheros to the area's national park beginnings, and recommends ways to preserve the fascinating remnants of this time period.

To protect Olema Valley's natural heritage, volunteers in the Site Stewardship Program, a cooperative program of the National Park Service and the Golden Gate National Conservancy, are focusing attention on threats to the area's native habitats. Using a unique approach to habitat restoration, park experts train volunteer stewards in state-of-the-art restoration techniques.

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The Olema Valley/Tomales Bay Areas of Golden Gate National Parks is administered by Point Reyes National Seashore. The Point Reyes Bear Valley Visitor Center is the closest information station for Olema Valley and Bolinas Ridge.

Information/Orientation:

- **Trail Maps—**Area trail maps and other informational materials such as the park newspaper will be available at park visitor centers, nearby state and county parks, area bike shops and other offsite venues (e.g., outdoor stores) that park users are likely to patronize.
- **Wayside Exhibits—**
    - The NPS will determine which area trailheads have the best potential for developed parking and trail access. An informational wayside exhibit at each identified trailhead will orient trail users to the local and park trail systems, identify day-hike destinations and provide information about safety, terrain and pertinent park regulations.
    - Cooperative interpretive and trail planning with the staffs of Point Reyes National Seashore, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Audubon Canyon Ranch and Mt. Tamalpais and Samuel P. Taylor state parks will be required to make these initiatives successful.

Interpretive Media:

- **Trailhead Kiosk—**The trailhead kiosk at the Randall Ranch trailhead and a wayside exhibit will relate the valley's dairy-ranching history and the courageous human story associated with the ranch. This exhibit will require development of a safe turnout on Highway 1.

E. Stinson Beach

Site Description: Visitors to Stinson Beach experience the pleasures of this quiet beach community. Whether hiking, enjoying a picnic, exploring the town, or relaxing on the beach, people continue to find Stinson Beach a great place to escape from the frantic pace of everyday life, just as it has been for over a century. Stinson Beach facilities include rest rooms, showers, picnic areas, and BBQ grills. A snack bar is open during summer months at the base of the main lifeguard tower.

The diverse wildlife, pristine marshes, and water-snaked mud flats nearby Bolinas Lagoon make it one of the richest within the Golden Gate National Parks. Wildlife abounds in this 1,100-acre tidal estuary. Snowy egrets, blackbirds, warblers, and dozens of other species live in and around this Marin County Open Space District wildlife preserve. Seasonal avian highlights include ducks in the winter, herons in the springtime and pelicans in the summer. Between April and June, harbor seals and their pups often appear on Pickleweed Island.

Information/Orientation:

- **Wayside Exhibit—**A wayside exhibit near the parking lot at the pedestrian access point will provide visitors orientation and information.
- **Information Kiosks—**Twelve information/orientation kiosks placed at pedestrian points of access to Stinson Beach provide visitors with information about safety precautions, hazards and pertinent park regulations. Special attention is focused on the dangers of rip currents and sharks. These exhibits clearly identify the site as a unit of the Golden Gate National Parks and the national park system.
- **Pre-trip Information—**Pre-trip information and better information on travel conditions to Stinson Beach – traffic congestion, full parking lots, etc. – will be developed as part of long range transportation plans currently underway.

Comment [JLW5]: Is this done?

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Personal Services:

- **Roving—**When staff is available, roving interpretive contacts and special programs will highlight seasonal features. High-profile sites and events such as "Shakespeare at the Beach," the Dipsea Race, the harbor seal haul-out and Audubon Canyon Ranch will be considered for a complementary NPS ranger or volunteer presence.
- Train junior lifeguards as park ambassadors.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits**
  - Among the low-profile wayside exhibits that will interpret the site, one will illustrate and explain the operation of the base-end station as part of the coastal-defense system of the early 1900s.
  - From one of the key vista points, future possible waysides will identify landscape features, including the Gulf of the Farallones, which are visible on clear days and encourage visitors to look for migrating whales, illustrating the more commonly seen species. NPS may partner with The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on these exhibits.
  - Future wayside exhibits will focus on marine ecology, emphasizing the significance of the California coast for whales, marine birds, seals and sharks. Illustrations of common species may be included. Exhibits may also be developed that addresses the edge of the continent, the continental shelf, the meeting of land and sea and the San Andreas Fault, which runs through the area.
- **Print Media**

- Literature about the site will be available to visitors, including a site bulletin on Willow Camp, the resort community of the late 1800s now called Stinson Beach.

F. Muir Beach

Site Description: Muir Beach preserves a sandy strip of coastline where Redwood Creek reaches the ocean. High bluffs border the beach to the north and south, while wetlands and a lagoon can be found behind the beach. The brackish lagoon was created by a sandbar that traps some of the outflowing water from Redwood Creek. This lagoon is home to numerous shorebirds, amphibians, young salmon and trout, and a reedy grass called rush. Restoration of the upper lagoon ecosystem is in the planning stage.

Comment [JLW6]: Full name?

Comment [JLW7]: Update?

Nearby, the Muir Beach Overlook provides spectacular panoramic views. The location from this high coastal bluff led military planners to site several base-end stations here long ago. There are opportunities to explore the old stations, hike to the tip of a rocky promontory, and enjoy views of migrating whales and the California coastline.

Information/Orientation:

- **Information/Orientation Kiosks**
  - Kiosks will be placed at key pedestrian entry points to Muir Beach. Visitors will receive information about safety precautions, possible hazards and pertinent park regulations. These exhibits will clearly identify the site as a unit of the national park system and the Golden Gate National Parks.
  - Another informational kiosk will be placed at the trailhead for the Coastal Trail. This exhibit will include a map of the entire trail and a

"You Are Here" marker. Since many people use the trail for day hikes, detailed maps will highlight local destinations, weather, safety, terrain and regulations.

Personal Services:

- **Roving—**When staffing permits, interpretive roves will be scheduled to coincide with high-visitation days, low tides and spring wildflowers. Public programs and special events such as hikes, summer solstice celebrations and coast cleanup days will introduce local users to little-known park areas and interpret park restoration work.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits**
    - Developed in conjunction with the restoration of Big Lagoon, wayside exhibits will present the primary stories and themes of Muir Beach. One will interpret the significance of Big Lagoon, the relationship of the lagoon to the salmon's life cycle and community involvement in restoring this ecological asset. A second wayside will interpret dune restoration. The potential effectiveness of a third wayside exhibit interpreting the history of Portuguese dairy ranching, especially as it relates to the nearby park-owned Golden Gate Dairy, will be explored. A bulletin board will allow local residents to post their observations.

Education: Park staff will coordinate cooperative educational programs with the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, NOAA and other groups engaged in research and monitoring.

Volunteer Program: The interpretive and maintenance divisions will promote and jointly sponsor adopt-a-beach and coast cleanup volunteer activities to foster stewardship, an understanding of the restoration work underway and the value of a natural beach system. These efforts will also enhance with the restoration of Big Lagoon.

Community Outreach: Special programs and activities in the community of Muir Beach will foster good relationships, introduce neighbors to the significant resources in their backyard and promote volunteerism.

G. Tennessee Valley

Site Description: Tennessee Valley is a secluded valley of serene rolling hills north of the Marin Headlands, with several hiking trails and a level stroll to Tennessee Beach. The beach was named from the wreck of the steamer SS Tennessee, which ran aground in the fog in 1853. Remnants are visible during low tide.

During the spring, the vegetation of the valley is lush and green and/or blooming: lupines, checker-bloom, blue-eyed grass, California buttercup, and California poppy. Late summer plants include fennel, lizardtail, sagebrush, sticky monkey flower, and blackberry bushes. The winter rains turn the golden grasses into green fields. Although close to San Francisco, wildlife abounds, from mighty raptor birds to common swallows, deer to coyotes, and on an occasion, even bobcats.

Few tangible links with Tennessee Valley's agricultural past remain, but for decades, family dairies nestled in Tennessee Valley and provided milk to the growing city of San Francisco. Horses were another common sight, and today can be seen on a number of area trails. The Miwok Livery Stables, one of many Golden Gate National Parks Partners, provides unique opportunities for riders,

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visitors, and students, including interpretive guided horseback rides to Muir Beach and other areas.

Information/Orientation:

- **Directional Signage—**A new trail connecting Tennessee Valley with the bike trail at the Dipsea Bridge on Highway 1 may be constructed during the life of this plan. If so, directional signage and some orientation information will be provided at the trail junction.
- **Informational Kiosk—**Currently, an informational trailhead kiosk at the Tennessee Valley trailhead orients trail users, including hikers, cyclists, backpackers, horseback riders and dog walkers. The kiosk features an area trail map, and identifies day-use destinations and provides information about safety, terrain difficulty and pertinent park regulations. The NPS will develop additional kiosks or informational signs if needed as part of upgraded trailhead facilities at Tennessee Valley.
- **Bulletin Boards—**In 2003, NPS installed a bulletin board with up-to-date information and -- in coordination with Oakwood Valley site stewards, -- an exhibit about the Oakwood Valley site restoration and stewardship program. Additional bulletin boards may be provided at other locations in or near Tennessee Valley, including the new Alta Avenue/Marin City area.

Personal Services:

- **Roving—**Interpretive rangers and park volunteers will rove the main trail and the trailhead area to make personal contacts with visitors. They will cultivate a relationship with the Tennessee Valley horse patrol to promote public contacts that are effective and message-consistent.
- **Public Hikes and Programs—**Ranger or volunteer-led hikes will be offered regularly in Tennessee Valley. Public programs such as bicycle

rides, family camping trips to Haypress Campground and junior ranger programs (in collaboration with the Crissy Field Center) will also be offered.

- **Partnerships—**The NPS works with park partner and outreach programs such as Aim High, Women Reaching All People and the park's native plant nurseries through programs, site arrangements and staff training.

Interpretive Media:

- **Kiosk—**The trailhead kiosk interprets the wreck of the SS Tennessee and its connection with the development of navigational aids such as the Point Bonita light to help sea captains find the Golden Gate. The kiosk also interprets the role of Portuguese ranchers in the Marin dairy industry as well as the story of the recovering ecosystem and the efforts of volunteers to aid its recovery.
- **Wayside Exhibit—**Remnants of the proposed Marincello community are nearby. A wayside exhibit near the trailhead tells the story of the "park that almost wasn't."

    - No interpretive exhibits will be installed on the Tennessee Valley Trail west of the trail entrance gate at the end of Tennessee Valley Road. This is considered a decompression zone for visitors.

H. Point Bonita

Site Description: Point Bonita is located at the extreme southwestern tip of the Marin Headlands. The steep, half-mile walk to Point Bonita Lighthouse takes you along a narrow ridge, through a hand-chiseled tunnel, and over a heart-stopping suspension footbridge to what seems like the end of the world. California's coastline stretches north and south, the Pacific rolls away to the west, and San

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Francisco glitters inland.

Point Bonita is still an active lighthouse maintained by the U.S. Coast Guard. Originally sited on a hill above the current location, the lighthouse was first built in 1855 (the third lighthouse to be built on the West Coast) after San Francisco's infamous fog sent many a ship crashing against the headlands' rocky shoreline. It was moved to its current location in 1877. Early lighthouse keepers fired a cannon every half-hour in foggy weather, day and night. This sentinel now operates automatically, sending a flashing beam of bright light out into the fog and issuing periodic warning blasts. Point Bonita lighthouse is currently open 12:30-3:30 PM on Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays, weather permitting.

Apart from the lighthouse, sights along the trail include the ruins of an historic Coast Guard rescue station, wildflowers, and pillow basalt rock formations. Old army buildings near Point Bonita are now used by the YMCA Outdoor and Conference Center available to groups and conferences for environmental education programs.

Information/Orientation:

- **Print Media**—Park visitor centers, and public information materials, such as the park newspaper and web sites, will continue to advertise the activities, programs, and hours of operations of the Point Bonita lighthouse.
- **Signage**—Improved directional signage in the Marin Headlands will help visitors find Point Bonita.

Personal Services:

- **Public Programs**—Generally, a 45-minute guided walk is offered on the days the Lighthouse is open by a dedicated cadre of docents. Special

walks on other days are arranged as staffing allows. One to two Full Moon programs are offered each month and provide a special opportunity to experience the lighthouse and the setting at night. Full Moon programs are extremely popular and fill well in advance. Other special request tours are occasionally arranged for special groups. In addition, one special event combining a celebration of art and music is offered annually. Special opportunities, such as access to the lantern room, will be explored to provide additional unique public experiences. Expansion of services is dependent on NPS ability to further develop the docent program.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits—**The lighthouse does not offer adequate room for interpretive panels; trailside exhibits and personal services provide the majority of interpretation. Improvements in trailside exhibits will be explored.

    - The trailhead sign will be upgrade and/or replaced. The new design will draw attention to the resource, provide adequate information of the trail, regulations, safety, hours of operation and general information on the lighthouse.
    - The current trailside exhibits panels will be replaced over time. Future topics will include: navigational hazards, the role lighthouses and rescuers played in safety, technological improvements from manned stations to automated lights, coastal weather patterns such as wind and fog, the life styles and stories of the early lighthouse keepers and life saving service (isolation, hardships, family, equipment, etc.), historical and cultural contributions made by people of diverse backgrounds, and the highly visible pillow basalt formations along the trail.

- A new wayside panel should be developed to inform the public of what is on the other side of the locked tunnel door. Information would include the lighthouse, geological processes, human history and dramatic photographs.

Bookstore—The small cooperating association sales outlet carries theme-related items. There will be also be a display panel that will allow staff to provide updates on trail conditions, hours of operation, activities, and special safety concerns.

Print Media—A free brochure will continue to be available from the docents who staff Point Bonita, as well as at the Marin Headlands Visitor Center. The Parks Conservancy will also develop a more detailed brochure to be sold as a sales item.

Education:

- **Curriculum-based Program—**A curriculum-based middle school program, "Rocks on the Move," brings students to the lighthouse for half-day sessions rock identification, plate tectonics and mapping. These programs are offered 1-3 times each week during the school year from October through May. This is one of Golden Gate's flagship programs and will be continued in the future.
- Headlands Institute and Point Bonita YMCA provide guided walks to Point Bonita as part of their environmental education program. There is high demand for these walks, which are limited by the relatively few number of students that can be handled on the narrow trial to the lighthouse or can negotiate the substandard trail to the tidepools below Point Bonita, and by the requirements to protect the harbor seals hauled on the nearby rocks. The park will work with partners in the future on access issues to the rocky

intertidal coast to prevent disruption to marine mammals, minimize impact to the tidepools and provide for trail safety.

Volunteers: Virtually all personal services at Point Bonita are offered by docents and interns, which currently number approximately 60 people. They staff the open houses, rove trails, provide regularly scheduled and special request guided walks, and lead full moon walks. An annual docent training and refresher will continue to be offered with 5-10 new docents hired each year. Training events at other lighthouse sites or with other lighthouse docent programs will be encouraged. Strides have been made at increasing diversity in the intern and docent staff and these efforts will continue.

Community Outreach: Community outreach at Point Bonita is currently limited to pre-site visits to schools through the "Rocks on the Move" education program. This program will continue in the future. When staff is available, outreach to the local community of Marin City will be pursued

I. Rodeo Valley

Site Description: Rodeo Valley winds through the heart of the Marin Headlands, and is edged by grassy, wind-swept hillsides where no native tree could possibly put down roots (though a few imported cypress and eucalyptus cluster around the valley's buildings and landmarks). The valley and lagoon offer habitats for birds, butterflies, and bobcats, as well as miles of backcountry and coastal trails.

Rodeo Lagoon is a favorite bird-watching spot in the Rodeo Valley area. Here you will see egrets, ducks, and other birds feeding and resting in its shallow wetlands. In order to protect the beach and the endangered tidewater goby, which burrows in the lagoon's soft shoreline sediment—people and pets are not allowed in any part of Rodeo Lagoon.

Wood beams grace the ceiling of a one-time army chapel, now the Marin Headlands Visitor Center packed with exhibits, maps, and park memorabilia. Exhibits tell the story of those who once lived on the Headlands, including a willow hut (*kotcha*) of the Coastal Miwok Indians, Spanish vaqueros, Portuguese ranchers, lighthouse keepers and army soldiers; as well as local flora and fauna, birds and marine ecology.

Information/Orientation:

- **Visitor Center—**The primary information/orientation resource is the Marin Headlands Visitor Center.
- **Trailheads and Kiosks—**A kiosk at the primary pedestrian entry to Rodeo Beach provides visitors information about safety precautions, possible hazards and pertinent park regulations. Orientation information will be provided at all of the major trailheads in Rodeo Valley. Other trail signs will be improved as part of Trails Forever, especially in the section between the Fort Barry Youth Hostel and the Golden Gate Bridge.

Personal Services:

- **Roving—**Interpretive roves and contact stations will provide an NPS presence at high-profile areas, complement park partner activities and support other NPS services.
- **Public Programs—**Walks on various topics, especially bird life, around Rodeo Lagoon will be scheduled regularly. Ranger or volunteer-led hikes will be provided periodically on trails in and around Rodeo Valley. Also under consideration are evening programs during meteor showers, an NPS table at Hawk Hill during fall migration, a park table at The Marine Mammal Center "Run for the Seals, "Farm Days with Park Partners" and

coordinated programs with the #76 Muni bus and other transportation services.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits—**Wayside exhibits at the beach and along the lagoon will interpret beach development, coastal ecology and the brackish water that is constantly changing and affecting the organisms that live there. Visitors will discover that the lagoon supports abundant, diverse life, including endangered species, and is important to migrating birds.
- **Site Bulletins—**Site bulletins on geology, wildflowers, the Miwok Indians and ranching history will enrich visitors' knowledge and experiences at the headlands.

Park Partners: Nonprofit park partners (e.g., Headlands Institute, Marine Mammal Center, Point Bonita YMCA, Hostelling International) provide learning opportunities to student groups in their environmental education programs. The public is welcome for some of these programs, and the park will work with the partners to find ways to broaden access to programs by the non-school visitor. Several partners, including Headlands Institute and The Marine Mammal Center, are planning significant improvements to their campuses.

J. Fort Cronkhite

Site Description: Located in the Marin Headlands, Fort Cronkhite is a former World War II military post that stands at the edge of the Pacific Ocean. Today its 1941 era buildings are one of the few preserved examples of these World War II "mobilization posts" remaining in the country. The fort's barracks, mess halls, supply buildings, and other structures are preserved to tell the story of the soldiers who waited here for an enemy that never came.

Fort Cronkhite is also the location of Rodeo Lagoon and Rodeo Beach. Trailheads lead up into the Marin Headlands coast line and Battery Townsley. It is also home to many park partners, including the Marine Mammal Center, The Headlands Institute, the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory and others.

The beach offers good picnic spots, plenty of wind for kite flying, and nearby bluffs for hikes and wave-watching. Careful beach-walkers may see (but must not collect) jasper, carnelian, black agate, and jade among the beach sands. Surfers frequent the 1,000-yard crescent of Rodeo Beach.

Information/Orientation:

- **NPS Identity—**Using signage and interpretive media the NPS Identity should be elevated at this site—the use of the arrowhead and Golden Gate National Park logo should be more prominent.
- **Print Media—**Park visitor centers (especially the Marin Headlands Visitor Center) and informational materials such as the park newspaper and websites publicize the activities and programs occurring at Fort Cronkhite.
- **Kiosk—**A trailhead kiosk near the parking lot provides some of the same information about operating hours and programs. A map and several publications provide information on the site. In the future, improved directional signage will help visitors reach Fort Cronkhite and additional publications will provide better visitor orientation.

Personal Services:

- **Partner Programs—**Most visitors to Fort Cronkhite come to participate in a park partner program or attend a meeting at Building 1050 which is frequently leased out for business and corporate purposes. Headlands Institute provides the most personal interpretation of the area, including the history of Fort Cronkhite in all of its programs and the park will

continue to provide training for Headlands Institute staff on the stories and themes of the area.

- **Roving—**Informal roves occur occasionally. In the future, interpretive roves will be provided at periods of peak use and during special events such as NPS/Park Partner Open House weekends.
- **Docent Program—**The Mess Hall and Barracks, partially refurbished to a period look, are staffed very irregularly. The park will explore ways to revitalize a docent program for those important buildings.

Interpretive Media:

- **Historic Furnishings Plan—**A professional furnishings plan is needed for the barracks and mess hall to furnish them authentically for the World War II era.
    - The refurnished mess hall currently contains reproduction tables, benches and accoutrements. Consideration will be given to opening the mess hall to school groups and other visitors as a place to eat lunch or a snack. Careful planning will be needed to assure protection of the historic structures and any significant artifacts.
- **Self-guiding Brochure—**A self-guiding brochure for the barracks and mess hall will be developed.
- **Exhibit Labels—**Labels will be placed on many of the historic structures at Fort Cronkhite, including the date built and function.
- **Wayside Exhibits—**A wayside exhibit on site will interpret the missing administration building. The presence of this building would make the site complete. In the future, but not within the life of this plan, park staff will seek to acquire and relocate an identical period administration building from another site to Fort Cronkhite.

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- **Exterior Period or Reproduction Elements—**Elements should be added to the setting to give visitors a better feel for being stationed at Fort Cronkhite during World War II. Features could include a 48-star flag; period bulletin boards, which could display period documents or contemporary interpretive materials; and World War II military vehicles that would have been used on the post. These interpretive embellishments will depend on an active and interested docent cadre.

K. Fort Barry

Site Description: Fort Barry's first battery, Battery Mendell (1901), featured two 12-inch breech-loading rifles capable of firing an 1,100-pound projectile over eight miles. Batteries Samuel Rathbone and James McIndoe (1904-1945) defended the minefields outside the Golden Gate during World War II. Owing to its panoramic views of the bay, Fort Barry also served as a mine groupment command post during the war, ensconced in concrete stations along Bonita Ridge dating from the 1900s.

Within Fort Barry's scenic Marin Headlands location is a 1921 balloon hangar (now used as horse stables), a WWII garrison and a 1941 chapel serving as to the National Park Service's Marin Headlands Visitor Center. Many empty gun emplacements are accessible to the public and provide spectacular views of the rugged shoreline.

The non-profit Headlands Center for the Arts occupies several rehabilitated Army buildings--(both 1907)--which are occasionally open to the public for special exhibitions and performances. The Golden Gate Hostel provides overnight accommodations in a former hospital ward and general's quarters overlooking the parade grounds.

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However, Fort Barry's most distinctive site is the SF-88 Nike Missile Museum--the Nation's only officially restored Nike Missile site. A dedicated group of Nike veterans and volunteers have restored the anti-aircraft installation to near pristine condition

Information/Orientation:

- **Visitor Center Signage—**Wayfinding signs must be improved to direct visitors to the Headlands Visitor Center as the primary source of park information and orientation. The visitor center requires a large banner to identify it as a visitor center and invite people to drive off the main highway and visit the center. Currently, visitors frequently overlook the center and do not avail themselves of its information and services.
- **Visitor Center Services—**The visitor center offers an introduction to the area's main themes, resources, programs and activities. In the future, the hours of operation of the Visitor Center will be reviewed to better match visitation patterns to the site.

- **Wayside Exhibits—**
    - A wayside exhibit outside the visitor center will provide information about hours of operation, programs, activities, pertinent park regulations and a headlands map. This exhibit will be especially useful when the visitor center is closed.
    - Another wayside panel, to be developed in coordination with park partners, will orient visitors to the surrounding Fort Barry buildings. The exhibit will identify the military use(s) of each building within view and inform visitors that, except for the visitor center, these buildings are open to the public only during open-house events.

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Personal Services:

- **Visitor Center—**The Visitor Center will remain the primary visitor contact opportunity at Fort Barry. The Fort Barry Youth Hostel and Headlands Center for the Arts also provide programs. Park staff will explore ways to expand public activities at these two facilities.

Interpretive Media:

- **Exhibits—**
    - The exhibits at the Headlands Visitor Center give visitors a good introduction to the habitats of Rodeo Beach and Rodeo Lagoon. Other exhibits describe the Coastal Miwok's early use of the area for hunting and gathering, the area's ranching and military history, the Point Bonita Lighthouse and the beach ecosystem. Seasonal exhibits feature hawk migration, spring wildflowers and wildlands fires.

    - Additions may include a display of headlands site bulletins, indicating that copies are available on request at the information desk, and a multimedia interactive exhibit highlighting headlands geology. This exhibit would complement a proposed self-guiding geology trail nearby. The U. S. Geological Survey, partners and volunteers could collaborate in their planning and development. The staff will also explore effective ways to display student projects and information about the education program.

- **Electronic Media—**Park staff will expand use of the Internet, intelligent transportation systems and park partner list serves to extend the reach and effectiveness of information services.

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L. Nike Missile Site

Site Description

During the tense years from 1953 to 1979, the United States Army built and operated a total of 280 Nike missile firing batteries in the United States. This Nike missile site was emplaced in 1954 as the last line of defense against Soviet bombers. The site was originally armed with Nike Ajax missiles, and modifications were made to the site in 1958 to allow it to also be armed with Nike Hercules missiles. In 1974 SF-88 was closed, but was not demolished.

Today, a dedicated group of volunteers works in partnership with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area on the continuous task of restoration at site SF-88, which has been turned into a museum and interprets the Cold War era. This valuable historical resource is the only restored Nike missile site in the entire country.

Comment [JLW8]: Is this still true?

Information/Orientation:

- **Print/Web Media—**Park visitor centers, especially the Marin Headlands Visitor Center, and informational materials such as the park newspaper and websites publicize the activities and hours of operation of the Nike missile site. The site will continue to gain news media exposure as a result of active promotion by the park and Parks Conservancy.
- **Wayside Exhibit—**A wayside exhibit outside the site entrance will provide some of the same information.

Personal Services:

- **Docent Programs—**Guided tours conducted by the volunteers will continue to be the best way, in the near term, for visitors to experience the Nike site,

hearing first-hand accounts, interacting with men actually stationed at missile sites and participating in hands-on activities. However, as Nike-era veterans become less available to provide tours, the docent cadre will be expanded. Oral histories must be taken of these aging veterans to document their knowledge and expertise, their military experiences and their restoration efforts and day-to-day maintenance and operating procedures.

Interpretive Media:

- **Exhibits—**Preserving the site's historic character is critical to the visitor experience and to its interpretive value. Essentially, the entire site is a furnished exhibit. Consequently, we will install no wayside exhibits or other modern intrusions inside the entrance gate. Modern interpretive media at the site will be placed only inside structures not furnished in a historic context. Potential locations for these exhibits include the Hercules assembly building and one of the un-restored underground missile bays. One option under consideration is use of a portion of the Hercules building as a small exhibit area and one of the bays as a theater/classroom. Indoor exhibits will illustrate how this site, one of three components of Site SF88L, fit into the nationwide missile defense system of that time. Another possible exhibit will illustrate the site-restoration process and acknowledge the invaluable service of the volunteers. Other interpretive exhibit elements will give visitors a feel for the secrecy and security measures that cloaked the site and a sense of the duties, tensions, family life and communications at a missile site.
- **Self-guiding Booklet—**Visitors will continue to tour the site on their own, with the help of a self-guiding booklet. This publication will be revised and translated into multiple languages.
- **Audiotour—**An audiotour of the site will be developed.
- **Audio-visual Program—**An audiovisual program, incorporating original film of Nike launches, will be shown in the theater, once it is developed. The

underground theater, if developed, could show a longer audiovisual program. This will place the Nike missiles in a Cold-War context and present some of the strategic and ethical questions and issues surrounding the threat of nuclear war. This program could become a springboard for more in-depth discussions and be especially pertinent for visiting school groups. Copies could be loaned to schools and sold through the Parks Conservancy.

Education: For visiting school groups, mainly grades 11-12, the staff will integrate the site into the high-school curriculum, especially social studies and history. The exhibit room will include space for displaying student projects, special activity/event materials and information about the education program.

Volunteers: The Nike site volunteers are among the most important in the park, because so many of them participated in the operation of the site when it was active. As mentioned above, the park will focus extra attention toward nurturing these volunteers and adding to their ranks. Most of the next generation of Nike volunteers will not have come from that era, but will need to be trained in the first-hand accounts of the Nike veterans.

M. Fort Baker

Site Description: Fort Baker lies at the confluence of San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. Founded as an Army post more than 100 years ago, Fort Baker recently began a vital new chapter of public service as a leadership conference retreat center benefiting both local residents and visitors to the Bay Area.

The land at Fort Baker was once used by the Coastal Miwok, the indigenous inhabitants of present day Marin County, who may have sought shelter from the wind here and gathered mussels, tules and cattails at the marsh. The earliest

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sailing vessel into San Francisco Bay anchored at Fort Baker's shores in 1775 and later, when the area was part of Rancho Sausalito, it was used for grazing cattle and collecting spring water.

Fort Baker is one of the gems of the national parklands at the Golden Gate. Its rich tapestry of historic structures, scenic views, natural features and recreational opportunities exemplifies the character of the Bay Area so treasured by residents and visitors alike. The 335-acre site is nestled in a tranquil valley at the northern entrance to San Francisco Bay, adjacent to the Golden Gate.

An additional 183 acres of federally-owned tidelands, a mile of pristine rocky bay shoreline and the picturesque harbor at Horseshoe Bay further enhance the site. A cluster of historic buildings arranged around a 10-acre parade ground lend it a campus-like appearance.

Information/Orientation:

- **Site Bulletin—**A site bulletin will be developed to provide basic information and orientation. It will include a good site map, show what visitors can see and do, list programs and activities, and clearly identify the site as a unit of the Golden Gate National Parks administered by the NPS.
- **Visitor Contact Station—**A visitor contact station is proposed for Building 615. This facility will include information and exhibits and will serve as the start point for a Fort Baker visit.

  Comment [JLW9]: Check number.
- **Wayside Exhibit—**Outdoor orientation panels will complement the proposed visitor contact station to provide information when the station is closed.
- **Orientation Kiosk—**An orientation kiosk was installed adjoining the southeast edge of the Parade Ground in 2003. It may be relocated in the future depending on visitor use patterns. If a bay ferry shuttle system is developed and instituted at Fort Baker, a visitor contact station and/or

orientation kiosk will be developed to serve arriving passengers on the bay shuttle system.

- **Signage**—Site and trail information signs will be produced for installation near the visitor contact station, along the waterfront, and adjacent to the vista point at the north end of the Golden Gate Bridge.

Visitor Facilities:

- **Warming Hut**—A facility offering affordable public food is needed at the Fort Baker waterfront.
- **Picnic Areas and Campgrounds**—Additional picnic facilities and campgrounds are needed at Fort Baker.

Personal Services:

- **Roving**—Additional ranger presence at Fort Baker and all the Marin areas is needed. Horseback roving should be considered.
- **Public Programs**—The Bay Area Discovery Museum will continue to interpret the natural history of the bay and the Fort Baker area. Park interpreters and volunteers will offer programs focusing on such topics as shore ecology, the sheltered microclimate, preservation of the mission blue butterfly and the over-wintering phenomenon of monarch butterflies. Other ranger programs will interpret the site's history.
- **Fort Baker Institute**—A "Fort Baker Institute" may be developed in conjunction with the retreat and conference center. If this institute becomes a reality, a wide variety of audiences and the general public will be able to participate in seminars and workshops on a broad range of topics affecting national parks.

Comment [JLW10]: Did this happen?

Interpretive Media:

- **Self-guiding Booklet—**A self-guiding booklet to Fort Baker military history and historic architecture was produced in 2003. Additional booklets will be developed to go deeper into the human stories of the site, and to feature Fort Baker's important natural history as well.
- **Publication—**A publication on the 'post to park' process at Fort Baker will be produced as the conference and retreat center comes on line.
- **Wayside Exhibits—**Wayside exhibits will supplement these site bulletins. The park wayside exhibit plan will specify topics and locations. Appropriate topics include the World War II mine depot, the fog-signal station, the U.S. Coast Guard Station, the Golden Gate Bridge, Battery Cavallo and ships on the bay.
- **Exhibits—**Exhibits at the proposed visitor contact station will present a brief orientation to Fort Baker's military history and related sites around the bay. The main focus will be on the post's history and resources. Some exhibits may include excerpts from oral-history interviews of soldiers and civilians stationed here.

N. Battery Spencer

Site Description: For half a century, Battery Spencer was one of the most strategically important sites guarding the Golden Gate. Named for Major General Joseph Spencer, a hero of the Revolutionary War, battery construction started in 1893. It was initially armed with three 12-inch breech loading rifles. In 1917 one gun was removed to rearm Battery Chester at Fort Winfield Scott. The remaining two guns were removed and scrapped in 1943.

Today its height and prominence affords the most close-up dramatic views of the Golden Gate Bridge and the cityscape of San Francisco. From morning to late

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evening visitors from around the world flock to Battery Spencer to savor this spectacular scene.

Information/Orientation:

- **Trailhead Kiosk—**Because much of Battery Spencer is not accessible to some visitors, information about the scenic view and history of the battery, as well as information about the Marin Headlands and a map of the area, is included on a trailhead kiosk near the Battery Spencer parking area.
- **Wayside Exhibits—**Orientation exhibits will be regularly updated and improved since Battery Spencer is in many ways a gateway point into the park.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits—**Waysides and a trailhead kiosk at this site enable visitors to understand the site's military importance from the Civil War through World War II. Several new and replacement exhibits will be installed soon at the site on this and other aspects of the site's importance, including the natural history of the Golden Gate, and the construction history of the bridge.

O. Conzelman Road

Site Description:

This five-mile, tightly curving road hugs the cliffs from the Golden Gate to the Point Bonita parking area and offers magnificent views of the bridge, the bay and the city of San Francisco. The road provides access to Point Bonita and its historic lighthouse, numerous coastal-defense sites from the Civil War to the Cold War, and important natural features such as Hawk Hill, Kirby Cove and Bonita Cove.

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Nineteen different raptor species can be seen above the narrow Marin peninsula during their autumn journey south down the coastal flyway. Each year, more than 20,000 raptors fly over the Headlands during the five-month migration season. Volunteers with the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory have counted as many as 2,800 raptors on a peak day.

Information/Orientation:

- **Print and Web Information—**Park visitor centers, especially those at the Headlands, the bridge and Fort Baker, and informational materials such as the park newspaper and websites publicize the touring options along Conzelman Road.
- **Signage—**Signs or small exhibits will be installed at major trailheads along Conzelman Road to orient and inform trail users about trail destinations, safety precautions, difficulty of the terrain and pertinent park regulations. Safety concerns about the narrow, winding road used by vehicles of all kinds will be addressed through publications and signs.

Personal Services:

- **Roving—**The NPS will regularly assign roving interpreters to the popular, heavily visited Conzelman corridor and will coordinate those assignments with the Kirby Cove Campground, Hawk Hill and Point Bonita Lighthouse volunteers and docents. Roving assignments and interpretive activities will also complement and support the resource management efforts to improve endangered species habitats.

Interpretive Media:

- **Auto-tour—**A self-guiding driving tour of Conzelman Road, in printed or electronic form, is proposed as a sales item for the Parks Conservancy. Interpretation would focus on military history, ecological values and geology. The narration or text would encourage visitors to get out of their vehicles and take short walks to experience the headlands more personally. This tour could be part of a series of park driving tours that could include Shoreline Highway and the Presidio.

- **Wayside Exhibits—**Wayside exhibits and a trailhead kiosk interpret Battery Spencer and the Conzelman corridor. The park wayside exhibit plan may propose one or more wayside exhibits for Hawk Hill (Battery 129). The exhibit(s) will interpret the military significance of the battery, the hill's importance for observing hawk migration and key features in the viewshed.

- **Website—**Interpretive staff will evaluate the potential for park web pages that would include a virtual tour, in-depth treatment of the geological and migration stories, and presentation of those stories in other languages.

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II. SAN FRANCISCO AREA—Crissy Field, Presidio, Baker Beach, Fort Point

Overarching Recommendations:

- **Orientation, Wayfinding and Visitor Services**
  - Improve information and wayfinding through five interpretive hubs/visitor facilities: Presidio, VCD, Fort Point, Crissy Field Center, and Warming Hut. Interconnect these sites through branding and provide more orientation, wayfinding, and interpretive options.
  - Provide kiosks along main routes into the area and explore using new technologies in concert with them (downloadable interpretive information from GPS coordinate, cell phone interpretive information, layer languages.
  - Provide downloadable maps and trail guides
  - Use Stilton Hall as a visitor center
- **Personal Services**
  - Reach out to dog lovers—provide interpretive programs for people and their dogs—such as "Walk your dog with a Ranger"
  - More senior programming
  - Tai Chi and other outdoor recreation and health based interpretive programming
  - Increase roving and tabling during high visitation days
- **Interpretive Media**
  - Add an interactive exhibit to the Crissy Center that presents the tidal wetland, the natural resources found in a wetland and the importance and relevance of wetlands in our ecosystem.
  - Focus media for children
  - Involve community in developing media such as pod-casts
  - Keep media short, current, and real-time when possible
- **Education**
  - Use Crissy Center as an educational hub
  - Be know for connecting youth to nature

Comment [JLW11]: What is this?

- Add Teacher to Ranger to Teacher program
- Institute online reservation system for programs
- Create a strategic partnership with San Francisco Unified School District for program evaluation
- Improve collaboration between NPS, Conservancy, and Trust

- **Volunteerism**
  - Create more volunteer opportunities for youth—apprenticeship program, college service learning
  - Docent program for seniors
  - Expand and build infrastructure and resource support for Trail Keepers
  - Reverse volunteerism—park staff volunteer in community

- **Marketing**
  - Create youth park ambassadors
  - Center on community to bring community to parks
  - Create a Junior Ranger, inner city career ladder

- **Partnerships**
  - Evaluation partnerships to expand and improve
  - Enhance relationship with Presidio Trust
  - Develop partnerships with Mason Street businesses
  - Provide meeting space for collaborative meetings, trainings, and community meetings

A. Crissy Field

Site Description: Crissy Field stretches 1.5 miles along the San Francisco Bay waterfront from the city's Marina to Fort Point. Once part of an extensive system of rich tidal marsh and coastal dunes, it was home to Ohlone people for

thousands of years. Since the arrival of the first Europeans in the 1770s, the area has been under Spanish, Mexican and American military rule for over 200 years.

Most notable uses were for a world's fair and an airfield. The most dramatic change of Crissy Field has been its recent transformation from the Presidio's industrial backyard of run-down buildings to a resplendent shoreline. From 1998 to 2001, the National Park Service and the Park's Conservancy led an unprecedented community effort to enhance this new national park site. Through the efforts of generous donors and volunteers, restoration has returned the wetland back to a natural ecological community.

The Crissy Field Center is the park's focal point for community outreach. Its programs are designed to reach out to the diverse local community through a series of educational programs, summer camps, workshops and classes, multi-lingual publications, community festivals, and special events.

Information/Orientation

- Increase information, orientation, and non-personal interpretation at the Warming Hut.

Personal Services

- Increase roving interpretation and tabling during high visitation days.

Interpretive Media

-

Education Programs

Volunteer Programs

- Expand the volunteer program to address the need for increased personal services and assist in the presentation of formal educational programs.

Community Outreach

- Increase group participation at the Crissy Field Center and grow park participation at off-site events.
- Seek better transportation options to the Center.
- Create "store-front" park centers in communities—bring park programs to neighborhoods.

Partnerships

- The Amendment to the General Management Plan of the Presidio proposes an aviation museum to be located near the hangers at Crissy Field and would interpret the historic airfield, early phases of military air power and examine the past and future of transportation technology. One possible partnership could be the Crissy Field Aviation Museum Association.

- A west coast immigration museum located on Crissy Field may be developed. Partnerships with non-profit groups would be fostered such as the NJAHS and Angel Island Immigration Foundation.

B. Presidio--Main Post

Site Description

The Main Post has served as the headquarters for two centuries of military occupation under three flags, from Spain to Mexico to the United States. The Main Post contains part of one of the oldest structures in San Francisco: original adobe walls from the late 1700s Presidio.

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Historic structures and military architecture abound with Victorian-period homes, turn-of-the century brick barracks, Mission revival buildings, an art-deco movie theatre, steepled chapels, etc. The Parade Grounds hosted many drills and ceremonies. The layout of the Main Post exemplifies the stratified structure of military society.

Tens of thousands of veterans received medical care at Letterman Hospital, the largest military hospital in the country during World War II. Historic figures and personalities are buried in the San Francisco National Cemetery.

Today, the buildings are being rehabilitated and leased to for-profit and non-profit organizations by the Presidio Trust. Housed in the former Letterman Hospital, the Thoreau Center is a good example of sustainable re-use. Currently Lucasfilms is developing a 28-acre site for the future Letterman Digital Arts Center.

Information/Orientation

- Currently, Building 102 is being seismically retrofitted and may require several years. When complete, the NPS visitor center will move back to its former location there as the William Penn Mott, Jr. Visitor Center with a new permanent exhibit entitled *Voices of the Presidio*. There will also be a room for special temporary exhibits and a small auditorium for audio-visual presentations.

Personal Services

- Collaborative programs and events should be developed.
- New walks and programs will be developed with the opening on the Letterman Digital Arts Center.

Interpretive Media

- Several wayside exhibits need their panels replaced.
- New free publications will be produced including bulletins on the National Cemetery and Lettermen Hospital.
- A self guide for the Spanish and Mexican era Presidio has been produced, but should be edited and redesigned, and then published in both English and Spanish.
- A unigrid format publication for the Presidio also should be produced to replace Under Three Flags as the site bulletin and Under Three Flags reworked onto a theme bulletin on military history.
- A site bulletin on the National Cemetery currently exists in draft form and be finalized for publication.
- The Presidio web site has rudimentary pages on the history, archeology, and architecture of the Main Post, Letterman, and the National Cemetery. These pages will be improved and expanded in the future. The history of Letterman Hospital in particular needs to be better portrayed. Also, notable people buried at the cemetery will be tied to short biographical pages.
- Exhibits at present are restricted to several four-sided, kiosk-like exhibit panels on the natural and cultural history of the Presidio at the temporary visitor center in Building 50, where there is also an exhibit panel on William Penn Mott Jr. and an exhibit comparing Spanish and U.S. military uniforms. The NPS and Presidio Trust are initiating cosponsored exhibitions in Building 50 that will interpret aspects of the Presidios' history' the first being on the Panama Pacific International Exposition.
- The Presidio Trust is working on a plan to interpret the Spanish portions of Building 50, where archeological work is ongoing. The park service should take an active role in developing this interpretation.
- In the coming year, the William Penn Mott Visitor Center should be reopened to the public and the Voices of the Presidio exhibit installed. This multimedia exhibit, which is mostly written and designed, will interpret the natural and cultural history of the Presidio through the spoken and written

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voices of those who has experienced it through the centuries. It will provide a rounded introduction to the significance of the Presidio and encourage people to visit park sites where this history can be further explored.

- In addition, other areas of Building 102 will be used for a theater and rotating exhibits.
- A short video will be developed to for the theater that will augment the Voices of the Presidio exhibit. A longer 30-minute video should be produced as a sales item and to show to specific groups.
- Additional areas of the building should be opened up to more fully interpret the military history at the Presidio with exhibits that will display some of the materials from the closed Presidio Army Museum.
- The 1906 earthquake shacks currently behind the Building 2, the old Army Museum, need to be moved to the back courtyard of Building 102, where they should be rehabilitated, made accessible and exhibits installed.
- The park service would take an active role in working with Lucasfilms in developing interpretive materials to be placed at the Letterman Digital Arts Center. Waysides and other interpretive media would be explored as ways to interpret the historical significance of that area.

Education Programs

- Classrooms should be made to accommodate educational activities based at the visitor center.
- Additional curriculum-based education programs should be developed for the Presidio.

Volunteer Programs

- Expand volunteer programs to provide desk 100% coverage at visitor center and other interpretive areas such as the Digital Arts Center grounds.

Community Outreach

- In the past, local groups have used Building 102 to hold community meetings. When Building102's seismic retrofit is complete, this space should be used for community meetings, special events, and temporary exhibits designed for the local community.

Partnerships

- The Presidio Trust is headquartered at the Main Post. NPS closely collaborates with their public programming staff to plan, fund, staff and host a wide variety of special events and interpretive projects throughout the year.
- Tenants under the Trust such as the Thoreau Center have requested assistance with media development. In the next few years, waysides and other media will be planned and developed with Lucasfilms.

C. Fort Scott

Site Description

Fort Winfield Scott encompasses the western third of the Presidio. It has sweeping views of the Pacific Ocean as well as the entrance to the bay. Potential naval attack from powerful nations overseas was a major Army concern in the 19th and 20th centuries. For this reason, the U.S. Army transformed coastal scrub- and chaparral-covered hills into a heavily armed Coast Artillery post.

A massive investment was made over a 90-year period, first with brick and then with concrete batteries armed with massive steel guns, as well as command posts, observation stations, a planted forest, barracks, quarters, and clubs. All the necessary facilities were built for the base, which by WWII commanded the entire Harbor Defense of San Francisco, with forts north, south and east of the Golden Gate. Coastal Defense gave way to Air Defense in the 50's, and

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although none of the defenses were attacked, new strategies and technology made them all obsolete by the 70's.

Now a remarkable number of these historic structures remain in the national park to tell the stories of the soldiers' efforts to make our nation invulnerable. And a new story is being created, with the park's efforts to put the old buildings to new uses and to restore the native plant and animal habitat.

Information/Orientation

Personal Services

- Battery Chamberlin is open one weekend per month (and for groups by appointment) and offers information and interpretation on the coastal defense system and demonstrations on how the gun there today was loaded and maintained. This program should be expanded with more volunteers.
- Regular interpretive programs should be offered at Fort Scott.
- The museum and gun demonstrations are only open one weekend a month. These should be open on a weekly basis.

Interpretive Media

- The Presidio web site interprets the history of coastal defense at Fort Scott. Web pages on the Native Plant Nursery should be added. The Parks Conservancy web site has some information of the Native Plant Nursery.
- At present there are no free publications that deal specifically with Fort Scott. A free brochure on the battery Chamberlin and the coastal defense system should be developed.
- A 16-inch shell should be moved to the battery and the 16-inch donut cut from the gun at Battery Davis should be moved to Chamberlin to accompany it.

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- A 155 mm gun should be moved to the battery from the Main Post and a replica of the barbette mounted 6-inch gun used at the battery in World War II.
- Museum exhibits should also be expanded in the other magazine areas.

Comment [JLW12]: No idea what this means...

Education Programs

Here's the Dirt, curriculum-based education program is currently offered to the East Palo Alto school district (in conjunction with *Legacy! Buffalo Soldiers* in the Presidio) and a few other schools. This program should be expanded to serve more schools throughout the San Francisco Unified School District.

Volunteer Programs

- The volunteer program at Battery Chamberlin, should be enhanced with replica artillery uniforms and tools, and targeted recruitment efforts should bring in more volunteers.

Community Outreach

- Currently, the *Here's the Dirt!* program involves a diversity of children, but other efforts should be developed at the Log Cabin, the parade ground, and on warm days, Baker Beach.

Partnerships

- Continue to build a strong relationship with the Presidio Trust, and the Golden Gate Bridge District.

C. Presidio Natural Areas

Site Description

The Presidio is a park like no other in the nation, and its long history of intense management for military purposes is now being complemented by collaborative efforts to understand, interpret, and restore its natural systems of flora, fauna, water soil and rock. With "islands" of ecologically rich habitat surrounded by

human development, it is also last refuge for many species, including the Ravens Manzanita.

Unique habitats are the result of unique geology and hydrology, and projects such as the Tennessee Hollow Creek Restoration and the Vegetation Management Plan team with public education and support to succeed.

The Natural Areas are used for recreation by visitors and their pets as well, and the challenge of managing and interpreting areas to so many people is great. These areas are small remnants, yet are subject to increasing use.

Information/Orientation

Personal Services

Interpretive Media

- A self-guide to Lobos Creek Dunes should be published and implemented with the addition of markers along the boardwalk. A brochure on the natural history and resource issues at the Presidio is in development and should be published.
- The Presidio web site should be expanded to include information on changes to the landscape, restoration activities, wildflowers, and wildlife.
- A geology guide to the Presidio and Marin Headlands should be developed as a sales item.

Education Programs

Volunteer Programs

Community Outreach

- As the Presidio's natural resources division is mandated to have an interpretive component in the proposals, there will be continued interpretive collaboration and support. One of these interpretive components consists of developing personal services and media to inform the local community of the environmental impacts of restoration projects.

Partnerships

- Maintain and strengthen partnership between the NPS, the Trust, and the Parks Conservancy.
- Additionally, continue to nurture partnerships with non-profits such as the Urban Watershed Project and the Native Plant Society.

D. Presidio Neighborhoods

Site Description

The neighborhoods were the sanctuary for the soldier and the military family, and now they are the same for civilians. The buildings depict a century of architectural changes and military status. Recreational areas such as the golf course were established are used by the local community.

Interpreting these areas emphasizes how military life differs from civilian life. Even in this small "city within a city", elegant officers' quarters and the Golf Course illustrate that "Rank has its Privileges", while the utilitarian enlisted quarters were "better than being overseas."

As the Trust finds new residents and new uses for historic and non-historic buildings, the "living" park, a self-sustaining community, becomes an interpretive message as well as a management goal.

Information/Orientation

Personal Services

- Expand personal services in the old Public Health Service Hospital area, as it is redeveloped.

Interpretive Media

- A wayside should be designed and installed in the Public Health Service (PHSH) area to interpret its history.
- A wayfinding kiosk should also be installed in the area once the redevelopment plans are completed. This area is included in the Presidio pad map.
- There may be a need for specific site bulletins on housing areas that may be removed in the future, such as along MacArthur, when the Tennessee Hollow restoration begins, or at Baker Beach Apartments if they are removed.

Volunteer Programs

- Recruit volunteers to interpret the Public Health Service Hospital.

Community Outreach

Partnerships

- The Presidio Mayors (one selected for each residential street) have had interpretive programs at monthly meetings, and represent a potential audience of stakeholders.

- The Golf Course is managed by Arnold Palmer Golf Management, and there has been a joint program introducing the Presidio and golfing to students. Again, potential exists to reach new audiences through these kinds of programs.

E. Crissy Field Center

Site Description

The Crissy Field Center, located on the edge of Crissy Field at the gateway to San Francisco, is a community environmental center that connects the mission of the National Park Service with urban environmental issues. Working in partnership with Bay Area communities, the center offers multicultural programs that actively engage people with the park and their communities by promoting collaboration in building environmental sustainability and justice.

Information/Orientation/Media

- Community advisors have observed that the center feels somewhat sterile for a community center. In response to their critique, the staff will create exhibits of items created in the workshops, such as kites, paper maché and other artwork made of recycled materials, on the ceilings and walls.
- A selection of culturally relevant environmental publications will be available for on-site reading in the vicinity of the cafe. Take-away informational brochures, such as the Crissy Field brochure and the Golden Gate National Parks folder, will be made available in English, Spanish and Chinese.
- The Crissy Field Center hosts a website that provides basic operations and program information. "Crissy Corkboard" offers a link to digital video and images created by participants, staff, partners and volunteers at the center. Other products will be added as they are produced, and some will be phased out.
- The Community Heroes exhibit showcases citizens who have made a difference in their communities. This exhibit will eventually provide more

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information about these heroes and the environmental issues they have addressed through video or other visual media.

Personal Services.

- The complex tasks of community involvement, evaluation and programming adjustments will be ongoing. The Crissy Field Center will continue to improve and expand programs.

Education

- The center will partner with or host programs and conferences offered by other Bay Area education organizations (e.g., CREEC, Urban Watershed, SF Ed Fund) and provide guided walks, host professional workshops and share resources to further the mission of the NPS and the Crissy Field Center.

Volunteer Programs.

- The volunteer Community Advisory Council provides guidance and advice on center programming and will continue to help expand community participation in program development.

Community Outreach

- Transportation options to the Presidio are limited and inhibit diverse community participation at the center. Staff should work to remove this barrier through innovative initiatives for additional transportation funding.

Partnerships

- Community partnerships are essential to the Crissy Field Center's success. A number of strong partnerships currently exist and will be sustained. The center will continue to seek and establish partnerships with other environmental, social-service and other community organizations.

F. Fort Point

Site Description

Fort Point National Historic Site encompasses 29 acres at the northernmost point of the Presidio of San Francisco, including Battery East and the seawall on the waterfront. The U. S. Army built the masonry fort, now located under the south anchorage of the Golden Gate Bridge, as part of the seacoast defense system that protected San Francisco Bay.

Begun in 1853, construction was completed in 1861, at the beginning of the Civil War. The edifice, the first line of defense protecting San Francisco Bay, never fired a shot in anger, although the guns were manned and ready if challenged. Designed by army engineers, the fort exemplifies fortifications of its era and showcases the craftsmanship available in San Francisco in the 1850s and '60s.

A visit to Fort Point offers visitors a glimpse of a soldier's life and duties during the time that the fort stood as the only one of its kind on the West Coast.

Information/Orientation

- Strategically located informational kiosks should be developed to display days and hours of operation, scheduled programs and maps of associated sites.

- With the advent of the national threat level warning system, the means of getting information out more effectively on when threat closures are in place, must be developed.

Personal Services

- Add interpretive stations, staffed by rangers or volunteers to further enhance visitors' experiences.
- Periodically, re-enactors should "people" the Fort as they go about the routine chores that a soldier would participate in which will further expand the visitor experience.

Interpretive Media

- The self-guiding tour booklet should be updated and reformatted to add new information and make it more accessible.
- Orientation exhibits should be placed in the sallyport and guardroom to inform visitors about what to see during their visit and explain how the fort operated in the 1860s.
- New exhibits in the officers' quarters should be developed to interpret the lighthouse and its keepers, and the story of the fort being saved when building the Golden Gate Bridge.
- A temporary panel about the seismic retrofit (on-going) of the bridge will remain in place during that project. Waysides now located within the fort acquaint visitors with some of its human stories.
- Expanded web pages for the fort should be developed to further enhance visitors' understanding of the site before they arrive and will feature special programs. For example, web-based technology would allow users to take a virtual tour of the fort, learn how it fit into the mid-19th century defense

system for San Francisco Bay and enable disabled visitors to see inaccessible sections of the fort.

- Audio and lighting should be installed to create scenes in different rooms during re-enactments. In a casemate, the sounds of guns being loaded and fired would help visitors visualize how the guns worked. Visitors could sit in the officers' mess, hearing the sounds of kitchen work and the odors of cooking, or wander into the hospital steward or enlisted men's quarters and hear sounds common to those areas.
- The furnishings plan for the fort acknowledges the harsh environment that allows for only minimal furnishings. An implementation plan for the furnishings plan should be completed. Other interpretive methods must be used to set the scene and connect visitors to the human drama that occurred here.
- Some areas such as the powder magazine need to be brought more into character by removing or hiding modern materials. Lighting should be more discreet.
- The east gun bastion on the first level should be replicated to the 1861 period. Coupled with the opening of the embrasures, an accurately furnished exhibit would help people better understand how the fort's guns were used to defend the entrance to the bay. A hidden speaker could convey the sounds of the bastion's operation, even the firing of the gun.

- Reproductions of the guns used at the fort would help visitors better understand the fort's architectural features and its firepower. Entering the fort, they would see, across the parade ground, one of the three casemate guns that would be used for the interpretive firing-drill demonstrations.

- Non-representative guns, including the 15" Rodman, should be removed. Although the Spanish cannon does not fit with the present fort, it is related

to the site and may be incorporated into the Spanish-era exhibits, mounted vertically, if necessary. The Napoleon will be retained for interpretive demonstrations and living history programs.

- An interactive exhibit should be developed to help visitors understand the fort's operation, its role in defending the bay and how more advanced systems led to its obsolescence. A computer could set the scene and ask users to place the fort's guns to prevent enemy vessels from entering the bay. The computer would then test the defenses, offer suggestions for improving the system and ultimately enable visitors to see why the fort became outdated.

- Temporary exhibits occupy several rooms in the fort. The Fort Point staff should evaluate them for condition and content and rehabilitate or replace them to meet the goals of this plan.

- New exhibits on the Lighthouse keeper story should be developed. Exhibits should also explain that the fort was built before the Civil War to protect the harbor and its valuable gold shipments from the French, British and Russians. The fort's role in defending the harbor against Confederate raiding ships, along with its relationship to Angel Island and Black Point, will also be illustrated.

Education Programs

- When the current retrofit project at the fort is completed, the staff will establish a middle-school program that brings a student historian to the site to facilitate the experience. This program, planned for other sites in

the park, will use the National Trust for Historic Places *Teaching With Historic Places* curriculum.

Volunteer Program

Community Outreach

G. Battery East

Site Description

Batteries built into the hillsides overlooking the Golden Gate, San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean defended this coast for many years. Battery East, part of Fort Point National Historic Site, exemplifies an early form of these fortifications. Built in the 1870s, Battery East became the U.S.'s first line of defense after older fortifications became obsolete. The battery consisted of gun emplacements and powder magazines that gave the gunners protection and the ability to see ships coming through the Golden Gate.

Media/information/Orientation

- As a site on the Coastal Trail, Battery East will be included among the improvements planned for the parks' trail system. Accordingly, redesign of the viewing platform around the battery will meet accessibility standards. Development of new wayside exhibits will also proceed as planned, although the current bridge retrofit could delay their installation.

- A gun mounted at the battery, perhaps the 15-inch Rodman now at Fort Point, would further visitors' understanding of Battery East's value in coastal defense.

Personal Services

- Battery East is on the route of several walks offered by the Fort Point and Presidio staffs. These activities will continue. With the weekly four-day closure of Fort Point during the Golden Gate Bridge retrofit project, this site is an ideal location for programs that tell the stories about defending the bay.

Education Programs

- A curriculum-based cultural-history program should be developed for this site.

Volunteer Program

III. SAN FRANCISCO BAY—Alcatraz, Fort Mason

A. FORT MASON

Site Description

ADD

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Relocate Pacific West Information Center
- Install revise large sign installed
- Replace chain link – improve pedestrian access and safety
- Improve directional signs to all major Fort Mason destinations
- Design and install clear building labels
- Install new waysides
- Provide information about the park at the bus shelter
- Provide orientation information at youth hostel and Home Away

Facilities

- Add bathrooms
- Recommend a development concept plan that addresses visitor amenities
- Pacific West Info Center at retail
- Create a classroom / training center
- Add seating in great meadows
- Install secure bicycle parking
- Develop a campfire ring/amphitheater
- Add more picnic tables

Personal Services

- Develop an array of occasional public tours at Fort Mason
    - Develop a docent program
    - Provide ranger programs for dog lovers—"walk your dog with a ranger"
    - Develop an earthquake program
    - Provide interpretive programs at Youth Hostel

Education Programs

- Develop a 4th-grade program
- Program at Galileo
- NPS program at Home Away from Homelessness

Interpretive Media

- Develop an introductory park video
- Develop a cell phone or digital media guided tour

Volunteers

- Cross train docents from other sites to provide Fort Mason tours

Partnerships and Community Engagement:

- Grow youth hostel and HAFH partnership
- Strengthen relationships at Senior Centers
- Connect with Safeway, Chestnut St., 24 Hour Fitness
- Improve relationship with Bike and Segway rentals
- Create better interpretive connection at Fort Mason Center
- Establish relationships with tenants

B. ALCATRAZ

Add description

Orientation/Way-Finding

Improve Pre-visit and Mainland Orientation:

- Update the website
- Downloadable island maps
- Translated mailer/general information about island online—downloadable

Expand Boat Orientation:

- Improve boat orientation
- Make print materials available on boat

Improve on Island Information and Way Finding:

- Expand training for deckhands
- Design ways for queuing system on island to interpret and market other park sites
- Improve "Island Loop" directions
- Evaluate / improve dock announcement form and function

Market Other NPS Areas:

- Orientation film at Pier 33/monitors

- Orientation film online before visit

Visitor Facilities

Open more of the Island to Visitor Access:

- Install a laundry facility
- Install a trail around the island

Improve visitor amenities:

- Continue bathroom expansion
- Provide more seating
- Improve transportation options to traditional pier
- Provide food services
- Expand museum facilities
- Cyclically review and address facility safety issues
- Create an event space with storage and seating
- Create a dedicated classroom space

Create Programming Space:

- Create an indoor interpretive space for inclement weather
- Identify a daytime eating space for volunteers and classes

Public Programs

Expand Program Options:

- Consider expanding fee-based tours
- Add music/theater/performance
- Develop overnight programs for schools

Improve Program Depth:

- Provide fee-based private tours (pre-arranged)
- Connect island volunteerism with behind-the-scenes tour
- Expand island interpreters research time toward new programs
- Consult outside experts for public programs

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Education Programs

Expand Education Programs:

- Develop a digital curriculum for independent study
- Develop dedicated classroom space
- Provide an Alcatraz "Teachers' Day" In-Service training programs
- Evaluate current education programs and consider adding a 4th-grad program
- Create service learning programs and opportunities
- Develop a college intern program targeted to Alcatraz's needs
- Create a self-guided Alcatraz program for school groups

Interpretive Media

Develop new media:

- Update theater technology
- Create a GPS self-guided tour
- Develop a digital tour

Add Exhibits on Current and Topical Themes:

- Dedicate space for temporary exhibits
- Expand Civil War interpretation: Displays, personal tours, re-enactment schedule
- Create or facilitate rotating exhibits

Update Existing Media:

- Expand multi-lingual materials in bookstores
- Develop rotating exhibits
- Continue collaboration with the parks conservancy

Outreach and Community Engagement

Expand Offsite Programming:

- Rangers should go to classrooms and community programs and events
- Take Alcatraz to community venues

Expand Diversity of Stories and Contemporary Meanings:

- Research and interpret more diversity-based stories
- Expand on contemporary connection of Alcatraz to incarceration/penology/justice

Increase Financial Accessibility:

- Expand free community ticket program

Volunteer Programs

Enhance Infrastructure:

- Create a dedicated space for volunteers
- Get tools and plans in place and organized for volunteers
- Expand youth volunteer opportunities
- Establish volunteer contact persons (maintenance, docent, episodic)
- Improve volunteer training, monitoring, and mentoring

Augment Volunteer Opportunities:

- Expand volunteer opportunities
- Provide better volunteer supervision

Partnerships

Strengthen Existing Partnerships:

- Be clear regarding partnership ability/limitations
- Possibly expand partnership with GGNPC, Alumni,

Develop New Strategic Partnerships:

- Explore new partnerships with others such as Audubon, Natural Tidepool, and Lighthouse, local Firefighters
- Explore partnerships to provide different transportation modes to Alcatraz

IV. SOUTHERN LANDS AREA— From the Presidio south through San Mateo County

A. Sutro Historic District/ Lands End

Site Description

Centered around the area named for Adolph Sutro - successful immigrant, city mayor and philanthropist - and the prominent northwest corner of San Francisco, the Lands End/Sutro Historic District area comprises China Beach, Fort Miley, Lands End, Sutro Heights, Sutro Baths and the Cliff House. The area depicts the local history of immigration, shipping and commerce and seacoast fortifications, as well as the growth of populist urban recreation in the late 19th/early 20th centuries.

Ohlone peoples used the area for centuries before Europeans arrived.

The rugged coastline, spectacular scenery, and recreational features of this area have attracted visitors for decades.

Sutro developed the area above the Cliff House in the late 19th century in a grandiose Victorian style to promote leisure and recreational activities. He built an elegant hotel and restaurant, museums, gardens, viewing galleries, amusement rides, and the indoor swimming pools of Sutro Baths. He also established a railway through Lands End to transport San Francisco residents from the more settled areas of the city to Ocean Beach and his attractions.

Visitors from all over the world dine at the Cliff House, recently remodeled to restore its former architecture and historic character, marvel at scenic vistas at every turn, stroll a Victorian garden, and explore the ruins of Sutro Baths. The Lands End trail is a popular segment of the Coastal Trail that traverses the park; the westerd portion of the Lands End Trail has been made into an accessible promenade that is well used by local hikers and visitors from around the world. The Cliff House area is a destination for most major San Francisco bus tours. Trail volunteers offer interpretive information on the Lands End trail throughout the year. Visitors to China Beach come to enjoy one of San Francisco's smaller

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beaches in a spectacular setting, and Fort Miley is used mostly for hiking or bird watching by local residents or employees of the adjoining Veteran's Administration Hospital.

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Improve way finding and universally consistent signage in connection with Trails Forever [1-3 years]
- Develop downloadable/Podcast/wifi maps/trail guides [1-3 years]
- Develop orientation information highlighting the Coastal Trail, Lands End and Sutro Heights and other western San Francisco park destinations and make available in park visitor centers, at the Cliff House, at the Beach Chalet and online [1-3 years]
- Assure that orientation exhibits at Eagle's Point and Merrie Way are updated [5-10 years]

Personal Services

- Expand programs in connection with Trails Forever [1-3 years]
- Undertake research and develop programs on the untold stories of this area – i.e Ohlone history, Chinese-American history, etc. [3-5 years]
- Provide training for staff at the Cliff House, Louis' and the Beach Chalet on the history and interpretive themes of the area [3-5 years]
- Expand public programs in the Sutro Historic District on the Cliff House, Sutro Baths, local ornithology, global climate change and ocean health [1-3 years]
- Provide special interpretive activities for participants in volunteer service workdays [1-3 years]

- Develop Jr Ranger program for this area [1-3 years]
- Support programs emanating from community centers in the adjoining community – i.e Richmond District YMCA [1-3 years]

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Interpretive Media

- Develop self-guiding trail brochures for Lands End, Sutro Baths, and Sutro Heights about key interpretive stories and themes [1-3 years]
- Develop strategic wayside exhibits at Fort Miley, and the Cliff House [1-3 years]
- Complete the Lands End Visitor Center at Merrie Way [3-5 years]
- Complete a site bulletin for the U.S.S. Memorial [1-3 years]
- Replace the wayside exhibit at Battery Chester [1-3 years]
- Expand information about China Beach on safety precautions and pertinent regulations, as well as interpretive themes through a series of park signs, a bulletin board and/or an informational wayside exhibit [3-5 years]
- Complete research on the historic name of China Beach and evelop an interpretive exhibit with the accurate information [3-5 years]

Education Programs

- Lynn

Volunteer Programs

- Expand docent programs and roving volunteers,as well as habitat stewards, in collaboration with the Parks Conservancy/Trails Forever [1-3 years]

- Enlist volunteer designers to develop proposals for needed interpretive media [1-3 years]
- Recruit a volunteer cadre to staff the Lands End Visitor Center, provide specialty interpretive programs, and to assist with education programs [3-5 years]

Community Outreach

- Target outreach to the Chinese-American and Russian-American communities of the Richmond District.
- Consult with specific cultural groups (including the Ohlone community) for their collaboration in interpretive programming to assure their stories are interpreted accurately and with sensitivity [3-5 years]

Partnerships

- Develop relationships with community groups adjoining this area to assure their active participation in helping shape programming and stewardship of the area [1-3 years]
- Work with the veterans groups involved with the U.S.S. San Francisco Memorial to determine a succession plan for the partnership with these groups as their members age [1-3 years]
- Establish agreements with the Cliff House and Beach Chalet on dissemination of park information [1-3 years]

B. Ocean Beach

Site Description

Ocean Beach lies at the western end of Golden Gate Park, and stretches four miles from the Cliff House to Fort Funston. Since the 19th Century, Ocean Beach has been a popular destination for city residents visitors from elsewhere in the region, and tourists from around the world. As they were in years past, visitors today are drawn by the opportunity to stroll the water's edge, play on the sand or enjoy the setting sun. On mild nights, some people enjoy bonfires on the beach. Fog and brisk wind temper visitation many months of the year, but occasional warm summer and early fall days attract thousands of people to the beach. The large rolling waves are inviting to expert surfers and board sailors, but conceal dangerous (and occasionally fatal) rip currents. Visitation at Ocean Beach is high and highly diverse.

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Expand web-based, downloadable information about Ocean Beach [1-3 years]
- Place Ocean Beach orientation information at the Beach Chalet and link to City of San Francisco websites [1-3 years]
- Assure guidebook information on Ocean Beach is accurate [ongoing]

Personal Services

- Offer occasional interpretive roves on beach safety, ocean stewardship, global warming, and threats to endangered species [1-3 years]
- Expand interpretive activities in connection with volunteer beach cleanup efforts [1-3 years]

Interpretive Media

- Improve signage on beach regulations and safety, including the beach fire policy, and prevention of drowning [1-3 years]
- Develop downloadable interpretive information about Ocean Beach [3-5 years]
- Include printed and downloadable information at the Lands End visitior when it comes online [3-5 years]
- Develop an exhibit at the Beach Chalet information center [3-5 years]
- Produce clear signage about the Snowy Plover Protection Area that cannot be missed by beach visitors [1-3 years]

Education Programs

- Lynn

Volunteer Programs

- Expand "Adopt-a-Beach clean up program and include a stronger education component [1-3 years]

Community Outreach

- Target youth/school groups through the Crissy Field Center for community service work at Ocean Beach [1-3 years]

Partnerships

- Expand collaboration with Surfrider Foundation and Burners Without Borders on beach cleanup activities [1-3 years]
- Monitor work of the Ocean Beach Task Force and Coalition to Save Ocean Beach for future interpretive partnerships [3-5 years]

C. Fort Funston

Site Description

Fort Funston is situated in the southwest corner of San Francisco. It comprises a historic gun emplacement – Battery Davis – a former Nike missile installatio, and expanses of dunes on a bluff overlooking a mile-long beach that is the southern extension of Ocean Beach. The site includes one of the most heavily used hang-glider areas in the country. Visitors come in large numbers to explore seacoast fortifications and hike the trails, particularly the Sunset Trail, which is accessible from the parking lot to Battery Davis. Dog walkers have claimed Fort Funston as their own, with people coming from long distances to enjoy the dunes and beach with their dogs with relatively few restrictions. The Coastal Trail, beginning in Marin County, has its southern terminus in the park at Fort Funston.

In collaboration with the Parks Conservancy, the Fort Funston native-plant nursery offers informal programs and field trips for local schools. Protecting bank swallow habitat and stabilizing dunes and cliffs are natural-resource protection priorities. The site is geologically significant—the San Andreas Fault enters the sea just south of Fort Funston, and the epicenter of the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake lies not far to the south. A broad stretch of the Pacific shoreline from north of the Golden Gate to far down the San Mateo County coast can be seen from the bluffs at Fort Funston, presenting excellent opportunities to tell the stories of ocean dynamics, stewardship, and commerce,along with coastal geology.

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Upgrade web-based orientation for the site [1-3 years]

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- Develop and implement a wayfinding plan for the site using the new park wayfinding design system [3-5 years]
- Update orientation kiosks at major entry points to Fort Funston [5-10 years]

Personal Services

- Conduct interpretive programs on weekends on military history, ocean health, climate change, geology, and endangered species [3-5 years]
- Provide roving interpretation targeted to the local user groups, especially the dog walking community [3-5 years]
- Train members of the dog walking community to provide programs on Fort Funston themes, and oversee their activities [1-3 years]
- Provide interpretive activities for participants in habitat restoration programs [1-3 years]

Interpretive Media

- Post all Funston site bulletins and other printed brochures on the web [1-3 years and ongoing]
- Develop a cellphone or other digital self-guided tours of the site [3-5 years]
- Deploy mobile visitor facility to Funston parking lot on weekends [3-5 years
- Update all kiosks and waysides [5-10 years]
- Develop a Jr Ranger program for Fort Funston [1-3 years]

Education Programs

- Lynn

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Volunteer Programs

- Develop a volunteer cadre to better inform Fort Funston visitors about natural resources issues and concerns [3-5 years]
- Harness the volunteer spirit of the dog walking community to assist in site protection and interpretation [1-3 years]
- Promote youth service projects at Fort Funston [1-3 years]

Community Outreach

- Create a camping program targeted to diverse communities [3-5 years]
- Promote Fort Funston visitation at community centers in San Francisco and Daly City [1-3 years]
- Reach out to families of participants in the SF Unified School District Environmental Science program at Funston [1-3 years]

Partnerships

- Create partnerships with local dog walking groups to help tell Funston stories and impart park messages
- Expand the Parks Conservancy partnership on native plant nursery education programs [1-3 years]

D. Pacifica Sites – including Milagra Ridge, Sweeney Ridge, Mori Point, Cattle Hill, and Pedro Point

Site Description

These San Mateo County sites serve as open space backdrops for the city of Pacifica. Their extensive trails systems offer stunning views, vigorous recreation

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opportunities, and the opportunity to personally engage in the rehabilitation of highly impacted lands..

Milagra Ridge (240 acres) and its southern neighbor, Sweeney Ridge (1,047 acres) were home to successions of inhabitants, including native Ohlone people, Spanish settlers, Mexican rancheros, and the U.S. Army. Milagra and Sweeney Ridges were added to the park in 1984. Sweeney Ridge has a stone monument near its highest point commemorating the 1769 sighting of San Francisco Bay by Captain Gaspar de Portola's Spanish expeditionary party. Both Ridges afford stunning views in all directions.

Mori Point, a 106-acre promontory overlooking the Pacific Ocean immediately west of Sweeney Ridge was added to the park in mid-2002 as a result of community concern and activism. The area is a living laboratory of the successful coexistence of recreation and conservation.

Cattle Hill is a parcel of land which links the xxx neighborhood of Pacifica to Sweeney Ridge. It essentially constitutes one of three gateways into Sweeney Ridge, along with Sneath Lane off of Highway 280, and Shelldance off of Highway 1. Sanchez Adobe, a San Mateo County Historic Site, is located very near Cattle Hill.

Pedro Point marks the southern boundary of Pacifica and the portal to the San Mateo County "Coastside." It is a landform that has been much abused, but which is in the process of rehabilitation and discovery as a hidden gem of hiking.

Because the Pacifica properties have contain significantly impacted ecosystems, there are a number of threatened and endangered plant and animal species

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present, including Mission blue and San Bruno Elfin butterflies, the San Francisco garter snake, and the California red-legged frog, among others. These ridges and promontories are colorfully ablaze with springtime wildflowers, and the grassland and coastal scrub is home to a great diversity of wildlife.

Today, these distinct areas have a strong local constituency of frequent recreational users who hike, walk their dogs or ride mountain bikes. Community stewardship programs at Sweeney, Milagra and Mori Point are restoring natural habitats. Oceana High School, adjacent to Milagra Ridge, provides a stewardship and service-learning component for its students. Use of these lands is increasing, as publicity about them takes hold and as the Bay Area Ridge Trail and Coastal Trail become better known and used. Mori Point, more easily accessible than the other sites,, has seen a marked growth in visitiation brought about by extensive community outreach and site stewardship efforts by the Parks Conservancy Trails Forever program.

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Upgrade orientation kiosks at primary parking lots for these sites [1-3 years]
- Develop 'plan your visit' information for the park website and link to the websites of the City of Pacifica and neighboring community homeowners associations [1-3 years]
- Develop changeable bulletin boards for all sites [1-3 years]
-

Personal Services

- Provide interpretive programs at Sweeney and Milagra ridges several times annually [ongoing]
- Provide interpretive programs at Mori Point several times a month [ongoing]
- Provide programs at Cattle Hill and Pedro Point as interest develops [3-5 years]

Interpretive Media

- Develop digital tours of each site [3-5 years]
- Add needed wayside exhibits to these sites [3-5 years]
- Install trailhead kiosks at all major portals to these sites [1-3 years]
- Explore options for a new partnership visitor facility in Pacifica, including the possibility of a joint facility at the Sanchez Adobe [3-5 years]
- Develop Jr Ranger programs for Sweeney, Milagra, and Mori Point [1-3 years]

Education Programs

- Lynn

Volunteer Programs

- Develop the capacity of Friends of Sweeney Ridge to provide interpretive services [1-3 years]
- Develop Trail Ambassador program at Mori Point [1-3 years]
- Explore interpretive partnerships for Cattle Hill and Pedro Point

Community Outreach

- Develop outreach strategies for diverse communities in San Francisco, Daly City, Pacifica,and Half Moon Bay [1-3 years]

Partnerships

- Strengthen collaboration with California State Parks, San Mateo County Parks, and City of Pacifica on interpretation delivery [3-5 years]
- Work with Oceana High School, Terra Nova High School and other schools for new stewardship and service learning programs [1-3 years]
- Work with San Francisco Water Department on connecting Sweeney Ridge and the watershed lands with more public access, more programs, and improved signage [3-5 years]
- Develop partnerships with Skyline College, the adjoining County Jail, and other schools and outdoor organizations in the Pacifica area. [3-5 years]

E. Phleger Estate

Site Description

Named after the family that once owned the property, the Phleger Estate comprises 1,200 acres of redwood forest and mixed evergreen woodlands in central San Mateo County. Purchased by the Peninsula Open Space Trust and transferred to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in 1995, the estate is the southern-most area of the Golden Gate National Parks, and completes a greenbelt of parklands and open space that reaches well into San Mateo County.

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The Phleger Estate is not accessible by road; most visitors approach through adjoining Huddert County Park, or from the Kings Mountain Fire Station on Skyline Drive high above the site. Although early lumbermen logged much of the old growth timber, the mature second-growth forest provides habitat for a variety of species, including the endangered red-legged frog. Phleger's redwood and Douglas-fir forests are a cool and peaceful escape for the relatively few hikers and equestrians who know about the site..

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Create a more prominent trailhead kiosk in Huddert County Park [1-3 years]
- Develop a wayfinding plan to direct visitors from Woodside to the two Phleger entrance points [1-3 years]
- Provide upgraded orientation information about Phleger at the Huddert County Park entrance station and online [1-3 years]
- Develop a kiosk about Phleger at the main information point at Huddert County Park [1-3 years]

Personal Services.

- Offer occasional guided walk for youth groups and hiking clubs [1-3 years]
- Provide interpretive sessions to local equestrian clubs [3-5 years]

Intepretive Media

- Develop a self-guided trail map for Phleger and produce both hard copy and online versions.

- Develop a site bulletin on Phleger [1-3 years]Update information kiosks at entry points to include park partners and program information [1-3 years]
- Develop several strategic wayside exhibits on the main trail (Raymundo) through the Phleger Estate. [3-5 years]

Volunteer Programs

- Develop a cadre of trained Trails Ambassadors, particularly equestrians, to rove Phleger Trails and disseminate information and monitor trail conditions and issues [3-5 years]
- Initiate a Phleger volunteer trail maintenance corps [3-5 years]

Partnerships.

- Strengthen the partnership with San Mateo County Parks, Mid-Peninsula Open Space District, and San Francisco Watershed on Phleger access and interpretation [3-5 years]
- Develop relationships with Woodside on promoting use of Phleger [1-3 years]

F. Devil's Slide and South

Site Description

This area includes the lands located south of Pacifica on Highway 1, including the Devil's Slide portion of Highway 1, Rancho Corral de Tierra, and Fitzgerald Marine Preserve near Half Moon Bay. This is the area of the park with the least amount of park presence, and very little park identity.

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Devil's Slide will be bypassed by a tunnel in a few years, opening that portion of Highway 1 to recreation use, affording a unique opportunity for a car-free coastal trail. Rancho Corral de Tierra will be turned over to the park from Peninsula Open Space Trust over a period of several years, opening up vast areas of coastal valleys and ridges to public use. This area is characterized by the rural feel of an area dominated by highly productive farms, many of which have been owned for generations by the same families. Fitzgerald Marine Preserve is a San Mateo County property that includes an important intertidal zone, including extensive tide pools, that has attracted school groups and general public visitors for decades.

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Develop major park 'entrance' signs for this area [1-3 years]
- Develop trailhead orientation kiosks for major access points into Rancho Corral de Tierra [1-3 years]
- Develop a trailhead kiosk for the Devil's Slide once it becomes a trail [3-5 years]
- Work with Cal Trans to install highway signs directing visitors to Rancho Corral de Tierra [1-3 years]
- Explore designating and signing Highway 1 in this area as a "Scenic Byway" [3-5 years]
- Develop web-based trip planning and orientation information about these sites [1-3 years]
- Provide orientation information about these sites to the Fitzgerald Reserve visitor center [1-3 years]

Personal Services

- Provide occasional hiking and equestrian tours into Rancho Corral de Tierra [1-3 years]
- Support San Mateo County programs at Fitzgerald Marine Preserve with programming information on ocean stewardship and global warming [3-5 years]

Interpretive Media

- Construct San Mateo Welcome Center on Highway 1 in connection with California State Parks and San Mateo County [5-10 years]
- Plan and install wayside exhibits at key locations [3-5 years]
- Develop auto tour of NPS lands in this area [3-5 years]
- Develop downloadable digital and cellphone tours of this area [3-5 years]
- Produce an overview park brochure for this area, online and paper copy [1-3 years]
- Produce site bulletins (online and paper copy) for Rancho Corral de Tierra

Education

- Lynn

Volunteerism

- Develop a volunteer cadre based on the existing volunteer groups using the area, especially the equestrian community [3-5 years]
- Develop a Site Stewardship Team in collaboration with the Parks Conservancy [3-5 years]
- Promote the area as a venue for youth community service in the Half Moon Bay area [3-5 years]

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Outreach

- Explore camping and other recreational opportunities for diverse communities in San Mateo County [3-5 years]

Parnerships

- Strengthen partnerships with equestrian groups to assist wth interpretation of Rancho Corral de Tierra [1-3 years]
- Develop relationships with agricultural producers to provide informal education about the agricultural history of the area [3-5 years]
- Develop an active partnership with Fitzgerald Marine Preserve [3-5 years]

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Park Statement of 1/31/2012:

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Media Statement

Release Date: January 31, 2012
For Immediate Release
Contact: Howard Levitt, 415 561-4730

Law Enforcement Incident in Rancho Corral de Tierra

Golden Gate National Recreation Area shares the general public's concern over the unfortunate incident between a National Park Service law enforcement ranger and a man walking his dog off leash at Rancho Corral de Tierra, in San Mateo County, on Sunday, January 29, 2012. As is standard practice, the park has initiated a review of the incident, which will be concluded in the next two weeks. At that time, another statement will be released.

According to the information available to the park at this point, the incident began as a routine educational contact about the National Park Service rules on dog walking. The incident developed into a more serious law enforcement situation when the person being contacted provided false information to the ranger, and refused to heed repeated orders to remain at the scene while the ranger was in contact with the park dispatch center to confirm his identity.

In December 2011, Rancho Corral de Tierra came under the management of the National Park Service. Golden Gate National Recreation Area will continue to work hard to build close partnerships with the existing users of, and the communities that surround, Rancho Corral de Tierra.

-NPS-

Congresswoman Speier letter of 2/1/2012:

[EMBED Unknown]

Park Response to Rep Speier's 2/1/2012 letter:

United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
201 Fort Mason, San Francisco, California 94123

IN REPLY REFER TO:

A3815 (GOGA-CP)

February 3, 2012

The Honorable Jackie Speier
400 South El Camino Real, Suite 410
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Ms. Speier:

We share your concern about the incident at Rancho Corral de Tierra on January 29, 2012. We are dismayed that what should have been a routine visitor contact became something very different. From the information we have to date, the incident began as an informational contact,

Exemption 5

As you know, all aspects of the incident, including the use of an electronic control device, are currently being reviewed. The review is being conducted independently of the park, by the NPS Office of Professional Responsibility from Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. We expect the review to be completed within the next two weeks. We will provide that report to you once the review is complete. In the meantime, responses to the specific questions in your letter of February 1, 2012, are enclosed.

Somewhat lost this week in the furor over the January 29 incident is a bit of important news for the communities that adjoin Rancho Corral de Tierra. This week, as you know, the park announced that a Supplement DEIS and new draft Dog Management Plan would be prepared and released for public comment late this summer. This Supplemental will explore a full range of dog walking options at Rancho – with alternatives providing off leash under voice control, on

leash, as well as areas where dog walking would be prohibited. This means that Rancho will be planned for dog walking in the same way the other areas of the park were treated in the draft plan. The decision to consider a range of uses at Rancho came about because we listened to and heard this suggestion from the public during the draft plan review period.
I know that you share the late Congressman Tom Lantos' vision of this beautiful and important Coastside parcel as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Without your effort, the land would not have been protected forever for the use and enjoyment of this and future generations. We will do everything we can to get beyond this unfortunate incident, and build a positive relationship with the communities surrounding Rancho Corral de Tierra. We know we can count on your support in this trust-building process. Please call me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

/s/ Frank Dean

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Enclosure

Responses to the questions raised by Congresswoman Jackie Speier in her letter of February 1, 2012.

1. **Is it mandatory that a park ranger complete training in taser usage before he or she may carry and deploy a taser? If so, what is the extent of this training? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
    a. **What factors are park rangers instructed to take into account when deciding whether to utilize a taser?**
    b. **Are rangers informed about the risks inherent with taser usage including the fact that a taser can trigger a heart attack?**

    National Park Service (NPS) Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9/Chapter 32 *Electronic Control Device (ECD) Programs*, specifies that prior to carrying or utilizing an ECD, commissioned employees must complete the NPS ECD certification course approved by the Superintendent, NPS Law Enforcement Training Center. First time users must meet the basic Taser X26 ECD User requirements put forth by Taser International. Training also includes instruction and discussion of NPS ECD policy.

    An additional two hour training is required annually that includes: ECD fundamentals; ECD handling and use (e.g., equipment care and inspection, function testing, carry methods, deployment, subject target areas, etc.); ECD physiological effects (e.g., recognition of high risk groups, deployment scenarios, etc.); ECD post-deployment procedures (e.g., probe removal, medical treatment, evidence collection, etc.); ECD reporting requirements and ECD use policies,

and a review of use of force policy, court cases relevant to ECD use, and proficiency testing; qualification course and test. GGNRA most recently conducted the annual, two hour training in March, 2011 and again in April, 2011.

Exemption 5

Information on the potential risks of ECD use is included in both the initial Taser, Inc., training and the annual in-service instruction.

A DVD including NPS Director's Order 9 and the NPS Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9 will be sent to you under separate cover.

2. **If lawful, would you be open to the appointment of an independent investigator who would evaluate whether park regulations were violated and excessive force utilized during the course of this incident?**

   This incident is being reviewed independently of the park, under the auspices of the National Park Service Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. The review will determine if any park regulations were violated and whether excessive force was utilized in the incident.

3. **What steps were taken to educate the public about the dog policy change at Rancho Corral de Tierra which now only allows dogs to be walked on leash rather than off leash as the previous POST policy permitted? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
   a. **Was there any signage on the newly acquired property indicating that dogs are only allowed on leash? If so, how many signs were posted and where?**
   b. **Was there a community informational meeting about the new leash policy after Rancho Corral de Tierra was acquired by the GGNRA in December?**

   As you know, when the Golden Gate National Recreation Area assumed management of Rancho Corral de Tierra, the national rule (36 CFR 2.15)on dog walking in national park areas came into effect, pending completion of the park's Dog Management Plan. This national rule states that where dogs are permitted, they must be on a leash. We know that this represents a change to the uses of Rancho prior to NPS management, and therefore we planned to provide a period of education about the new rules for visitors. This was the intent of the contact in the January 29 incident.

Regarding signage, on December 16, 2011, a week after we assumed management of Rancho, we published a map on our website highlighting areas where dogs would be permitted on leash. On December 21, 2011, we sent an email to both our general park list and our San Mateo list that announced the park's management of Rancho and pointed out the regulations that would be in effect under NPS management. During the week of January 9, 2012, we installed six signs at Rancho, all of them on the portion of Rancho closest to Ocean View Farms. Four of these signs - three in the community of Montara – include regulatory information in iconic form. One of those icons is the symbol for dogs on leash. Under separate cover, we will send you a map indicating the location and content of these signs.

There has not been a community informational meeting about the new leash policy since NPS assumed management of Rancho in December. However, prior to that, there were a number of public meetings at which the new rules and signage about those rules were displayed and discussed. In March, 2011, two months after the park released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Dog Management for Golden Gate, we held numerous public meetings, one of them in Pacifica, to seek comment and explain the proposed new rules under the draft plan. Those meetings, especially the meeting in Pacifica, included discussion of how the Rancho property would be managed immediately after transfer to the NPS. We also attended several community meetings in November and December of 2011 to describe the proposed plans for Rancho and the rules that would take effect when NPS assumed management of the site. In total, hundreds of people from the Coastside attended one or more of these meetings.

Congresswoman Speier's 2/8/2012 letter:

[EMBED Unknown]

Talking Points on dog access at GGNRA sites in San Francisco

- Proposed Rule for Dog Management at GGNRA relaxes the National Park systemwide pet regulations to permit off-leash dog walking in a national park unit. Under the proposed rule, GGNRA would remain the most dog-friendly national park site in the nation.
- From the beginning of the 14-year long process to develop a rule for dog walking in GGNRA, the park has examined every area where dog walking currently occurs with the goal of determining how this healthy activity can continue to occur under commonsense management. Of the nine sites in San Francisco, dog walking is permitted in substantial parts of each site.
- Five areas in San Francisco were identified for off-leash dog use: Fort Mason, Crissy Field (two areas); Ocean Beach; and Fort Funston (two areas).
- At Fort Funston, the most popular area in San Francisco for dog walking, over 40% of the usable space would remain open to off-leash dog walking, including the entire 1-mile beach front below the cliffs. In addition, the vast majority of the trails would be open to dogs on leash. Areas where dog would not be permitted would significantly improve safety for equestrians, hang gliders, the San Francisco school children who use the SFUSD environmental education center, and also allow those who currently avoid Fort Funston because they want a dog-free experience to return to the site.
- At Crissy Field, dogs will be permitted almost everywhere, including the airfield, the promenade, the picnic area at the east end, and nearly ¾ mile of beach. Off leash use would be permitted on approximately 30% of the airfield and 40% of the beach front mileage.
- What had been seen by the public as a draconian approach to responding to non-compliance in the original draft dog plan has been replaced by an approach to work with the public to keep sites open through actions such as outreach, education, additional fencing, increased buffer zones, and an off-leash certification program.
- NPS has indicated its desire to continue working with SFRPD to address the shared issue of dog management, which is a challenging issue for city parks as well as the GGNRA.

Talking Points

- The signing of the Record of Decision on the Golden Gate NRA General Management Plan (GMP)/EIS signals the end of a nearly decade-long process to develop a vision for the GGNRA and Muir Woods for the next 20 years. The GMP is the broad, conceptual **master plan** that guides planning and management of Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument. All NPS units are required to have GMPs.

- Most of the goals in the previous GMP, approved in 1980, have been fulfilled. The NPS developed a new GMP to address changed conditions, including increases in **visitation and changing demographics**, greater **knowledge of resources and their significance**, and **expansion** of the park into San Mateo County.

- Planning for the GMP began with public scoping in 2005, and included public comment on a range of preliminary alternatives (Newsletter 4) in 2008. Since then the NPS planning team developed the NPS preferred alternative and released a draft plan in spring 2011. A Final plan, reflecting a thorough review of comments on the draft plan as well as input at numerous public meetings, was released in April 2014.

- The new GGNRA GMP reinforces the importance of both recreation and resource stewardship. It describes zones in which the public can experience the park in various ways. The plan identifies recreation as the first of the park's fundamental resources, meaning that providing recreation is core to achieving Congress's designated mission for the park. The GMP proposes ways to better achieve this mission.

- The GMP is a broad prescription of how the park will be managed. Specific management plans, such as the Dog Management Plan, address the details of where and how specific uses can occur. The guidance for dog walking in the Dog Management Plan will take precedence over the GMP.

- A Record of Decision is a document that summarizes a federal action, in this case implementation of the GMP, and provides a rationale for the selection of a final preferred alternative. The ROD provides full background and context to the decision, including describing the process by which the GMP was created.

- With the signing of the ROD, GGNRA is authorized to implement the proposals in the GMP.

FAQ

What is a General Management Plan?

A GMP is the broad, conceptual master plan that guides planning and management of a park for about 20 years. All NPS units have GMPs. **It defines the desired future condition of resources and describes the kinds of experiences that will be available to visitors.** It also describes potential major developments and how the park will manage user capacity.

Why did GGNRA need a new GMP?
Most of the goals in the 1980 GMP have been fulfilled. The new GMP continues that original vision, but addresses changed conditions, including increases in **visitation and demographics**, greater **knowledge of resources and their significance**, and **expansion** of the park into San Mateo County.

What park areas are NOT covered in the new GMP?
Presidio of San Francisco (including Crissy Field), Sutro Historic District, Fort Baker, and Fort Point NHS have recent land use and implementation plans.

How were public comments used to improve the GMP?
{Brian: …]

How was the NPS preferred alternative chosen?
[Brian… update]
The interdisciplinary NPS planning team evaluated each of the alternatives based upon why the park was established, fundamental resources and experiences *(Summary pp 6-8)*, environmental impacts, public input, and other criteria including broad costs implications. Based upon these evaluations, including how the park is managed today, the NPS combined elements of each alternative to create the preferred alternative. Long-time Superintendent Brian O'Neill (deceased 2009) and then Regional Director Jon Jarvis (now Director, NPS) were instrumental in shaping the preferred alternative.

What makes up an alternative?
NEED THIS?

Each alternative consist of 3 parts:

1. **An overall management concept** – that explains the overall approach and guides implementation if selected. I.e. "Connecting People with the Parks" and "Focusing on National Treasures" *(Poster and Summary Edition pages 20-23)*
2. **Management zones** – the lands and waters of the park are zoned differently for each alternative. The zones provide a set of desired conditions that the NPS would work to achieve over next 20 years. *(Poster and Summary Edition pages 14-19)*
3. **Written descriptions** – short narratives for the major areas of the park to help better explain the proposal.

What are the major elements common to all action alternatives?
NEED THIS??

(Summary Edition pages 12-13)

- Boundary adjustments (see maps)

- Climate change policy
- Facilities not directly related to the park mission
- Facilities for maintenance, safety and collection storage
- Native American engagement
- Ocean stewardship policy
- Park collections
- Partnerships
- Trails
- Transportation
- User capacity *(see Chapter 9, Volume III)*

What is the concept and major idea behind the NPS Preferred Alternative?

- *[BRIAN: Update]*

- For **Muir Woods and Alcatraz**: focus management on the resources and stories of highest significance *(Summary pp. 24 and 53)*
- For **Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties**: connect the various areas of the park to people in the surrounding communities *(Summary pp. 29, 38, 45)*
- In both cases, this is a matter of emphasis. The preferred alternative incorporates elements of all three management concepts. *(See Summary pp. 20-23 and below.)*

What is the concept… Alternative 1 "Connecting People with the Parks"?

- Attract and welcome people to the park
- Reach out and engage the community and other potential visitors in enjoyment, understanding and stewardship of park resources
- Connect visitors with the park resources and promote understanding, enjoyment, preservation and health
- Provide visitor opportunities that are relevant to diverse populations now and in the future

NEED THIS ONE

?? What is the concept… Alternative 2 "Preserving and Enjoying Coastal Ecosystems"?

- Preserve, enhance, and promote dynamic and interconnected coastal ecosystems
- Recreational and educational opportunities allow visitors to learn about and enjoy the coastal and marine environment
- To help visitors gain an understanding of the region's international significance and history

What is the concept… Alternative 3 "Focusing on National Treasures"?

- Focus on the park's most significant natural and cultural resources and recreation opportunities
- Visitors are able to explore a wide variety of experiences that are associated with many different types of national parks – all in this park
- Other resources would be managed to complement the nationally significant resources and visitor experiences

Why are plans for Muir Woods and Alcatraz Island more detailed than plans for other areas?
A more detailed level of planning was required for both Muir Woods National Monument and Alcatraz Island due to:

1. high levels of visitation in concentrated areas
2. the finer scale and complexity of their natural and cultural resources
3. the national and international recognition they receive

What other park planning relates to the GMP?
DELETE??

The following plans are being coordinated with the GMP and will be incorporated as appropriate.

1. Headlands Institute Campus Improvement and Expansion Plan/EA
2. Marin Headlands and Fort Baker Transportation Infrastructure and Management Plan/EIS
3. Wetland and Creek Restoration at Big Lagoon/EIS
4. Marin Equestrian Stables Plan/EA
5. Extension of San Francisco Municipal Railway's Historic Streetcar/EIS
6. Dog Management Plan/EIS

What is the status of the Draft Dog Management Plan/EIS?
Decisions on where dog walking is permitted are being made through the Dog Management Plan process. That plan has undergone two drafts; comments are being reviewed and a draft rule, reflecting the final preferred alternative, will be issued for public comment late this spring, 2015. The guidance for dog walking in the park in the Final Dog Management Plan/EIS will take precedence over the GMP.

What about Costs? How will this be funded?
It is important to note that implementation of the approved plan, no matter which alternative, will depend on future NPS funding levels and servicewide priorities, as well as on partnership funds, time, and effort. The approval of a GMP does not guarantee that funding and staffing needed to fully implement the plan will be forthcoming. Full implementation of the plan could be many years in the future.

One-time capital costs to implement the preferred alternative would cost approximately $150 million. This is for the fullest vision of the plan over 20 years.

Approximately $96 million would be for projects that are essential, highest priority and require federal funding.

Approximately $54 million would be for projects that are desirable, lower priority and may be accomplished with nonfederal funds or in later phases.
BRIAN: CLARIFY??
*** *There is an omission in table 2, page 58 of the Summary Edition.*
Additional Staff (FTE) for the alternatives:

No Action = 0, 334 total staff
Alt 1 = 46, 380 total
Alt 2 = 35, 369 total
Alt 3 = 43, 377 total
Preferred = 46, 380 total staff

New Questions/As:

Why is so much of the park designated as a Natural Zone?
The areas designated as Natural Zones are generally those areas of the park where current visitation is moderate and is expected to remain so. These are places were infrastructure such as parking lots, trailhead facilities, and restrooms are generally located only at entrance points, so that a more natural experience is possible away from these entrance points. One of the unique features of GGNRA is that there is a remarkable abundance of natural areas despite the park's location in a densely populated urban area. The presence of these lands is the result of the agricultural and military legacy of the lands within GGNRA.

How will implementation occur?
Specific projects and programs will be implemented as priorities and funding permit. Since the NPS receives an annual appropriation from Congress, it is impossible to forecast an exact sequence of implementation. However, whenever a project in fulfillment of the GMP is proposed, it will undergo public engagement in accordance with park practice and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Will the plan limit recreation in the park?
No. The GMP proposes no blanket restriction on recreation. As a management plan, the plan describes desired visitor and resource conditions, and the park will exercise sound management to maintain those conditions. As new forms of recreation emerge over time, the park may consider regulation to assure that the quality of visitors' experiences and park resources are maintained and protected. An example of this is the way in which the NPS is addressing the advent of aerial drones.

Several concerns expressed in letters and petitions received after the Final GMP was released derive from a misunderstanding about the relationship of the GMP to other ongoing projects in the park, including the Dog Management Plan. The Dog Management Plan has its own, separate, detailed planning and public involvement process. Regarding dog management planning, the ROD contains a clarifying statement on pages 24-25 that reiterates language in Volume II of the GMP (p. 399) that "the GMP and dog management plan are separate and distinct planning efforts; if real or perceived inconsistencies are found, the final dog management plan would take precedence over the GMP for this particular use."

Why didn't more people comment on the Draft Plan?
Thousands of people participated in various workshops and community meetings about the GMP as it was being developed. At these various forums, the park received thousands of excellent ideas and suggestions that have shaped the plan. Alternatives were shared with a mailing list of several thousand people and organizations - as the alternatives were being developed - in a series

of 4 [Brian?] newsletters. The park received over 500 comments on the draft plan, on top of the thousands of comments that had been received during development of the plan. It is likely that most reviewers of the draft plan liked the plan and its preferred alternative, and felt no need to add additional comment.

Why didn't you issue another Draft in response to requests from several groups and some elected officials?

There is no compelling reason to prolong the process. After the final GMP was released, NPS received 16 letters and one petition. The letters and petition were thoroughly reviewed and considered by the NPS. Several letters and the petition reiterated concerns that had already been raised during the comment period on the Draft GMP. These concerns included a perceived change in management to diminish opportunities for recreation. In fact, the GMP is designed not only to preserve recreation opportunity in the park, but to enhance it. The petition, circulated on Change.org, contended that the NPS plans to "deny significant public use for longstanding activities like hiking, surfing, bike riding, and dog walking in popular places." This is incorrect, as all of these activities and many others will be enhanced when the GMP is implemented. Other concerns questioned the adequacy of analysis regarding Coho salmon in Redwood Creek, contending that park visitors negatively impact emergency response I the event of a catastrophe. These concerns, as well as the concerns about recreation opportunity, are addressed in Volume 2 of the GMP, on pages 391-448.

How can I learn about specific actions to implement the GMP in the future?

The best way is to sign up for the GGNRA electronic mailing list receive direct communication from NPS on future projects and programs. You can sign up by emailing your contact information to [email address to sign up?] You can also phone [Planning phone #] to sign up.

F

Talking Points for Director Jarvis's phone call with Rep Jackie Speier

Background:

- Rep Jackie Speier (D- CA 14th) represents the southwestern portion of San Francisco and all the San Mateo County portions of GOGA.
- Since 2011, she has been at odds with NPS on the issue of off-leash dog use in Rancho Corral de Tierra. The park acquired this 3500-acre parcel in Dec 2010.
- In January 2011, an NPS ranger used a taser to control an uncooperative off-leash dog walker in an incident that became a *cause celebre* for off-leash dog stakeholders throughout the park. The ranger was exonerated in an Office of Professional Responsibility review.
- San Mateo County and the US Atty both declined to pursue the criminal case against the off-leash dog walker. A civil suit by the dog walker is scheduled for trial starting August 11, 2014.
- Rep Speier was critical of the park in news stories over the taser incident, and called for a review/overhaul of NPS policies on electronic control devices. She also stated at that time that NPS needed to accommodate off-leash dog use in future planning for the site.
- In January 2014, near the end of the public comment period for the Supplemental Dog Mgt Plan/EIS, Rep Speier convened a public meeting, at which Superintendent Frank Dean was a presenter; she again reiterated her demand that NPS provide for off-leash dog walking at Rancho Corral de Tierra.
- At that meeting, she also endorsed the idea of NPS creating a "Recreation Roundtable," a panel consisting of a variety of recreation user groups, to serve as advisors to the park when it considers regulating recreation uses.
- In June 2014, Rep Speier participated in a news conference convened by SF Supervisor Scott Wiener and including the presidents of the boards of supervisors in the three counties in which the park is located (San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin). The purpose of this media event, which conflated the Dog Mgt Plan and the park's new GMP, was to release a letter to Superintendent Frank Dean demanding that he "save recreation" in the GGNRA.

Dog Mgt Plan Status:

- The park is preparing the draft Rule for dog walking, following review of over 7000 comments on the SEIS.
- The preferred alternative in the SEIS did not recommend an off-leash area at Rancho, due to the observed or likely presence of threatened/endangered species (red-legged frog; San Francisco garter snake).
- Instead, the plan recommended on-leash access on a number of the most popular trails in Rancho. This represents a large reduction in the areas currently available to on-leash dog walkers, since the entire property is now under the provisions of CFR 36, Sec 2.15 (dogs on leash).

San Mateo County Parks Position

- While Rep Speier is demanding that NPS accommodate off-leash dog use, San Mateo County Parks has strict rules in its 19 park units that prohibit dogs altogether.

- When the previous owner (Peninsula Open Space Trust – POST) was discussing transferring the land to NPS, the park asked San Mateo County if they would accept the northern end of Rancho for development as a county dog park. The County refused.
- The County recently obtained a property adjoining Rancho Corral de Tierra and is considering designating a small area for on-leash dog use. **Note: Rep Speier may not yet know this information.**

Recreation Roundtable proposal:

- The park does not support the idea of a multi-stakeholder panel to consider recreation uses for several reasons
  - The FACA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (2006-2008) convened to try for a consensus on a rule for dog management was a noble exercise, but was very costly, and consensus was as far away at the end as at the beginning of the process.
  - The park has no problem gaining the attention of stakeholders for any recreation proposal.
  - We believe the real motivation behind this proposal is to create pressure for the park to back off on its due diligence in protecting park resources and managing for the needs of the full spectrum of desired visitor experience

DRAFT 1/16/2014

Statement of Frank Dean at Rep Speier's Community Forum on the GGNRA Dog Management Plan
January 30, 2014
Stern Grove, Trocadero Clubhouse

- The issue of dog management at Golden Gate National Recreation Area has been around since the park was established in 1972, and inherited a number of areas which had seen off leash dog use prior to the establishment of the park.

- As is well known, the national regulation on dog use in national parks is very restrictive, and allows dogs only in limited areas of parks, and never off leash.

- As park visitation has grown over the years, and the number of dogs has increased substantially, conflicts have increasingly arisen between the desires of various user groups, all of whom prize the same key park destinations.

- At the same time, we have learned much more about the extent and significance of the park's natural and cultural resources. This park contains an extraordinary number and variety of plant and animal species, including more rare and threatened species than all but one other of the nation's national parks. **[fact check]** As you know, we are duty bound to assure the protection of these resources.

- In 2003, our park sought, and was given permission, to develop a regulation that would permit off leash dog walking in certain areas of the park where that use is appropriate. Permission to develop this park-specific rule, applicable only at Golden Gate, was given in recognition of the unique setting and circumstances of the park.

- Recreation is at the heart of the purposes of the park -always has been, and always will be. Golden Gate National Recreation Area has arguably the broadest variety of recreation activities of any park in the 401-unit National Park system. These uses include dog walking, bird watching, beach combing, hiking, walking jogging, swimming, cycling, horseback riding, hang gliding, and board sailing, to name a few. It also includes relatively new recreation activities such as orienteering and radio-operated model planes. Some of these activities conflict with others, and we are required to do what we can to reduce those conflicts.

- People love this park and are passionate about it. The challenge for us in developing a plan to manage the important activity of dog walking is to create a plan that acknowledges and fulfills the passionate and often conflicting desires of a broad variety of park users to the best of our ability, while fulfilling our obligation to protect resources for the future – all in a way that is understandable and manageable.

- We have been actively working to develop a dog management plan for 12 years, and the process has been among the most publically-engaged of any ever undertaken by the National Park Service. Immediately following this meeting, we will hold our fourth public open house meeting to receive comment on the Supplemental draft environmental impact statement for dog management. This is in addition to the 5 public open houses we held on the first draft plan in 2011. When today's meeting is over, we will have held nine public open houses on the two drafts plans, and provided cumulatively 9 months for public comment.

- Changes in the plan in Rep Speier's district resulting from the public and agency review of the first draft plan include new off leash areas added at Fort Funston and new on-leash areas added at Mori Point and Sweeney Ridge. In addition, two areas were recommended for on-leash use at Rancho Corral de Tierra.

- Thank you for your support of the park. We welcome your questions and comments at this meeting hosted by Congresswoman Speier, as well as your submission of comments on the draft plan, online, by mail, or at the meeting that follows this one.

Anticipated Q's and As

General:

Q: Everything is working fine in the park now – why did you do this plan?

A: Unfortunately, everything is not fine in the park as it relates to dog use. There is much confusion on what rule applies to what area, we have seen conflicts between dog owners and between dogs and visitors, and we have seen wildlife and plants in the park damaged by dog use. We have received phone and mail complaints who say they will not use one or another area because they are afraid of dogs or don't like dogs, and park visitors and employees have been bitten by dogs. At the same time, our planning process has proceeded from the position that dog walking is an appropriate use in the park, provided it is properly managed.

Q: How much have you spent on this planning effort? Where has the money come from?

A: Approximately $ [Michael?]

Q: *How much will it cost to implement the plan, and where will you get the funds?*

A: We estimate it will cost $2.1-2.7 million annually to implement the plan, depending he alternative selected. The low cost is for the alternative that is most restrictive of dog use; the high cost is for the alternative that is least restrictive of dog use. Resources to implement the plan will largely come from allocating existing staff to implementation of the plan. [Frank, Aaron, Michael?]

Q: Since the majority of the 8000 comments on the original draft plan called for more off leash dog walking in the park, why did you make such minimal changes in this supplemental draft?

A: Changes that met the goals of the plan were made, based on review of the comments. However, review of the comments against the plan's goals affirmed most of the recommendations in the original draft plan.

Q: Where is the science showing that dogs have a negative impact on birds or other users?

A: This management plan is rooted in accommodating the broadest array of park uses and reducing conflicts. Protection of wildlife is also central to the plan, and review of scientific research on the impacts of dogs on park resources is described in the plan. [Michael – help]

Rancho Questions:

Q: Why did you start with a designation of just two areas at Rancho for off-leash dog use, and then switch to the entire property as on-leash?

A: Knowing relatively little about the resource values of Rancho, we took a conservative approach at first to avoid resource damage, designating areas for on-leash use that were traditionally used by the two main communities adjoining Rancho – El Granada and Montara. Later, in acknowledgement that implementation of the final rule would be a few years in the future, we designated the entire parcel for on-leash use, in accordance with the national regulation (36CFR2.15). In the meantime, we have continued to learn more about Rancho resources and visitor use patterns.

Q: In a 3700 acre parcel, why couldn't you find even one area to recommend as a ROLA?

A: Rancho has several streams crossing it, and is home to several known endangered species (red-legged frog, and possibly the San Francisco garter snake, and the [name of plant]. There is not an area adjoining one of the neighboring residential communities where an off-leash area could be designated that would assure protection of these resources. [Daphne, Susie?]

Q: Why did you not acknowledge the pre-existing off leash dog use at Rancho as you did elsewhere in the park?

A: Off leash use at Rancho before the property was deeded to the park by POST was not legal under San Mateo County law. We could not consider this illegal use to be a legitimate preexisting use that would be reflected in the No-Action alternative in the plan. [Michael?]

Q: Your recommended alternative does not allow any long distance hiking opportunities with dogs – why?

A: The plan under review is a draft. We welcome comments on additional trails that might be made available for dog walking.

Effect on neighboring Jurisdictions:

Q: Your new draft gives only a cursory look at the displacement effect on neighboring agencies' lands – why didn't you do more rigorous analysis?

A: We undertook a survey to determine where users at some of the key areas of current high use might go if the park plan was implemented. The results of the survey were somewhat inconclusive because most respondents told us they didn't know what they would do. As our colleagues at SF Recreation and Parks Department know, forecasts of displacement are mostly speculative. However, we have not heard of any major increase in use of neighboring agencies' lands during the 16 day park closure last October.

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- As park visitation has grown over the years, and the number of dogs has increased substantially, conflicts have increasingly arisen between the desires of various user groups, all of whom prize the same key park destinations.

- At the same time, we have learned much more about the extent and significance of the park's natural and cultural resources. This park contains an extraordinary number and variety of plant and animal species, including more rare and threatened species than all but one other of the nation's national parks. **[fact check]** As you know, we are duty bound to assure the protection of these resources.

- In 2003, our park sought, and was given permission, to develop a regulation that would permit off leash dog walking in certain areas of the park where that use is appropriate. Permission to develop this park-specific rule, applicable only at Golden Gate, was given in recognition of the unique setting and circumstances of the park.

- Recreation is at the heart of the purposes of the park -always has been, and always will be. Golden Gate National Recreation Area has arguably the broadest variety of recreation activities of any park in the 401-unit National Park system. These uses include dog walking, bird watching, beach combing, hiking, walking jogging, swimming, cycling, horseback riding, hang gliding, and board sailing, to name a few. It also includes relatively new recreation activities such as orienteering and radio-operated model planes. Some of these activities conflict with others, and we are required to do what we can to reduce those conflicts.

- People love this park and are passionate about it. The challenge for us in developing a plan to manage the important activity of dog walking is to create a plan that acknowledges and fulfills the passionate and often conflicting desires of a broad variety of park users to the best of our ability, while fulfilling our obligation to protect resources for the future – all in a way that is understandable and manageable.

- We have been actively working to develop a dog management plan for 12 years, and the process has been among the most publically-engaged of any ever undertaken by the National Park Service. Immediately following this meeting, we will hold our fourth public open house meeting to receive comment on the Supplemental draft environmental impact statement for dog management. This is in addition to the 5 public open houses we held on the first draft plan in 2011. When today's meeting is over, we will have held nine public open houses on the two drafts plans, and provided cumulatively 9 months for public comment.

- Changes in the plan in Rep Speier's district resulting from the public and agency review of the first draft plan include new off leash areas added at Fort Funston and new on-leash areas added at Mori Point and Sweeney Ridge. In addition, two areas were recommended for on-leash use at Rancho Corral de Tierra.

- Thank you for your support of the park. We welcome your questions and comments at this meeting hosted by Congresswoman Speier, as well as your submission of comments on the draft plan, online, by mail, or at the meeting that follows this one.

Anticipated Q's and As

General:

Q: Everything is working fine in the park now – why did you do this plan?

A: Unfortunately, everything is not fine in the park as it relates to dog use. There is much confusion on what rule applies to what area, we have seen conflicts between dog owners and between dogs and visitors, and we have seen wildlife and plants in the park damaged by dog use. We have received phone and mail complaints from visitors who say they will not use one or another area because they are afraid of dogs or don't like dogs. Park visitors and employees have been bitten by dogs. At the same time, our planning process has proceeded from the position that dog walking is an appropriate use in the park, provided it is properly managed.

The purpose of the park dog management plan is to provide a clear, enforceable implementation plan for dog use in appropriate areas of the park, with a focus on safe and diverse visitor experiences, while protecting park resources.

Q: How much have you spent on this planning effort? Where has the money come from?

A: Approximately $ [Michael?]

Q: *How much will it cost to implement the plan, and where will you get the funds?*

A: We estimate it will cost $2.1-2.7 million annually to implement the plan, depending on the alternative selected. The low end of that range is for the alternative that is most

restrictive of dog use; the high end is for the alternative that is least restrictive of dog use. Resources to implement the plan will largely come from allocating existing staff to implementation of the plan. [Frank, Aaron, Michael?]

Q: Since the majority of the 8000 comments on the original draft plan called for more off leash dog walking in the park, why did you make such minimal changes in this supplemental draft?

A: Based on a careful review of all comments received, changes were made that met the goals of the plan. However, review of the comments against the plan's goals affirmed most of the recommendations in the original draft plan.

Q: Where is the science showing that dogs have a negative impact on birds or other users?

A: This management plan is rooted in accommodating the broadest array of park uses , assuring visitor safety, and reducing conflicts. Protection of wildlife is also central to the plan, and review of scientific research on the impacts of dogs on park resources is described in the plan. [Michael – help]

Rancho Questions:

Q: Why did you start with a designation of just two areas at Rancho for off-leash dog use, and then switch to the entire property as on-leash?

A: Knowing relatively little about the resource values of Rancho, we took a conservative approach at first to avoid resource damage, designating areas for on-leash use that were traditionally used by the two main communities adjoining Rancho – El Granada and Montara. Later, in acknowledgement that implementation of the final rule would be a few years in the future, we designated the entire parcel for on-leash use, in accordance with the national regulation (36CFR2.15). In the meantime, we have continued to learn more about Rancho resources and visitor use patterns.

Q: In a 3700 acre parcel, why couldn't you find even one area to recommend as a ROLA?

A: Rancho has several streams crossing it, and is home to several known endangered species (red-legged frog, and possibly the San Francisco garter snake, and the [name of plant]. There is not an area adjoining one of the neighboring residential communities where an off-leash area could be designated that would assure protection of these resources. [Daphne, Susie?]

Q: Why did you not acknowledge the pre-existing off leash dog use at Rancho as you did elsewhere in the park?

A: Off leash use at Rancho before the property was deeded to the park by POST was not legal under San Mateo County law. We could not consider this illegal use to be a legitimate preexisting use that would be reflected in the No-Action alternative in the plan. [Michael?]

Q: Your recommended alternative does not allow any long distance hiking opportunities with dogs – why?

A: The plan under review is a draft. We welcome comments on additional trails that might be made available for dog walking.

Effect on neighboring Jurisdictions:

Q: Your new draft gives only a cursory look at the displacement effect on neighboring agencies' lands – why didn't you do more rigorous analysis?

A: We undertook a survey to determine where users at some of the key areas of current high use might go if the park plan was implemented. The results of the survey were somewhat inconclusive because most respondents told us they didn't know what they would do. As our colleagues at SF Recreation and Parks Department know, forecasts of displacement are mostly speculative. However, we have not heard of any major increase in use of neighboring agencies' lands during the 16 day park closure last October.

July 18, 2014

Background and Talking Points for Chris Lehnertz and Frank Dean call with Martha Walters and Bill Bechtell - July 22, 2014

Background:

- **Martha Walters** is head of Crissy Field Dog Group, an off-leash dog advocacy group. She has been engaged in the dog walking planning process for many years.
- **Bill Bechtell** is head of Montara Dog Group, a group representing off-leash advocates in the northern section of Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County.
- CFDG, on behalf of other off-leash groups, has characterized the GOGA GMP as "pre-decisional" to the park Dog Management Plan/EIS, because she believes the zoning in the GMP precludes options in the Dog Management Plan, which is still pending completion.

GOGA GMP Talking Points:

- RD has considered the points made by CFDG and MDG and others on the GMP, and feels that the park has adequately addressed the concerns raised by these and other groups.

- The FEIS for the GMP includes a statement (Vol 1, p 399: "if real or perceived inconsistencies are found [between the Dog Mgt Plan and the GMP] the final dog management plan would take precedence over the GMP for this particular use." **We have included language in the ROD for the GMP that reiterates this point.**

- The GMP is an excellent document that presents a compelling vision for the park over the next 20 years.

- Recreation is, appropriately, a centerpiece of the GMP. All of the zones delineated in the plan would allow a variety of recreation experiences. While not mentioned specifically in all geographic areas of the park, dog walking is consistent with the range of uses that will be found in the park, including off-leash dog walking in specific areas (note: the Dog Mgt Plan preferred alt identifies 7 areas for off leash use).

- Because the NPS has proposed regulation of certain activities (i.e. dog walking), some users conflate a limitation in their preferred activity with a general bias against recreation by the park. NPS does not have the luxury of seeing the world through a single lens.

- The GMP involved more than 8 years of effort by NPS staff and consultants, numerous resource studies, countless public meetings and workshops, and five broadly distributed newsletters.

Dog Management Background:

- SEIS comment period ended on 2/18/2014. Around 9000 comments received.

- Park/PWRO/EQD team completed review of comments and considered changes to the preferred alternative in the SEIS. There are still no off-leash areas proposed for San Mateo County, which is a sore point for off-leash advocates and Rep Jackie Speier.

- Draft Rule is in development – depending on OMB review schedule, will be ready for public release in late fall 2014 or early winter 2015.

- Walters and Bechtell will probably bring up the idea of creating a standing "recreation roundtable" made up of a variety of recreation user group to advise the park in reaching decisions on appropriate uses. This idea was picked up by Rep Speier. For several reasons, the park does not favor this idea – decisions on rec uses are complicated and require NPS independence to assure resource protection; experience with the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee during the Dog Mgt Planning process, which failed to achieve any consensus; opportunity for politicization, etc.

- Recent Compendium change requiring permits and setting a limit on the number of dogs (6) that commercial dog walkers can walk at one time have been met with general support by the commercial dog walking community. There have been 145 permit applications submitted since June 2, with requests for badges for 210 professional dog walkers.

National Park Service

Talking Points - Law Enforcement incident on January 29. 2012, involving use of a Taser at Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Contact: Frank Dean, Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area
415 561-4720

Background

- On December 9. 2011, the National Park Service assumed ownership of Rancho Corral de Tierra is a 3700 parcel of land in San Mateo County, California, as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.
- Upon NPS assumption of ownership, federal regulations (CFR 36. Sec 2.15) regarding the use of the area by dog walkers took effect.
- CFR 36, 2.15 requires, among other things, that where dogs are permitted, they must be on a leash.
- Neighboring communities had been using Rancho Corral de Tierra for many years for off-leash dog walking, despite the fact that the previous owner, Peninsula Open Space Trust, prohibited that use.

Incident

- On January 29, 2012 an NPS ranger initiated a contact with an off-leash dog walker to inform him of the new federal regulations.
- The dog walker provided a false name to the ranger, and twice refused the ranger's direction to remain on the scene while the man's identity was determined.
- Following the second warning and an attempt by the ranger to physically keep the man on the scene, the ranger deployed a Taser to assure compliance with her instructions.
- The man sustained minor abrasions from the incident.
- He was taken into custody by San Mateo County Sheriffs Deputies, to whom he provided his actual name, Gary Hesterberg of Montara California.
- He was charged on state charges of failure to obey a lawful order, willfully providing false information, and having a dog off leash.
- The incident is under investigation by the NPS Office of Professional Responsibility, with the concurrence of the DOI Office of Inspector General.
- Estimated date of completion of the investigation is not known at this time.

Status

- The incident attracted national media attention. The park issued a statement on January 31, 2012, attached below.
- On February 1, 2012, Congresswoman Jackie Speier sent the park a letter expressing concern about the incident, and asking a series of questions. The park responded on February 3, 2012. The Congresswoman's letter and the park's response are attached below.

- On February 8, 2010, Congresswoman Speier sent a letter questioning the redaction of portions of RM-9 dealing with use of electronic control devices (i.e. tasers). Park responded verbally that this issue is being discussed at the national level. Letter attached below
- On February 11, the park held an informal community get-together at Rancho Corral de Tierra, as part of a previously planned effort to establish positive relations with the residents who live around the new park area. Approximately, 60 community members attended, and the event was well received by all who attended.

Park Statement of 1/31/2012:

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Media Statement

Release Date: January 31, 2012
For Immediate Release
Contact: Howard Levitt, 415 561-4730

Law Enforcement Incident in Rancho Corral de Tierra

Golden Gate National Recreation Area shares the general public's concern over the unfortunate incident between a National Park Service law enforcement ranger and a man walking his dog off leash at Rancho Corral de Tierra, in San Mateo County, on Sunday, January 29, 2012. As is standard practice, the park has initiated a review of the incident, which will be concluded in the next two weeks. At that time, another statement will be released.

According to the information available to the park at this point, the incident began as a routine educational contact about the National Park Service rules on dog walking. The incident developed into a more serious law enforcement situation when the person being contacted provided false information to the ranger, and refused to heed repeated orders to remain at the scene while the ranger was in contact with the park dispatch center to confirm his identity.

In December 2011, Rancho Corral de Tierra came under the management of the National Park Service. Golden Gate National Recreation Area will continue to work hard to build close partnerships with the existing users of, and the communities that surround, Rancho Corral de Tierra.

-NPS-

Congresswoman Speier letter of 2/1/2012:

[EMBED Unknown]
Park Response to Rep Speier's 2/1/2012 letter:

United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
201 Fort Mason, San Francisco, California 94123

IN REPLY REFER TO:

A3815 (GOGA-CP)

February 3, 2012

The Honorable Jackie Speier
400 South El Camino Real, Suite 410
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Ms. Speier:

We share your concern about the incident at Rancho Corral de Tierra on January 29, 2012. We are dismayed that what should have been a routine visitor contact became something very different. From the information we have to date, the incident began as an informational contact, but because the individual contacted lied to the ranger and attempted to leave the scene, it unfortunately became a more serious law enforcement situation.

As you know, all aspects of the incident, including the use of an electronic control device, are currently being reviewed. The review is being conducted independently of the park, by the NPS Office of Professional Responsibility from Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. We expect the review to be completed within the next two weeks. We will provide that report to you once the review is complete. In the meantime, responses to the specific questions in your letter of February 1, 2012, are enclosed.

Somewhat lost this week in the furor over the January 29 incident is a bit of important news for the communities that adjoin Rancho Corral de Tierra. This week, as you know, the park announced that a Supplement DEIS and new draft Dog Management Plan would be prepared and released for public comment late this summer. This Supplemental will explore a full range of dog walking options at Rancho – with alternatives providing off leash under voice control, on leash, as well as areas where dog walking would be prohibited. This means that Rancho will be planned for dog walking in the same way the other areas of the park were treated in the draft plan. The decision to consider a range of uses at Rancho came about because we listened to and heard this suggestion from the public during the draft plan review period.

I know that you share the late Congressman Tom Lantos' vision of this beautiful and important Coastside parcel as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Without your effort, the land would not have been protected forever for the use and enjoyment of this and future generations. We will do everything we can to get beyond this unfortunate incident, and build a positive relationship with the communities surrounding Rancho Corral de Tierra. We know we can count on your support in this trust-building process. Please call me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

/s/ Frank Dean

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Enclosure

Responses to the questions raised by Congresswoman Jackie Speier in her letter of February 1, 2012.

1. **Is it mandatory that a park ranger complete training in taser usage before he or she may carry and deploy a taser? If so, what is the extent of this training? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
    a. **What factors are park rangers instructed to take into account when deciding whether to utilize a taser?**
    b. **Are rangers informed about the risks inherent with taser usage including the fact that a taser can trigger a heart attack?**

    National Park Service (NPS) Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9/Chapter 32 *Electronic Control Device (ECD) Programs*, specifies that prior to carrying or utilizing an ECD, commissioned employees must complete the NPS ECD certification course approved by the Superintendent, NPS Law Enforcement Training Center. First time users must meet the basic Taser X26 ECD User requirements put forth by Taser International. Training also includes instruction and discussion of NPS ECD policy.

    An additional two hour training is required annually that includes: ECD fundamentals; ECD handling and use (e.g., equipment care and inspection, function testing, carry methods, deployment, subject target areas, etc.); ECD physiological effects (e.g., recognition of high risk groups, deployment scenarios, etc.); ECD post-deployment procedures (e.g., probe removal, medical treatment, evidence collection, etc.); ECD reporting requirements and ECD use policies, and a review of use of force policy, court cases relevant to ECD use, and proficiency testing; qualification course and test. GGNRA most recently conducted the annual, two hour training in March, 2011 and again in April, 2011.

The factors that must be taken into account in deciding when to use any intermediary law enforcement device (baton, pepper spray, ECD) include Constitutional law regarding Use of Force (Graham V. Connor, etc...), and also department policy as outlined in RM-9 Chapter 32 § 4.2, ECD Use Parameters: "When such force is legally justified and consistent with Department Policy, ECDs may be used on individuals who are actively resisting a commissioned employee or to prevent individuals from harming themselves."

Information on the potential risks of ECD use is included in both the initial Taser, Inc., training and the annual in-service instruction.

A DVD including NPS Director's Order 9 and the NPS Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9 will be sent to you under separate cover.

2. **If lawful, would you be open to the appointment of an independent investigator who would evaluate whether park regulations were violated and excessive force utilized during the course of this incident?**

This incident is being reviewed independently of the park, under the auspices of the National Park Service Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. The review will determine if any park regulations were violated and whether excessive force was utilized in the incident.

3. **What steps were taken to educate the public about the dog policy change at Rancho Corral de Tierra which now only allows dogs to be walked on leash rather than off leash as the previous POST policy permitted? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
    a. **Was there any signage on the newly acquired property indicating that dogs are only allowed on leash? If so, how many signs were posted and where?**
    b. **Was there a community informational meeting about the new leash policy after Rancho Corral de Tierra was acquired by the GGNRA in December?**

As you know, when the Golden Gate National Recreation Area assumed management of Rancho Corral de Tierra, the national rule (36 CFR 2.15)on dog walking in national park areas came into effect, pending completion of the park's Dog Management Plan. This national rule states that where dogs are permitted, they must be on a leash. We know that this represents a change to the uses of Rancho prior to NPS management, and therefore we planned to provide a period of education about the new rules for visitors. This was the intent of the contact in the January 29 incident.

Regarding signage, on December 16, 2011, a week after we assumed management of Rancho, we published a map on our website highlighting areas where dogs would be permitted on leash. On December 21, 2011, we sent an email to both our general park list and our San Mateo list that announced the park's management of Rancho and pointed out the regulations that would

be in effect under NPS management. During the week of January 9, 2012, we installed six signs at Rancho, all of them on the portion of Rancho closest to Ocean View Farms. Four of these signs - three in the community of Montara – include regulatory information in iconic form. One of those icons is the symbol for dogs on leash. Under separate cover, we will send you a map indicating the location and content of these signs.

There has not been a community informational meeting about the new leash policy since NPS assumed management of Rancho in December. However, prior to that, there were a number of public meetings at which the new rules and signage about those rules were displayed and discussed. In March, 2011, two months after the park released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Dog Management for Golden Gate, we held numerous public meetings, one of them in Pacifica, to seek comment and explain the proposed new rules under the draft plan. Those meetings, especially the meeting in Pacifica, included discussion of how the Rancho property would be managed immediately after transfer to the NPS. We also attended several community meetings in November and December of 2011 to describe the proposed plans for Rancho and the rules that would take effect when NPS assumed management of the site. In total, hundreds of people from the Coastside attended one or more of these meetings.

Congresswoman Speier's 2/8/2012 letter

Questions and Answers on Law Enforcement Incident on January 29, 2012 at Rancho Corral de Tierra

1. **What happened during the incident?**
   While on patrol at Rancho Corral de Tierra, an NPS ranger asked a man whose dog was off-leash to identify himself. The question was preliminary to issuing him a warning for having his dog off leash in violation of the regulation that dogs must be on leash. The man lied to the ranger about his name, and while she was trying to ascertain his identity, he attempted to leave the scene several times, despite the ranger's warning that he remain on scene. After unsuccessfully attempting to physically restrain him, the ranger warned the man that she would deploy an electronic control devise (Taser) if he attempted to leave again. He began to leave and the ranger deployed the Taser. The man was subsequently arrested on charges of failing to obey a lawful order and providing false information, as well as the leash violation.

2. **Did the NPS investigate the incident?**
   The incident was investigated by the NPS Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, D.C.

3. **What did the investigation conclude?**
   It was determined that because the man lied to the ranger and attempted to leave the scene despite orders to remain, the ranger was acting within her authority and NPS policy to deploy an electronic control device. It was also determined that she acted within the supervisory instructions that had been given to her, and that she had communicated her intent in a way that was understood by the man involved in the incident.

4. **Has the man been formally charged?**
   The case is being handled by the San Mateo County District Attorney's office. The investigative report will be provided to that office to be used in their disposition of the case. [Note: need to coordinate with SM Co DA's office]

5. **Is the NPS ranger still on duty?**
   Based on the findings of the investigative report, the ranger is still on duty in the park.

6. **What is the park doing as a result of the incident?**
   It is standard practice to review procedures following an incident in the park. The park will provide refresher training to staff on assuring compliance with orders and effective communications.

7. **Are park visitors likely to experience anything like what happened on January 29 when visiting Rancho Corral de Tierra?**
   The incident resulted because a visitor lied to a law enforcement office and failed to obey repeated orders to remain on scene. As in any situation in or outside of a park, people are obligated to provide accurate information and to cooperate with a law enforcement official.

Visitors who cooperate with law enforcement personnel should have no concerns when visiting the park.

8. **Can I walk my dog at Rancho Corral de Tierra?**
   Dogs are welcome in many areas of the park while on leash. A map of areas where dogs are permitted may be found at [link].

9. **Is the park enforcing the federal leash law at Rancho Corral de Tierra?**
   Because NPS ownership of the site is still relatively new, the park will continue to adopt an educational approach to violations of the leash law for the remainder of 2012. First time violators are subject to a warning. However, repeat violations, harassment of wildlife or threats to other visitors by dogs may result in citations.

10. **How will NPS educate visitors about the rules at Rancho Corral de Tierra?**
    The park will continue to update and refine its website, will add additional signage, and will continue outreach to community organizations and stakeholder groups in the San Mateo County Coastside to discuss use of Rancho by various user groups.

11. **What is the status of dog management planning at Rancho Corral de Tierra?**
    The park will issue a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Dog Management Plan in Fall 2012. This plan will describe a range of alternatives to dog use at Rancho, and will include a preferred alternative. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the draft in public meetings and through written comments.

***Draft* GOGA Comment Letter re: Presidio Trust's proposed rule to regulate commercial dog walking**

Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) has reviewed the Presidio Trust's proposed regulation for a public use limit on commercial dog walking in Area B of the Presidio. We understand that the Presidio Trust is taking this action in response to the ordinance passed last year by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, which will regulate commercial dog walking, requiring a permit for four to eight dogs, liability insurance and dog licensing/registration, and will take effect July 1 of this year. Without action, commercial dog walkers may relocate to Trust lands, where commercial dog walking is currently not regulated. This potential redistribution could impact the Presidio Trust's mandate to preserve and protect the park's resources, including recreational resources. Similarly, we are concerned about the possible effects of the city's action on GGNRA lands, users and resources, given that the park's Dog Management Plan, final EIS, and final rule, are not expected to be completed until 2015. In the interim, the now combined actions of the City and the Trust will likely cause a redistribution of commercial dog walkers to GGNRA lands unless GGNRA also implements an interim permit system for commercial dog walking.

GGNRA's Dog Management Plan includes a range of alternatives for managing commercial dog walking, including: a special use permit program for all dog walkers (including commercial dog walkers) to walk more than three dogs, with a maximum of six dogs per walker; a limit of three dogs per dog walker (including commercial dog walkers, with no permit required); and a prohibition of commercial dog walking.

The NPS has considered but dismissed allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers in the Dog Management Plan/SEIS, because it would not meet the purpose, need, and objectives for the plan. We received multiple public comments on the Plan/DEIS regarding the appropriate number of dogs allowed per dog walker. Some commenters expressed support for limiting the number at six dogs with strict guidelines. Other commenters, including some dog walkers, expressed concern that public health and safety would be adversely impacted by allowing more than three dogs per dog walker (commercial or private), with some noting that four or more dogs could be hard to control. Commercial dog walkers noted the potential economic impacts to their businesses of limiting the number of dogs to a maximum of six, while other commenters requested that commercial dog walking not be allowed at all.

In establishing a threshold number, we were concerned first and foremost with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, two key objectives of the Plan/EIS. We question whether a dog walker could consistently control more than six dogs under voice and sight control, particularly in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. We were unable to find literature supporting the idea that more than six dogs would not damage park resources or impact visitor experience and safety, or put another way, would provide both resource protection and visitor experience and safety. Based on public comment, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management, park staff observations and research, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety, and would not meet the purpose of and need for the Plan/EIS. Consequently, the preferred alternative requires dog walkers with more than three dogs to obtain a special use permit (see Appendix F of the Dog Management Plan/EIS for permit conditions and restrictions) which would allow a maximum of six dogs. Dog walking compliance in GGNRA, including compliance with special use permits and impacts to resources, would be monitored after

implementation through the monitoring-based management strategy. Where monitoring finds non-compliance with special use permit conditions, permit restrictions such as individual permit revocations, time of use restrictions or number of permits issued may be instituted as mitigation.

In determining a threshold number, NPS also sought consistency with adjacent jurisdictions, since a consistent number would be easier to understand and enforce, two additional Plan/EIS objectives. In evaluating what a reasonable number of dogs might be, we evaluated the management actions of local and other government entities that have addressed this issue. Two local government entities, Marin County Open Space District and the East Bay Regional Park District, limit numbers to six dogs per dog walker. Multiple entities outside the San Francisco Bay Area have also limited the number of dogs for both commercial and private dog walkers to no more than six, including Boulder County Open Space, Colorado, which addressed dog walking in a comprehensive management plan. Jurisdictions with a primary resource protection and recreation mandate settled on six as the appropriate number. The City of San Francisco appears to be one of the only local jurisdictions with an ordinance allowing up to eight dogs per commercial dog walker in its own parks.

The NPS received public comments on the Plan/DEIS urging the park to prohibit commercial dog walking altogether instead of limiting the number of dogs allowed. These comments noted that commercial uses of parks are highly regulated, and typically exist to provide a service supporting some aspect of visitor experience, which commercial dog walking does not. We agree that commercial park uses, particularly those that do not provide a visitor service, deserve greater scrutiny than commercial services for visitors, and cannot trump the use of the park by the general public. However, one objective of the Plan/EIS is to evaluate commercial dog walking, and if allowed, create and implement an enforceable policy. Therefore, the Plan/EIS range of alternatives evaluates allowing and prohibiting commercial dog walking, and in alternatives where allowed, limiting dog walkers to three dogs per dog walker with no permit system, or four to six dogs with a permit system. If the preferred alternative, or other alternative allowing commercial dog walking, is ultimately selected, GGRNA would regulate commercial dog walking through a special regulation pursuant to 36 CFR 5.3, subject to the strict permitting protocol described above if more than three dogs are allowed, and with compliance evaluated through the monitoring-based management strategy (see the Dog Management Plan/EIS for additional details).

In summary, GGNRA supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, but urges adoption of a lower initial permit limit, given their presence within the boundaries of a national park unit and our contiguous properties. Additionally, in response to the potential of the combined effect of the city's ordinance and the Trust's proposed rule, GGNRA is now considering enacting an interim commercial dog walking permit system that would be in place only until the Dog Management Plan/EIS is finalized, and a final rule promulgated. We encourage the Trust to consider adopting the GGNRA permit system on either an interim basis or as part of their final rule, understanding that a more comprehensive dog management planning effort would likely need to be initiated by the Presidio Trust once the GGNRA Dog Management Plan/EIS and final rule are completed. A combined approach to commercial dog walking during the interim period prior to completion of GGNRA's final rule would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection mandates.

***Draft* GOGA Comment Letter re: Presidio Trust's proposed rule to regulate commercial dog walking**

Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) has reviewed the Presidio Trust's proposed regulation for a public use limit on commercial dog walking in Area B of the Presidio. We understand that the Presidio Trust is taking this action in response to the ordinance passed last year by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, which will regulate commercial dog walking, requiring a permit for four to eight dogs, liability insurance and dog licensing/registration, and will take effect July 1 of this year. Without action, commercial dog walkers may relocate to Trust lands, where commercial dog walking is currently not regulated. This potential redistribution could impact the Presidio Trust's mandate to preserve and protect the park's resources, including recreational resources. Similarly, we are concerned about the possible effects of the city's action on GGNRA lands, users and resources, given that the park's Dog Management Plan, final EIS, and final rule, are not expected to be completed until 2015. In the interim, the now combined actions of the City and the Trust will likely cause a redistribution of commercial dog walkers to GGNRA lands unless GGNRA also implements an interim permit system for commercial dog walking.

GGNRA's Dog Management Plan includes a range of alternatives for managing commercial dog walking, including: a special use permit program for all dog walkers (including commercial dog walkers) to walk more than three dogs, with a maximum of six dogs per walker; a limit of three dogs per dog walker (including commercial dog walkers, with no permit required); and a prohibition of commercial dog walking.

The NPS has considered but dismissed allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers in the Dog Management Plan/SEIS, because it would not meet the purpose, need, and objectives for the plan. We received multiple public comments on the Plan/DEIS regarding the appropriate number of dogs allowed per dog walker. Some commenters expressed support for limiting the number at six dogs with strict guidelines. Other commenters, including some dog walkers, expressed concern that public health and safety would be adversely impacted by allowing more than three dogs per dog walker (commercial or private), with some noting that four or more dogs could be hard to control. Commercial dog walkers noted the potential economic impacts to their businesses of limiting the number of dogs to a maximum of six, while other commenters requested that commercial dog walking not be allowed at all.

In establishing a threshold number, we were concerned first and foremost with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, two key objectives of the Plan/EIS. We question whether a dog walker could consistently control more than six dogs under voice and sight control, particularly in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. We were unable to find literature supporting the idea that more than six dogs would not damage park resources or impact visitor experience and safety, or put another way, would provide both resource protection and visitor experience and safety. Based on public comment, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management, park staff observations and research, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety, and would not meet the purpose of and need for the Plan/EIS. Consequently, the preferred alternative requires dog walkers with more than three dogs to obtain a special use permit (see Appendix F of the Dog Management Plan/EIS for permit conditions and restrictions) which would allow a maximum of six dogs. Dog walking compliance in GGNRA, including compliance with special use permits and impacts to resources, would be monitored after

implementation through the monitoring-based management strategy. Where monitoring finds non-compliance with special use permit conditions, permit restrictions such as individual permit revocations, time of use restrictions or number of permits issued may be instituted as mitigation.

In determining a threshold number, NPS also sought consistency with adjacent jurisdictions, since a consistent number would be easier to understand and enforce, two additional Plan/EIS objectives. In evaluating what a reasonable number of dogs might be, we evaluated the management actions of local and other government entities that have addressed this issue. Two local government entities, Marin County Open Space District and the East Bay Regional Park District, limit numbers to six dogs per dog walker. Multiple entities outside the San Francisco Bay Area have also limited the number of dogs for both commercial and private dog walkers to no more than six, including Boulder County Open Space, Colorado, which addressed dog walking in a comprehensive management plan. Jurisdictions with a primary resource protection and recreation mandate settled on six as the appropriate number. The City of San Francisco appears to be one of the only local jurisdictions with an ordinance allowing up to eight dogs per commercial dog walker in its own parks.

The NPS received public comments on the Plan/DEIS urging the park to prohibit commercial dog walking altogether instead of limiting the number of dogs allowed. These comments noted that commercial uses of parks are highly regulated, and typically exist to provide a service supporting some aspect of visitor experience, which commercial dog walking does not. We agree that commercial park uses, particularly those that do not provide a visitor service, deserve greater scrutiny than commercial services for visitors, and cannot trump the use of the park by the general public. However, one objective of the Plan/EIS is to evaluate commercial dog walking, and if allowed, create and implement an enforceable policy. Therefore, the Plan/EIS range of alternatives evaluates allowing and prohibiting commercial dog walking, and in alternatives where allowed, limiting dog walkers to three dogs per dog walker with no permit system, or four to six dogs with a permit system. If the preferred alternative, or other alternative allowing commercial dog walking, is ultimately selected, GGRNA would regulate commercial dog walking through a special regulation pursuant to 36 CFR 5.3, subject to the strict permitting protocol described above if more than three dogs are allowed, and with compliance evaluated through the monitoring-based management strategy (see the Dog Management Plan/EIS for additional details).

In summary, GGNRA supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, but urges adoption of a lower initial permit limit, given their presence within the boundaries of a national park unit and our contiguous properties. Additionally, in response to the potential of the combined effect of the city's ordinance and the Trust's proposed rule, GGNRA is now considering enacting an interim commercial dog walking permit system that would be in place only until the Dog Management Plan/EIS is finalized, and a final rule promulgated. We encourage the Trust to consider adopting the GGNRA permit system on either an interim basis or as part of their final rule, understanding that a more comprehensive dog management planning effort would likely need to be initiated by the Presidio Trust once the GGNRA Dog Management Plan/EIS and final rule are completed. A combined approach to commercial dog walking during the interim period prior to completion of GGNRA's final rule would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection mandates.

***Draft* GOGA Comment Letter re: Presidio Trust's proposed rule to regulate commercial dog walking**

Golden Gate National Recreation Area has reviewed the Presidio Trust's proposed regulation on commercial dog walking in Area B of the Presidio. We know that the Presidio Trust is taking this action in response to San Francisco's commercial dog walking ordinance, passed last year by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, which will take effect July 1 of this year. This ordinance require a permit for four to eight dogs, liability insurance and dog licensing/registration. We share the Trust's concern that without protective action by the Presido Trust, commercial dog walkers may relocate to Trust lands, where commercial dog walking is currently not regulated. This potential redistribution could impact the Presidio Trust's mandate to preserve and protect the park's resources.

GGNRA supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use. But the fact that the Presidio is a within a national park area, we urges adoption of a maximum limit of six dogs per dog walker, consistent the limits specified in the alternatives that permit commercial dog walking in our draft Dog Management Plan.

As you know, the park has spent nine years of intensive work in developing a Draft Dog Management Plan. The park's Dog Management Plan includes a range of alternatives for managing commercial dog walking - from setting a limit of three dogs, to a limit of six dogs, to prohibiting commercial dog walking altogether. During development of the Dog Management Plan/EIS, NPS carefully considered allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers, but dismissed this notion because it did not comport with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, key objectives of the Plan/EIS.

We received many public comments on the Draft Plan/DEIS regarding the appropriate number of dogs allowed per dog walker. Some commenters expressed support for limiting the number at six dogs with strict guidelines. Other commenters, including some dog walkers, expressed concern that public health and safety would be adversely impacted by allowing more than three dogs per dog walker (commercial or private). Some noted that four or more dogs could be hard to control. Some commercial dog walkers noted the potential economic impacts to their businesses of limiting the number of dogs to a maximum of six. A number of commenters requested that commercial dog walking not be allowed at all.

While controlling any multiple number of dogs may be problematic, we are very concerned that dog walkers could consistently control more than six dogs under voice and sight control, particularly in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. Based on public comment on our draft plan, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management convened by the park in 2005/06, park staff observations, and research of the policies of other park agencies, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety

In determining a threshold number, NPS also sought consistency with adjacent jurisdictions, since a consistent number would be easier to understand and enforce, two additional Plan/EIS objectives. We evaluated the management actions of local and other government entities that have addressed this

issue. Two local government entities, Marin County Open Space District and the East Bay Regional Park District, limit numbers to six dogs per dog walker. Nearly all of the agencies outside the San Francisco Bay Area that we surveyed also limit the number of dogs for both commercial and private dog walkers to no more than six. These agencies include Boulder County Open Space, Colorado, an agency that pioneered comprehensive dog management planning. Jurisdictions with a primary resource protection and recreation mandate universally settled on six as the appropriate number. The City of San Francisco, with an ordinance allowing up to eight dogs per commercial dog walker in its parks, appears to be an outlier among Bay Area jurisdictions..

Along with Presidio Trust, we are similarly concerned about the possible effects of the city's action on park lands, users and resources, given that the park's Dog Management Plan, final EIS, and final rule, are not expected to be completed until 2015. In the interim, the combined actions of the City and the Trust, should it adopt a regulation with a six dog limit, will likely cause a redistribution of commercial dog walkers to pard lands unless we, too, implement an interim permit system for commercial dog walking. As a result, the park is now considering enacting an interim commercial dog walking permit system that would be in place only until the Dog Management Plan/EIS is finalized, and a final rule promulgated. This would reflect the current limit of six dogs outlined in our Draft Dog Management Plan. In anticipation of this, we would encourage Presidio Trust adopt a six-dog limit in their proposed regulation. A combined approach to commercial dog walking during the interim period prior to completion of GGNRA's final rule would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection mandates.

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However, while we support the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, because we share a boundary with the lands managed by the Presidio Trust, we urge the Trust to adopt of a maximum limit of six dogs per dog walker, consistent with the limits specified in the alternatives that permit commercial dog walking in our draft Dog Management Plan/DEIS.

Comment [EMB1]: Kind of – except recall that our interim plan is different than what is being proposed in the EIS, including range of areas where commercial dogwalkers can go and fact that it only applies to commercial.

As you know, the park has spent nine years of intensive work in developing a Draft Dog Management Plan. The park's Dog Management Plan includes a range of alternatives for managing commercial dog walking - from setting a limit of three dogs, to a limit of six dogs, to prohibiting commercial dog walking altogether. During development of the Dog Management Plan/EIS, NPS carefully considered allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers, but dismissed this as a reasonable alternative because it did not comport with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, key objectives of the Plan/EIS.

Comment [EMB2]: Prefer the earlier language – this isn't completely accurate.

We received many public comments on the Draft Plan/DEIS regarding the appropriate number of dogs allowed per dog walker. Some commentors expressed support for limiting the number at six dogs with strict guidelines. Other commenters, including some dog walkers, expressed concern that public health and safety would be adversely impacted by allowing more than three dogs per dog walker (commercial or private). Some noted that four or more dogs could be hard to control. Some commercial dog walkers noted the potential economic impacts to their businesses of limiting the number of dogs to a maximum of six. A number of commenters requested that commercial dog walking not be allowed at all.

While controlling any multiple number of dogs may be problematic, we are very concerned that dog walkers could not consistently control more than six dogs under voice and sight control, particularly in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. Based on public comment on our draft plan, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management convened by the park in 2005/06, park staff observations, and research of the policies of other park agencies, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety

Comment [EMB3]: Strongly discourage saying this since we are proposing multiple dogs in the EIS!

Comment [EMB4]: The earlier version was more subtle, and noted that there is wiggle room between 3 and 6, assuming you have a permit system. Remember, this comment letter should complement what we are proposing in the EIS, thus the NEPA-speak. It needs to address the various ways in which we deal with dogs in the EIS, not just the overall number of 6.

In determining a threshold number, NPS also sought consistency with adjacent jurisdictions, since a consistent number would be easier to understand and enforce, two additional Plan/EIS objectives. We evaluated the management actions of local and other government entities that have addressed this issue. Two local government entities, Marin County Open Space District and the East Bay Regional Park District, limit numbers to six dogs per dog walker. Nearly all of the agencies outside the San Francisco Bay Area that we surveyed also limit the number of dogs for both commercial and private dog walkers to no more than six. These agencies include Boulder County Open Space, a Colorado agency that

pioneered comprehensive dog management planning. Jurisdictions with a primary resource protection and recreation mandate universally settled on six as the appropriate number. The City of San Francisco, with an ordinance allowing up to eight dogs per commercial dog walker in its parks, is an outlier among Bay Area jurisdictions.

Along with Presidio Trust, we are similarly concerned about the possible effects of the city's action on park lands, users and resources. Given that the park's Dog Management Plan, final EIS, and final rule, are not expected to be completed until 2015, the combined actions of the City and the Trust, should it adopt a regulation with a six dog limit, will likely cause a redistribution of commercial dog walkers to the park's lands. As a result, the park is now considering enacting an interim commercial dog walking permit system that would be in place only until the Dog Management Plan/EIS is finalized, and a final rule promulgated. anticipation of this, we would encourage Presidio Trust to adopt a six-dog limit in their proposed regulation. A combined Presidio Trust-NPS approach to commercial dog walking during the interim period prior to completion of the park's final rule would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection and visitor experience mandates.

Comment [EMB5]: No, it's different in that it allows commercial dogwalking on all lands, and does not address private dog walkers.

Comment [EMB6]: We need to suggest that they could also adopt via compendium. See earlier language.

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Comment [SES1]: Licensing/registration not required in the ordinance

However, while we support the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, because we share a boundary with the lands managed by the Presidio Trust, we urge the Trust to adopt of a maximum limit of six dogs per dog walker, consistent with the limits specified in the alternatives that permit commercial dog walking in our draft Dog Management Plan/EIS.

As you know, the park has spent nine years of intensive work developing the draft Dog Management Plan/EIS (draft Plan/EIS). That document includes a range of alternatives that address commercial dog walking - from setting a limit of three dogs, to a limit of six dogs with a permit required, to prohibiting commercial dog walking altogether. During development of the draft Plan/EIS, NPS carefully considered allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers, but dismissed this as a reasonable alternative because it did not comport with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, key objectives of the Plan/EIS.

Exemption 5

In determining a threshold number, NPS also sought consistency with adjacent jurisdictions, since a consistent number would be easier to understand and enforce, two additional draft Plan/EIS objectives. We evaluated the management actions of local and other government entities that have addressed this issue. Two local entities, Marin County Open Space District and the East Bay Regional Park District, limit numbers to six dogs per dog walker. Nearly all of the agencies outside the San Francisco Bay Area that we surveyed also limit the number of dogs for commercial walkers to no more than six. These agencies include the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks, a Colorado agency that pioneered comprehensive dog management planning. Jurisdictions with a primary resource protection and recreation mandate universally settled on six as the appropriate number. The City of San Francisco, with an ordinance allowing up to eight dogs per commercial dog walker in its parks, is an outlier among Bay Area jurisdictions.

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We are very concerned that dog walkers could not consistently control more than six dogs under voice and sight control, particularly in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. We were unable to find literature supporting the idea that more than six dogs would not damage park resources or impact visitor

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experience and safety, or put another way, would provide both resource protection and visitor experience and safety. Based on public comment, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management, park staff observations and research, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety, and would not meet the purpose of and need for the Plan/EIS Based on public comment on our draft plan, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management convened by the park in 2005/06, park staff observations, and research of the policies of other park agencies, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety

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In summary, GGNRA supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, but urges adoption of a lower initial permit limit in their proposed regulation, given their presence within the boundaries of a national park unit and our contiguous properties. We would further encourage the Trust to consider adopting the GGNRA interim permit system on either an interim basis or as part of their final rule, understanding that a more comprehensive dog management planning effort would likely need to be initiated by the Presidio Trust once the GGNRA Dog Management Plan/EIS and final rule are completed. During the interim period prior to completion of that final rule, a combined Presidio Trust-NPS approach to commercial dog walking would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection and visitor experience mandates.

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However, while we support the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, because we share a boundary with the lands managed by the Presidio Trust, we urge the Trust to adopt a maximum limit of six dogs per dog walker, consistent with the limits specified in the alternatives that permit commercial dog walking in our draft Dog Management Plan/EIS.

As you know, the park is intensively developing a draft Dog Management Plan/EIS (Plan/EIS). That document includes a range of alternatives that address commercial dog walking - from setting a limit of three dogs, to a limit of six dogs with a permit required, to prohibiting commercial dog walking altogether. During development of the draft Plan/EIS, NPS carefully considered allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers, but dismissed this as a reasonable alternative because it did not comport with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, key objectives of the Plan/EIS.

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In summary, Golden Gate National Recreation Area supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, but urges adoption of a lower initial permit limit in their proposed regulation, given the Presidio's presence within the boundaries of a national park unit.. We would further encourage the Trust to consider adopting the park's interim permit system, should it be implemented, on either an interim basis or as part of the Trust's final rule, understanding that a more comprehensive dog management planning effort would likely need to be initiated by the Presidio Trust for Trust-managed lands once the park Dog Management Plan/EIS and final rule are completed.

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As you know, the park is intensively developing a draft Dog Management Plan/EIS (Plan/EIS). That document includes a range of alternatives that address commercial dog walking - from setting a limit of three dogs, to a limit of six dogs with a permit required, to prohibiting commercial dog walking altogether. During development of the draft Plan/EIS, NPS carefully considered allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers, but dismissed this as a reasonable alternative because it did not comport with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, key objectives of the Plan/EIS.

In determining a threshold number, NPS also sought consistency with adjacent jurisdictions, since a consistent number would be easier to understand and to enforce - two additional draft Plan/EIS objectives. We evaluated the management actions of local and other government entities that have addressed this issue. Two local entities, Marin County Open Space District and the East Bay Regional Park District, limit numbers to six dogs per dog walker. The majority of agencies surveyed outside the San Francisco Bay Area also limit the number of dogs for commercial walkers to no more than six. These agencies include the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks, a Colorado agency that pioneered comprehensive dog management planning. The City of San Francisco, with an ordinance allowing up to eight dogs per commercial dog walker in its parks, is an outlier among jurisdictions around the country. Jurisdictions with a primary resource protection and recreation mandate universally settled on six as the maximum number.

We received many public comments on the draft Plan/DEIS regarding the appropriate number of dogs allowed per dog walker. Some commenters expressed support for limiting the number at six dogs with strict guidelines. Other commenters, including some dog walkers, expressed concern that public health and safety would be adversely impacted by allowing more than three dogs per dog walker (commercial or private). Some noted that four or more dogs could be hard to control. Some commercial dog walkers noted the potential economic impacts to their businesses of limiting the number of dogs to a maximum of six. A number of commenters requested that commercial dog walking not be allowed at all.

We are very concerned that dog walkers could not consistently control more than six dogs under voice and sight control, particularly in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. We were unable to find literature supporting the idea that more than six dogs would not damage park resources or impact visitor

experience and safety, or put another way, would provide both resource protection and visitor experience and safety. Based on public comment, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management, park staff observations and research, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety, and would not meet the purpose of and need for the Plan/EIS

Along with Presidio Trust, we are similarly concerned about the possible effects of the city's action on park lands, users and resources. Given that the park's Dog Management Plan, final EIS, and final rule, are not expected to be completed until 2015, the combined actions of the City and the Trust, should it adopt the city's regulation, will likely cause a redistribution of commercial dog walkers to the park's lands. As a result, the park is now considering enacting an interim commercial dog walking permit system that would be in place only until the Dog Management Plan/EIS is finalized, and a final rule promulgated. The interim permit would include a limit of six dogs per dog walker, based on information gained in development of the draft Plan/EIS.

In summary, Golden Gate National Recreation Area supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, but urges adoption of a lower initial permit limit in their proposed regulation, given the Presidio's presence within the boundaries of a national park unit.. We would further encourage the Trust to consider adopting the park's interim permit system, should it be implemented, on either an interim basis or as part of the Trust's final rule, understanding that a more comprehensive dog management planning effort would likely need to be initiated by the Presidio Trust for Trust-managed lands once the park Dog Management Plan/EIS and final rule are completed.

During the period prior to completion of that final rule, a combined Presidio Trust-NPS approach to commercial dog walking would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection and visitor experience mandates.

A72 (GOGA-CP)

Martha Walters, Crissy Field Dog Group
Bill Bechtell, Montara Dog Group
P.O. Box 475372
San Francisco, California 94147

Dear Martha and Bill:

This is in response to your July 23, 2013 letter in which you again expressed your concern over the No Action alternative that will appear in the upcoming Supplemental EIS for the Dog Management Plan at Golden Gate.

As you know, we disagree with the premise of your argument on what constitutes the No Action alternative, as we have described in our previous response of XX, XX, 2013. However, the historic use of Rancho Corral de Tierra for dog walking prior to acquisition by Golden Gate does factor into the impacts analysis through cumulative impacts, which include past actions.

We will be publishing the Supplemental EIS soon, and encourage your thorough review and comment on this issue and any others at that time, which we will respond to in the Final EIS.

Comment [SS1]: I like this letter, but am thinking that telling them they'll see our response in the FEIS may not be sufficient. What intermediation steps can we take to inform them, and their cc list, of our response once we've reviewed comments?

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Visitor and Resource Protection Division

Date: March 4th- March 10th, 2013
Subject: Visitor and Resource Protection Weekly Events

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Event: **Concealed Firearm**
Ranger: **K. Maples**

- On Sunday, March 10th, A Ranger was contacted by a park visitors at Hawk Hill regarding a group on young males with a pistol tucked in one of the individual's waistband. The Ranger waited for responding rangers to arrive. Prior to arriving, the Ranger was met with six Indian Nationals, one of which was in possession of a cased 9mm prop pistol. Upon inspection, the handgun was capable of shooting 9mm blanks and had a chrome finish. In addition, the group possessed cameras and other equipment suggesting this was a non-permitted film shoot. After identifying and interviewing members of the group, the Ranger issued two citations, Disorderly Conduct and a Permit Violation.

Operation: **"Show and Go"**
Planner: **S. Nash, N. Chan**

- On Saturday, March 9Th, Rangers conducted "Operation Show and Go" to educate, verify, and enforce fee compliance at Muir Woods Monument. During the 1.5 hour operation: 560 in compliance, 16 non-compliance, 1 verbal warning for pets. The operation was received well by the public and provided a passive presence of law enforcement.

Event: **Sexual Assault**
Ranger: **R. Lewis**

- On Thursday, March 7th, Rangers were dispatched to the Cavallo Lodge for a sexual assault. Rangers arrived and made contact with the parties. See Chief Cochary for further detail (*FOUO)

Operation: **"Crustacean"**
Ranger: **N. Chan**

- On Wednesday, March 6th Rangers conducted Operation "Crustacean" on Fort Baker Pier, Muni Pier, and Fort Point Pier. The operation focused on resource protection and education. Rangers conducted fishing education and compliance checks. No significant cases.

Event: **Disorderly Conduct**
Ranger **B. Wollenberg**

- On Tuesday, March 5th, A Ranger was contacted at the Funston Ranger Office by a commercial dog walker who wanted to report an incident involving a second commercial dog walker. The reporting party had her dogs all on-leash when the second commercial dog walker let her group of dogs out of her vehicle, at which time a Huskie charged at the reporting party's dogs. An aggressive argument ensued after the reporting party requested the dogs be leashed. 15 minutes later, a second reporting party contacted Rangers about the same type of behavior from a commercial dog walker. It was determined to be the same woman from the first incident. Rangers searched the area but were unable to locate the aggressive commercial dog walker. Further investigation revealed the suspects name, company, and web site. The case is ongoing.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

Event: **Search and Rescue "Missing Person"**
Ranger: **M. Wallat**

- On Sunday March 3rd, Rangers, USPP and SFPD were contacted reference a missing and endangered female last located at Lands' End. All units canvased the area and were unable to locate her. Further investigation continued and Rangers located her at the Bay Area Discovery

Exemption 6 t

EDUCATION

Operation: **"Dagget's Eagle"**
Ranger: **M. Knowles**

- On Friday, March 8th, Rangers conducted "operation Daggett's Eagle" in the Phleger Estate. The Operation is to g

RECLAMATION

Operation: **"Dagget's Eagle"**
Ranger: **M. Knowles**

- On Friday, March 8th, Rangers conducted "Operation Daggett's Eagle" in the Phleger Estate. The Operation is to going focus to safeguard from further grow
- operations and reclamation of any and all marijuana cultivation sites. The combined operations have uncovered multiple sites and a large about of trash and infrastructure needing to be removed from several locations.

TRAINING

- On March 7th, Ranger attended EMS refresher training in partnership with the US Coast Guard, Southern Marin Fire and SAFR.
- On March 8th, Rangers attended a tailgate training session on Poison Oak and reviewed the Poison Oak JHA.
- On March 2nd, Two Rangers successfully graduated "Managing the Lost Person Incident" a lifesaving intensive course.

* (FOUO) For Official Use Only

Briefing Statement FY 2013

Bureau: National Park Service
Issue: Dog Management Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Proposed Rulemaking
Member: Sen. Feinstein, Sen. Boxer, Cong. Pelosi, Cong. Speier, Cong. Huffman
Park: Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GOGA)

Key Points:

- 36 CFR 2.15(a)(2) requires that all pets, where allowed in national parks, be crated, caged or restrained.
- NPS has undertaken a planning process to specify where and under what conditions dog walking, including off leash dog walking, should occur in GOGA. The final dog management plan will become a special regulation for dog walking in GOGA.
- The purpose of the Dog Management Plan is to provide a clear, enforceable plan for the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park.

Background:

- In 2008, GOGA completed a Negotiated Rulemaking (NR) process on dog management. The NR Committee discussed where and under what conditions dogs should be allowed in the park. The Committee achieved only limited areas of consensus, which were included for analysis in the Draft Dog Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (Plan/DEIS).
- The 2,400 page Plan/DEIS evaluated the impacts of six alternatives, including the preferred alternative, for dog management in 21 areas of GOGA. Four alternatives would allow voice-control dog walking in some areas of the park.
- The Plan/DEIS was released for a 135 day public comment period ending on May 30, 2011. 4,713 individual correspondences were received, with approximately 8000 substantive comments (requiring a response) and 5600 non-substantive comments. Some comments were several hundred pages in length.
- GOGA, EQD, and other senior NPS staff met numerous times to address public comments on the Plan/DEIS. The majority of the areas addressed in the plan received minor or no changes to the preferred alternative.

Current Status:

- A supplemental EIS is being completed to address the significant and/or substantial changes resulting from public comment on the Plan/DEIS, including the following:
    - Create an alternative that would include the geographical extent of the 1979 Pet Policy, but which would assume compliance, education and enforcement components.
    - Replace the programmatic alternative element "New Lands", with site specific analysis of a range of alternatives for the recently acquired Rancho Corral de Tierra.
    - Supplement visitor experience, health and safety impact topics with additional law enforcement and visitor use information.
    - Respond to Americans with Disability Act concerns across all alternatives.
    - Change the compliance-based management strategy to a monitoring strategy;

areas would not automatically change to a more restrictive status upon reaching a threshold, but monitoring would be expanded to include natural and cultural resources as well as compliance with special regulation. This information would provide a basis for future management actions, if required.

Schedule:

- Supplemental EIS released for public comment – March 2013
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released for public comment, February 2014
- Notice of Availability of FEIS – January 2015
- Record of Decision published – Spring 2015
- Publish final special regulation – Spring 2015

Contact Person: General Superintendent Frank Dean, 415-561-4720

Briefing Statement

Bureau:	**National Park Service**
Issue:	**Dog Management Plan / DEIS**
Park Site:	**Golden Gate National Recreation Area**
Date:	**January 10, 2011**

Current Status:

- The draft Plan/DEIS will be released on January 14, 2011 for a 90-day public comment period ending on April 14, 2011.

- A Communications Plan is established and will be updated as appropriate to meet target project milestones.

- Four public scoping meetings (open house format) will held in Bay Area locations in early March, with exact times and locations to be announced with the release of the Draft Plan/DEIS.

Plan/DEIS Details:

- The purpose of the Dog Management Plan/DEIS is to provide a clear, enforceable implementation plan for the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park. This Plan/DEIS promotes the following objectives: preserve and protect natural and cultural resources and natural processes, provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, reduce user conflicts, and maintain park resources and values for future generations.

- The Plan/DEIS evaluates the impacts of six alternatives, including the preferred alternative, for dog management in 21 areas of GOGA. Four alternatives would allow voice-control dog walking in some areas of the park.

- The preferred alternative allows for a balanced range of visitor experiences, including no dogs, dog walking on-leash, and dog walking under voice-control. It includes the following :
    - the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee's consensus agreements;
    - on-leash and/or voice-control dog walking in certain, specific areas of the park where impacts to sensitive resources and visitor experience were minimized;
    - no dogs in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated;
    - a compliance-based management strategy measuring compliance in on-leash and voice-control dog walking areas that provides a range of management responses, including further restrictions or elimination of a use if compliance is not achieved;
    - permits for more than three dogs per dog walker in limited areas of the park and
    - new lands closed to dog walking, but opened for on-leash dog walking by compendium if certain criteria are met.

Schedule:

- Plan/DEIS released for a 90-day public comment period: January 14, 2011
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released for public comment: Late Fall/Winter 2011
- Final EIS completed: Late Spring/Early Summer 2012
- Record of Decision Signed: Summer 2012
- Publish final special regulation: Late Summer/Early Fall 2012

Background:

- The NPS-wide pet regulation (36 CFR §2.15) requires dogs to be restricted by cage or leash.

- In 1979, responding to public input, GOGA Citizen's Advisory Commission recommended a Pet Policy that recommended specific areas in Marin and San Francisco for off- leash dog walking – a policy the park followed for over 20 years.

- GOGA practices following the Citizen's Advisory Commission's Pet Policy, as well as an increase in the number of dog walkers using the park and changing expectations for use of the park, have resulted in confusion, controversy, and litigation over dog management and voice control dog walking.

- In 1999 –GOGA closed a portion of Fort Funston for habitat restoration, safety and protection of geologic resources, resulting in a lawsuit by organized dog walking groups over lack of public notice and comment prior to the closure. Events surrounding the lawsuit highlighted the 1979 Pet Policy followed by the park, which was not in compliance with NPS pet regulations.

- In 2000, the Federal District Court disallowed the Fort Funston closure until such time as the NPS provided an appropriate public notice and opportunity for comment on the closure. The park completed a notice and comment period in 2000, allowing closure of the section of Fort Funston.

- Following the 2000 Fort Funston court decision, it became evident that a comprehensive approach to dog management in GOGA was needed.

- In January 2001, the GOGA Advisory Commission acknowledged publicly that their 1979 "voice control" policy was not in compliance with the NPS pet regulation (36 CFR§ 2.15) and was therefore null and void .

- In January 2002, an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) for dog management in GOGA was released asking for public comment on whether GOGA should enforce the existing NPS pet regulation requiring dogs on leash and on trail, or identify specific locations/ways to address off leash use within the park. 8,580 comments were received; the majority of comments were in favor of off leash use.

- In 2002, following the release of the ANPR, GOGA began to emphasize education and enforcement of the NPS pet regulation; however, the regulation was routinely ignored by many park visitors. Park staff were overextended attempting to enforce the NPS regulation, ensure visitor (and dog) safety, maintain areas heavily used by dogs, and monitor and prevent resource damage.

- A 2005 decision by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California affirmed a dismissal of three citations for violations of the NPS leash regulation. The decision noted that the 1979 dog walking policy had been in effect in the park for many years, and that prior to enforcing the NPS-wide leash regulation the park was required by 36 CFR §1.5(b) to conduct a formal public notice and comment rulemaking process.

- In 2004, GOGA initiated a dog management planning process by establishing a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee pursuant to the Negotiated Rulemaking Act and initiating work on an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.

- The GOGA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management met over a period of almost two years ending in October 2007, but were not able to reach consensus on a proposed special regulation for dog management at GOGA due to differing positions on the impacts of dog walking on resources and other visitors. They did reach consensus on certain elements for a special regulation: nine guiding principles for dog management; guidelines for commercial dog walking; and site-specific treatment for one area under consideration by the Committee, Oakwood Valley in Marin County. These consensus agreements have been incorporated into three of the six alternatives in the Dog Management Plan/EIS.

Contact:
Shirwin Smith, Management Assistant, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, (415) 561-4947, Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov

Unit: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Title: Communications Plan: Dog Management Plan / Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Notice of Availability

Congressional Districts:
California: House: Jackie Speier (14th Dist.)
Nancy Pelosi (12th Dist.)
Jared Huffman (2nd Dist.)
Senate: Diane Feinstein, Barbara Boxer

- Congressional staff have been regularly briefed on the overall dog management issue and current planning efforts, most recently on XXX, XX, 2013; in-person staff briefings will also be conducted ahead of SEIS release.
- Individual members have also been briefed on the dog management plan, as have key Senate and House committee staff.
- Staff from all of the listed Congressional Delegations have been aware since at least February 2012 that NPS intended to issue a draft plan and supplemental EIS.
- The park will publish a news release on the day the NOA announcing the supplemental EIS is published in the Federal Register. Key stakeholder groups will be notified in advance of its release. A draft of the news release is included below.

To be released on the day the EPA NOA announcing the SEIS is published in the Federal Register:

(DRAFT) Golden Gate National Recreation Area Dog Management Plan and Supplemental EIS available for public comment

The National Park Service (NPS) is releasing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Plan/SEIS) for the Dog Management Plan, Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), California. The purpose of the Plan/EIS is to determine the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park, provide a clear, enforceable dog management policy, preserve and protect natural and cultural resources and natural processes, provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, and reduce user conflicts.

Current dog management in the park is based on a number of factors. Areas included in the GGNRA Citizens' Advisory Commission's 1979 pet policy, followed by the park for over twenty years, must be managed in accordance with the June 2, 2005, decision by the US District Court

for Northern California (US vs. Barley, 405 F.Supp 2d 1121) affirming that NPS cannot enforce the NPS-wide regulation requiring on leash walking of pets (36 CFR 2.15(a)(2)) in areas where the park had previously allowed off leash use until notice and comment rulemaking under 36 CFR 1.5(b) is completed. A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be published for notice and comment after comments on the Plan/SEIS have been received, evaluated, and addressed. A final rule will be published after the final Plan/FEIS has been published and a Record of Decision signed.

The Plan/EIS evaluates the impacts of six alternatives for dog management in 22 areas of GGNRA. The range of alternatives includes the consensus recommendations of the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management, the 1979 Pet Policy, 36 CFR 2.15, voice-control dog walking and commercial dog walking. The preferred alternative includes site specific treatments from multiple action alternatives that together allow for a balanced range of visitor experiences, including areas that prohibit dogs, and areas that allow on-leash and voice-control dog walking. It includes the following key elements: the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee's consensus agreements; on-leash and/or voice and sight-control dog walking in multiple specific areas of the park where impacts to sensitive resources and visitor experience were minimized; no dogs in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated; a monitoring-based management strategy measuring compliance in on-leash and voice and sight-control dog walking areas which will provide information for a range of management responses as needed, including further restrictions or elimination of a use where compliance is not able to be achieved by lesser actions; permits for both individual and commercial dog walkers for more than three dogs, with a maximum of six, in limited areas of the park; and the site-specific analysis of Rancho Corral de Tierra as a recently-acquired GGNRA site evaluated under the Plan/SEIS.

DATES: The National Park Service will accept comments on the Plan/SEIS for 90 days following publication by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of the Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. NPS is most interested in comments on the changes between the draft and supplemental EIS, including the following: the addition of new data (including additional law enforcement and visitor use data), additional references, additional information regarding compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, changes to the impacts analysis (including additional analysis of potential redistributive effects of opening/closing areas to dog walking), changes to the compliance-based management strategy

(now the monitoring-based management strategy) by including natural and cultural resource monitoring and removing automatic triggers and restrictions, evaluation of fencing as a method to minimize dog walking impacts, and relatively minor changes to some site specific changes in the preferred alternative. Additionally, a site recently transferred to GGNRA, Rancho Corral de Tierra, was added to the park sites considered in the range of reasonable alternatives analyzed by the plan/SEIS. Comments submitted on the earlier Plan/draft EIS (DEIS) will continue to be considered and do not need to be resubmitted. After the EPA Notice of Availability is published, the NPS will schedule three open-house style public meetings during the comment period. Dates, times, and locations of these meetings will be announced in press releases, e-mail announcements and on the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website for the project at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga"].

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Plan/EIS will be available for public review at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga"]. A limited number of hard copies will be available at Park Headquarters, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123, or a copy may be requested, as long as supplies last, from Frank Dean, General Superintendent, at the address noted above. Copies will be available at local libraries in San Mateo, San Francisco and Marin Counties, as well as in Berkeley and Oakland.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: If you wish to comment electronically, you may submit your comments online at the PEPC website by visiting [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga"], clicking on open for comment, clicking on Dog Management Plan/EIS, and then clicking on Comment on Document. NPS encourages commenting electronically through PEPC. Note that the deadline for submitting comments online is **midnight**, **Mountain Time (11pm Pacific Time)**, on the last day of the public comment period. Comments must be entered in PEPC before midnight Mountain Time (11 p.m. Pacific Time), on that day. If you wish to submit your written comments in hard copy (e.g. in a letter), you may send them by U.S. Postal Service or other mail delivery service or hand-deliver them to: Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123. Comments will also be accepted during the three open house public meetings. Comments will not be accepted by fax, e-mail, or in any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that

your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

- [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/ggnra"] -

2.1.13

Unit: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Title: Communications Plan: Dog Management Plan / Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Notice of Availability

Congressional Districts:
California: House: Jackie Speier (14th Dist.)
Nancy Pelosi (12th Dist.)
Jared Huffman (2nd Dist.)
Senate: Diane Feinstein, Barbara Boxer

- Staff of the members have been regularly briefed on the overall dog management issue and current planning efforts.
- Individual members have also been briefed on the dog management plan, as have key Senate and House committee staff.
- Staff from all of the listed Congressional Delegations have been aware since at least February 2012 that NPS intended to issue a draft plan and *supplemental* EIS.
- The park will publish a news release on the day the NOA announcing the supplemental EIS is published in the Federal Register. A draft of the news release is included below.

Exemption 5

To be released on the day the EPA NOA announcing the SEIS is published in the Federal Register:

(DRAFT) Golden Gate National Recreation Area Dog Management Plan and Supplemental EIS available for public comment

The National Park Service (NPS) is releasing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Plan/SEIS) for the Dog Management Plan, Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), California. The purpose of the Plan/EIS is to determine the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park, provide a clear, enforceable dog management policy, preserve and protect natural and cultural resources and natural processes, provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, and reduce user conflicts.

The Plan/EIS evaluates the impacts of six alternatives for dog management in 22 areas of GGNRA. The range of alternatives includes the consensus recommendations of the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management, the 1979 Pet Policy, 36 CFR 2.15, and voice-control dog walking. The preferred alternative combines site specific treatments from

multiple action alternatives that allows for a balanced range of visitor experiences, including areas that prohibit dogs, and areas that allow on-leash and voice-control dog walking. It includes the following key elements: the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee's consensus agreements; on-leash and/or voice-control dog walking in certain, specific areas of the park where impacts to sensitive resources and visitor experience were minimized; no dogs in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated; a monitoring-based management strategy measuring compliance in on-leash and voice-control dog walking areas which will provide information for a range of management responses if necessary, including further restrictions or elimination of a use where compliance is not achieved; permits for more than three dogs in limited areas of the park; and the addition of Rancho Corral de Tierra as a recently-acquired GGNRA site evaluated under the Plan/SEIS.

DATES: The National Park Service will accept comments on the Plan/SEIS for 90 days following publication by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of the Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. NPS is most interested in comments on the changes between the draft and supplemental, including the following: the addition of new data (including additional law enforcement and visitor use data), additional references, additional Americans with Disabilities Act information, changes to the impacts analysis (including additional analysis of potential redistributive effects of opening/closing areas to dogwalking), changes to the compliance-based management strategy by including natural and cultural resource monitoring and removing automatic triggers and restrictions (now the monitoring-based management strategy), evaluation of additional fencing as a method to minimize dogwalking impacts, and relatively minor changes to each site specific preferred alternative. Additionally, a site recently transferred to GGNRA, Rancho Corral de Tierra, was added to the park sites and range of reasonable alternatives analyzed by the plan/SEIS. Comments submitted on the earlier Plan/draft EIS (DEIS) will continue to be considered and do not need to be resubmitted. After the EPA Notice of Availability is published, the NPS will schedule three open-house style public meetings during the comment period. Dates, times, and locations of these meetings will be announced in press releases, e-mail announcements and on the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website for the project at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga"].

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Park Headquarters, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123, or a copy may be requested, as long as supplies last, from Frank Dean, General Superintendent, at the address noted above. Copies will be available at local libraries in San Mateo, San Francisco and Marin Counties, as well as in Berkeley and Oakland.

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- [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/ggnra"] -

2.1.13

Unit: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Title: Communications Plan: Dog Management Plan / Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Notice of Availability

Congressional Districts:
California: House: Jackie Speier (14th Dist.)
Nancy Pelosi (12th Dist.)
Jared Huffman (2nd Dist.)
Senate: Diane Feinstein, Barbara Boxer

- Staff of the members have been regularly briefed on the overall dog management issue and current planning efforts.
- Individual members have also been briefed on the dog management plan, as have key Senate and House committee staff.
- Staff from all of the listed Congressional Delegations have been aware since at least February 2012 that NPS intended to issue a *supplemental* EIS for the draft plan.
- The park will publish a news release on the day the NOA announcing the supplemental EIS is published in the Federal Register. A draft of the news release is included below.

Exemption 5

To be released on the day the EPA NOA announcing the SEIS is published in the Federal Register:

(DRAFT)
Golden Gate National Recreation Area Supplemental EIS for the Dog Management Plan available for public comment

The National Park Service (NPS) is releasing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Plan/SEIS) for the Dog Management Planat Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), California. The purpose of the Plan/SEIS is to determine the manner and extent of dog walking in appropriate areas of the park, provide a clear, enforceable dog management policy, preserve and protect natural and cultural resources and natural processes, provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, and reduce user conflicts.

The Plan/SEIS evaluates the impacts of six alternatives for dog management in 22 areas of GGNRA. The range of alternatives includes the consensus recommendations of the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management, the 1979 Pet Policy, 36 CFR 2.15, and

voice and sight-control dog walking. The preferred alternative combines site specific treatments from multiple action alternatives that together provide a balanced range of visitor experiences.. It includes the following key elements: the consensus agreements from the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management; areas for both on-leash and/or voice and sight-control dog walking in specific areas of the park where impacts to sensitive resources and visitor experience could be minimized; no dog walking in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated; a monitoring-based management strategy measuring compliance and impacts to resources which will provide information for a range of management responses if necessary, including further restrictions or elimination of a use where compliance cannot be achieved lesser management actions; permits for more than three dogs, with a maximum of six, in limited areas of the park; and the analysis of dog walking options for Rancho Corral de Tierra, the most recently-acquired GGNRA site.

DATES: The National Park Service will accept comments on the Plan/SEIS for 90 days following publication by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of the Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. NPS is most interested in comments on the changes between the draft and supplemental, including the following: the addition of new data (including additional law enforcement and visitor use data), additional references, additional Americans with Disabilities Act information, changes to the impacts analysis (including additional analysis of potential redistributive effects resulting from implementation of this plan), changing the compliance-based management strategy to a monitoring-based management strategy by including natural and cultural resource monitoring and removing automatic triggers and restrictions evaluation of fencing as a method to minimize dog walking impacts, and relatively minor changes to the site-specific prescriptions for some sites in the preferred alternative. The final new element is that of the addition of Rancho Corral de Tierra to the park sites addressed in the range of reasonable alternatives analyzed by the plan/SEIS. Comments submitted on the earlier Plan/draft EIS (DEIS) will continue to be considered and do not need to be resubmitted. After the EPA Notice of Availability is published, the NPS will schedule three open-house style public meetings during the comment period. Dates, times, and locations of these meetings will be announced in press releases, e-mail announcements and on the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website for the project at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga"].

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Plan/EIS will be available for public review at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga"]. A limited number of hard copies will be available at Park Headquarters, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123, or a copy may be requested, as long as supplies last, from Frank Dean, General Superintendent, at the address noted above. Copies will be available at local libraries in San Mateo, San Francisco and Marin Counties, as well as in Berkeley and Oakland.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: If you wish to comment electronically, you may submit your comments online at the Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website by visiting [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga"], clicking on the link to documents open for comment, selecting Dog Management Plan/SEIS, and then clicking on Comment on Document. NPS encourages commenting online through PEPC. The deadline for submitting comments online is midnight, Mountain Time, on the last day of the public comment period. Comments must be entered in PEPC before midnight Mountain Time (11 p.m. Pacific Time, on that day. If you wish to submit your written comments in hard copy (e.g. in a letter), you may send them by U.S. Postal Service or other mail delivery service or hand-deliver them to: Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123. Comments will also be accepted during the three open house public meetings in May. Comments will not be accepted by fax, e-mail, or in any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

- [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/ggnra"] -

Dog management planning process is in its 12th year. NPS has completed analysis of comments from the September 2013 SEIS and is developing a draft Rule, which is anticipated to go to OMB in Feb/March 2015. After OMB review, Draft Rule will be released for public review (60-90 days). Depending on release date of Draft Rule, FEIS could be released in fall 2015, and a Final Rule published in winter 2016.

Re Commercial Dog Walking, the park has instituted an effective permit system, which has achieved good compliance.

Off-leash advocates have been relentlessly pressing elected officials and government decision makers to open more areas for off leash dog use. On the other hand, environmental groups and some advocates for seniors and children, while less vocal than the off leash advocates, have made it clear they are watching closely to make sure their desires (fewer off leash dog areas, fenced areas, etc.) are respected.

City elected officials have been enlisted to intervene with NPS and DOI decision makers. One Supervisor has been particularly active in advocating for the off-leash constituency. Mayor's Office has not reached out to the park.

National Park Service



Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Draft Dog Management Plan

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

March 14, 2013



Purpose of Briefing

- Review history of GOGA Dog Mgmt planning
- Overview of SEIS features and timeline
- Gain concurrence on proceeding with SEIS Release
- Gain concurrence on interim compendium amendment for commercial dog walking permits



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

GOGA Dog Management – A Tortured History

• 1972 – Park inherited long history of off-leash dog walking

•1 979 – GOGA Advisory Commission Pet Policy adopted

• 1999 – Successful lawsuit by dog walkers over routine restoration project

• 2001 – Huge public outcry when park reverted to NPS leash regulation (36 CFR 2.15) on US Attorney recommendation

• 2002 – NPS Federal Panel recommendation to pursue dog management planning / rulemaking. PWR/WASO approval granted.



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

GOGA Dog Management History (cont'd)

• 2004 – Enjoined by Federal court decision from enforcing NPS leash regulation (36 CFR2.15) park wide without rulemaking.

• 2006-2008 – Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management failed to achieve a consensus rule. Agency rulemaking the only avenue left.

• 2010 – Draft Plan/DEIS issued – 8000 comments

• 2012 – Region/WASO approval to prepare Supplemental EIS

• March 2013 – SEIS ready for release, pending final approval.

National Park Service

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Questions about background?



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Features of The Supplemental EIS

- Addresses 22 park sites, adding newly-transferred Rancho Corral de Tierra
- Applies new data and studies to impacts analysis
- Removes unpopular/easily challenged automatic triggers of the Compliance-Based Management Strategy.
- Adds resource impacts monitoring
- Improves dog-walking access at three sites

National Park Service



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Features of The Supplemental EIS

4 Action Alternatives - Plus Preferred

- Alt B - NPS leash regulation (36 CFR 2.15)
- Alt C - Balance of Visitor Uses
- Alt D - Most Resource Protection /Visitor Safety
- Alt E - Most Dog-Walking Access

Preferred Alternative

- Hybrid of site alternative options with overall emphasis on Alt C – Balance of Visitor Uses



Key Elements of Preferred Alternative

Voice and Sight Control

- Allowed only in 7 limited, defined areas
- Specific, enforceable guidelines
- Does not preclude enforcement for other offenses – hazardous conditions, wildlife harassment, etc

Limit Of Dogs Per Walker

- Permit required for more than 3 dogs.
- Permits restrict use by time/area
- Maximum of 6 dogs per person, consistent with research on best practices nationally – has public and many dog walking groups' support.



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Key Elements of Preferred Alternative cont'd

Monitoring-Based Management Strategy Replaces Compliance-Based Strategy

- Documents compliance and impacts to resources, visitors, and staff; data informs mgmt actions if compliance unacceptable.
- Primary responses including focused enforcement, outreach/education, buffer zones, time of use restrictions.
- Secondary responses include short-term closures, buffer zones and evaluation of long-term closures.
- Future long-term closures likely exempt from 36 CFR1.5(b) rulemaking requirement.



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Dog Management Plan/SEIS and Rulemaking Schedule

2013

- Spring – SEIS released - 90-day public comment period
- Summer/Fall – Review of public comment
- Late Summer – Interim Compendium Amendment to require permits for commercial dog walking
- Late Fall – Prepare Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)

2014

- Winter – Publish NPRM
- Summer – Review of public comment
- Summer/Fall – Finalize FEIS

2015

- Winter – Publish Notice of Availability (NOA) of FEIS and Record of Decision
- March – Publish Final Rule



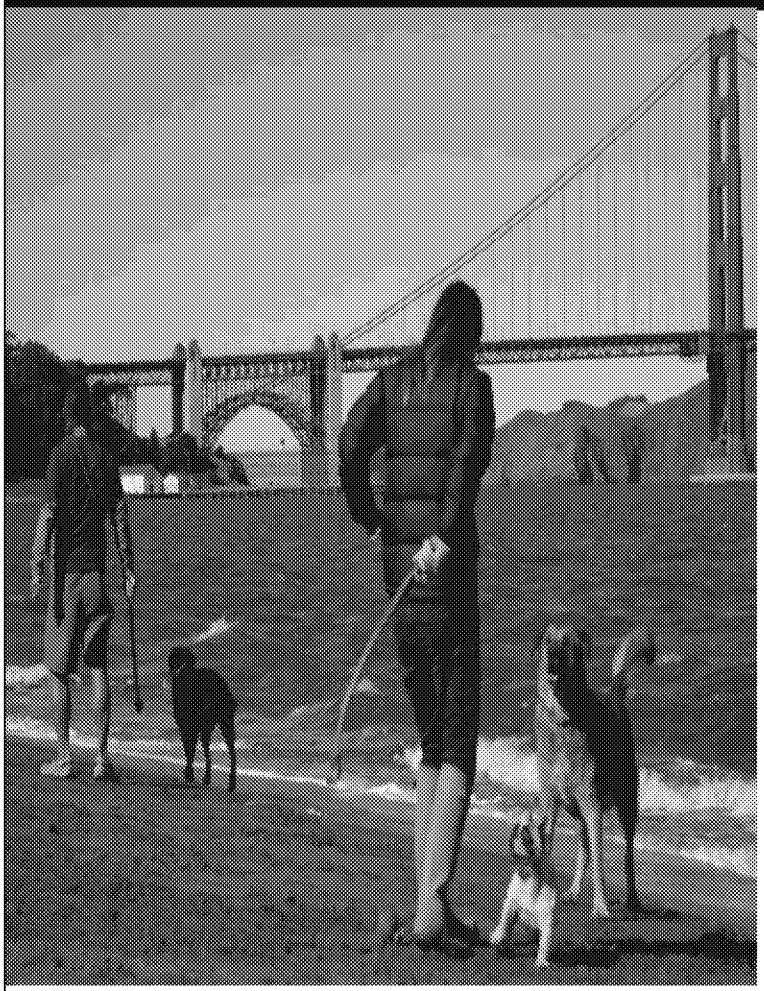
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Consequences of Delayed Action

- Loss of public credibility
- Continuation of untenable status quo
- Continued unsafe conditions for public and employees
- Potential Congressional intervention
- Failure to capture shifting public sentiment – voicing need for greater restriction of off-leash dog use
- Likely increased costs on top of already-substantial NPS investment

National Park Service

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Questions about the Supplemental EIS?

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

Commercial Dog Walking – Interim Compendium Amendment

- New San Francisco regulation will allow up to 8 dogs per commercial dog walker starting July 2013.

- Expected that many commercial dog walkers will move to unregulated GOGA.

- Park needs protective measure, pending completion of the special regulation for GOGA dog management in 2015.

- GOGA proposed limit of 6 dogs per person is well evaluated and consistent with national, and local, best practices.

- Presidio Trust will follow city lead if NPS does not act.

Martha Walters, Crissy Field Dog Group
Bill Bechtell, Montara Dog Group
P.O. Box 475372
San Francisco, California 94147

Dear Martha and Bill:

This is in response to your August 27, 2013 letter in which you again expressed your concern over the No Action alternative at Rancho Corral de Tierra in the draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental EIS. As you know, the draft plan/ SEIS was released for a 90-day public review on September 6, 2013.

As we mentioned in previous letters, the No Action alternative in the draft plan/SEIS, representing the existing condition under NPS management, is 36 CFR Section 2.15, under which dogs are permitted on leash throughout Rancho. However, the analysis of cumulative impacts addresses the historic (although illegal under San Mateo County regulations) off-leash use prior to acquisition by the park, and consequently concludes long-term moderate to major cumulative adverse impacts to dog walkers. Also, please note that the range of alternatives for Rancho does include a Regulated Off-leash Area (ROLA) in two alternatives, although a ROLA is not part of the Preferred Alternative.

We encourage your thorough review and comment on the draft plan/SEIS by December 4, 2013. As a matter of fairness and equity to other members of the public commenting on the draft plan/SEIS, please note that further communication regarding this issue must be treated the same as all other public comment received on the draft plan/SEIS, with a response to substantive comments published in the final EIS.

Exemption 5

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Copies to:
Congresswoman Jackie Speier
Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Congressman Jared Huffman
Jon Jarvis, Director, NPS
Christine Lehnertz, Regional Director, NPS Pacific West Region

DRAFT OP-ED
01/29/2015 [Awaiting DOI review]

New GGNRA General Management Plan Offers Bright Vision for the Park's Future

Golden Gate National Recreation Area was founded with the mission to bring parks to the people, and as the superintendent I have spent the last five years learning all that this special place means to the residents in the San Francisco Bay area. Our recently completed General Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement reflects many years of discussions and deliberations with input from the public and various groups that use and enjoy the park. The plan strikes a balance that provides a long-term vision for the future of the park and its place at the heart of our community.

This new General Management Plan reflects the park's 42-year tradition of enthusiastic support for diverse forms of recreation, as well as the park's record of preserving historic places and acting as good a steward of the environment. Since the 1980's General Management Plan, we have learned much about these lands and what they hold and how people enjoy them. The new plan was shaped through extensive public involvement over 10 years. What has emerged is an achievable, sustainable, and balanced plan for a much loved park that encompasses parts of three counties, surrounded by 7 million residents and visited by 17 million people from around the world each year. I assure you that under the new General Management Plan, Golden Gate National Recreation Area will continue to welcome visitors to recreate in a wide variety of ways, and protect park resources for future generations.

In my 30+ year career with the National Park Service, I have learned that public lands, especially those with so many users and neighbors, need active management to facilitate the shared use of popular features by different user groups and the protection of park resources in perpetuity. Every day I see people enjoying the park in many ways: on foot, in the water, by bicycle, with dogs both on- and off-leash, hiking, jogging, watching birds, beachcombing, meditating, painting, studying, volunteering, taking photos, and in many other ways getting and staying healthy. These activities will continue under the framework of the new General Management Plan and, some improvements to facilities, trails, interpretation, and support for park visitors, as suggested in the plan, may be made.

In the General Management Plan we refer to zones like the Diverse Opportunity zone, Historic Immersion zone and the Natural zone for many areas throughout the park. The Natural zone is the largest designation in the park, reflecting the ecologically rich and strikingly beautiful landscape that compelled local visionaries to work so hard to establish the park. I have heard some confusion about what uses will be allowed. I've seen that effective management *includes* people, rather than locking the land away. It is not our intent to keep people out of the many popular places in the park. In fact, the table that describes the anticipated activities in Natural Zones reads like an outdoor enthusiast's to-do list and it's not even a full listing of all allowed activities. The park will remain a recreationalist's paradise for those who have enjoyed themselves in one of the most beautiful places on earth.

It is important to clarify that the General Management Plan does not address dog walking in the park. Dog walking is a specific use which is being addressed by the Dog Management Plan, a process which has been under way for more than a dozen years. This formal effort on the part of the National Park Service will institutionalize voice-controlled (off-leash) dog walking as an allowed activity in certain areas of this park. The

Dog Management Plan will take precedence over the new General Management Plan when it comes to how and where dogs will be accommodated in the park. We will be sharing more about the Dog Management plan later this year.

I have heard directly from our community how much people care about the park. I want to encourage everyone who uses the park to stay connected and participate in future planning processes that will begin to implement the General Management Plan. These planning processes will be more detailed and will focus on specific parts of the plan. We are counting on you to be part of keeping Golden Gate National Recreation Area a "Park for People."

Statement of Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) on the findings of the investigation of the January 29, 2011, law enforcement action at Rancho Corral de Tierra.

On January 29, National Park Ranger Sarah Cavallero was on patrol in Rancho Corral de Tierra, an area recently added to Golden Gate NRA. During a contact with a visitor related to pet regulations, Ranger Cavallero utilized an Electronic Control Device (commonly referred to as a Taser).

All National Park Service (NPS) taser uses are reviewed for consistency with policy by the NPS Office of Law Enforcement, Security and Emergency Services. In addition, Golden Gate National Recreation Area immediately requested a regional review of the incident. On March 1, because the NPS received a complaint from Congresswoman Jackie Speier expressing her belief that the use of the Taser was an excessive use of force, the case was referred to the NPS Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) for investigation.

While the NPS intends to be as transparent as possible about the investigation of this incident, because OPR investigations into employee conduct are legally considered an extension of an employee's personnel file, the contents of the investigation are protected from public disclosure by the Privacy Act. Additionally, potential criminal prosecution related to this case prevents disclosure of detailed incident information at this time.

Based on the information that we are legally able to release at this time, the OPR investigation determined that the actions of Ranger Cavallero were within policy and consistent with the training she received as part of her initial and ongoing authorization to carry the taser.

In summary, the investigation found that:

- NPS taser policy allows tasers to be used on individuals who are actively resisting a commissioned employee or to prevent individuals from harming themselves or others
- The Ranger possessed valid law enforcement authority and had the legal standing to use the taser in the circumstances that were present during the contact
- All NPS policy requirements related to training and use of the taser were met

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Superintendent Frank Dean made the following comment on the report's findings: "No one could ever imagine that a simple attempt to advise someone about the requirement to leash their pet could ever escalate into a serious law enforcement incident. Based on the investigation, we are confident that this incident does not reflect the normal actions of the public in this circumstance and that the outcome was unfortunate and completely avoidable. We are committed to welcoming dog walkers and other traditional users of Rancho Corral de Tierra into this newest part of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. As NPS management represents a change in some past practices, we are extending the period during which first-time leash law violators at Rancho Corral de Tierra will receive only a verbal or written warning though the end of 2012, and are increasing our outreach to the local community to help ensure a seamless transition of this neighborhood jewel into one of America's 397 national park areas."

DRAFT

NOTES FROM SCOTT AND STEPHANIE: Depending on how lengthy you want to make this, here are some other statements that could be used but should be attributed to the appropriate WASO office representative, which aligns with our plan for referring media appropriately wrt to questions about taser policy and OPR investigations.

Based on the results of the investigation, we believe the policy, training and oversight requirements of the NPS taser program are sound.

It should be noted that the NPS policy does not allow the use of a taser simply because an individual has a pet off leash, nor was that a factor in the use of the taser in this incident.

DRAFT

January 31, 2012
Contact: Howard Levitt, 415 561-4730

Golden Gate National Recreation Area shares the general public's concern over the unfortunate incident on Sunday January 29 2012 between a National Park Service law enforcement ranger and a man walking his dog off leash at Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County. As is standard practice, the park has initiated a review of the incident, which will be concluded in the next two weeks. At that time, another statement will be released.

According to the information available to the park at this point, the incident began as a routine educational contact about the National Park Service rules on dog walking. The incident developed into a more serious law enforcement situation when the person being contacted provided false information to the ranger, and refused to heed repeated orders to remain at the scene while the ranger was in contact with the park dispatch center to confirm his identity.

In December 2011, Rancho Corral de Tierra came under the management of the National Park Service. Golden Gate National Recreation Area will continue to work hard to build close partnerships with the existing users of, and the communities that surround, Rancho Corral de Tierra.

Worksheet for estimating the number of annual GGNRA dogwalking visits by site.

Exhibit 2-7. Current estimated intensity of Visitor Use and Dog Walking Activities at GGNRA sites, 1996 to 2015

County	Site	Visitor Use per site (Table 9 SEIS)	Percentage of visitors walking dogs (Table 9 SEIS)	Change in dog walking use from SEIS to 2015?	Degree of change from current condition (assumes no interim commercial permit program)	Field Staff observational estimated daily visitors visits	Field Staff observational estimated daily dog walker visits (including commercial)	Field Staff observational estimated daily commercial dog walker visits as a percentage of overall visits	For reference IEC study-5-yr avg - WHERE DID THIS COME FROM?	For reference Ratio of total visitors to vistors with dogs - WHERE DID THIS NUMBER COME FROM?
	Stinson Beach	High on weekends, low to moderate on weekdays (swimmers on beach)	Moderate to high (picnic area).	Not inconsistent with SEIS. Overall dog use could be highas a percentage of visitors in the picnic areas, despite overall numbers of dogs.	No change on beach. Some restrictions in picnic areas. For commercial (4-6 dogs) allowed but none currently, no change.		Less than 20 per week-day. Weekend day 21-50.	None		
	Homestead Valley	Low (local use)	Low	Consistent with the SEIS.	Changes from off-leash to on-leash only in some areas (no off leash). Change for commercial (4-6 dogs): is no longer allowed, but impact small b/c numbers are small. **RECALL THAT COMMERCIAL 1-3 DOGS IS TREATED SAME AS PRIVATE IN ALL AREAS!!!**		1-10 per weekday and weekend day.	Up to 25% week day, none weekend commercial		
	Alta Trail / Orchard Fire Road / Pacheco Fire Road	Low to moderate (runners, bikers, hikers)	High (commercial)	Consistent with DEIS, note that week end use is less commercial than week days.	Changes from off-leash to on-leash only in some areas (no off leash). Change for commercial at Alta Trail: IS allowed, but no off-leash (on leash only). no commercial on weekends, weekdays allowed 8am-5pm.		21 - 50 dog walkers per day both week day and weekend day.	80% commercial week day, weekend 20% commercial		

Marin County	Oakwood Valley	Moderate (hikers, runns, bikers, equestrian riders), local use	Moderate	Oakwood Valley visitation by dogs should be changed to high in FEIS.	Changes from off-leash to on-leash only in some areas (no off leash). Change for commercial: is no longer allowed, but impact small b/c numbers are small.		21-50 dog walkers per weekday and weekend day.	5% commercial dog walkers week days, 0% week ends			
	Muir Beach*	High on weekends, moderate to high on week days (beachgoers, hikers) - local use	Moderate	No current field staff obvservational estimate, relying on actual counts from IEC report here	Changes from off-leash to on-leash only in some areas (no off leash). Change for commercial: is no longer allowed, but impact zero b/c no commercial there now.	SEE IEC REPORT FOR NUMBER OF VISITORS	SEE IEC REPORT - STATES % DOG WALKERS	0 commercial	27,758 --- BUT IEC REPORT SAYS NUMBER OF DOGS IS 16K, SO NUMBERS OF DOG WALKERS WOULD BE LESS. Where did you get 27K? PLEASE DBLCK IEC REPORT	18.1	
	Rodeo Beach	Moderate to high (beachgoers)	Low to high	No current field staff obvservational estimate, relying on actual counts from IEC report here.	Changes from off-leash to both on and off-leash. Beach itself no change. Trails go to on-leash. Change for commercial: will continue to be allowed off leash on the beach, but no longer allowed on surrounding trails. no commercial on weekends, weekdays allowed 8am-5pm.	SEE FIRST IEC REPORT FOR TOTAL VISITATION - THIS AREA WAS COUNTED!	SEE FIRST IEC REPORT- THIS AREA WAS COUNTED!	Less than 5 commercial dog walkers per day			
	Marin Headlands Trails (includes Rodeo Valley)	Low to high (hikers, runners, cyclists, beachgoers, equestrian riders, school group trips)	Low to moderate	Since SEIS, possible there has been a slight reduction in overall number of dog walkers, but overall is consistent.	Changes from off-leash to on-leash only in some areas (no off leash). Change for commercial: while no longer allowed, impact is zero b/c no commercial.		1 - 20 dog walkers per week day and weekend day.	No commercial.			

	Fort Baker	Moderate	Low	Dog use could still be low, but range should expand to "low to moderate" in FEIS.	No change except for one fire road which is now no dogs. Change for commercial: will be allowed in some areas, but not Drown Fire Road, one road that commercial users have used in the past. no commercial on weekends, weekdays allowed 8am-5pm.		21-50 dog walkers per week day and weekend day.	Less than 5 commercial dog walkers per day	
	Upper and Lower Fort Mason	Moderate to high (walkers, bikers, runners, sighseers) - local and visitor use	Low to moderate (private and commercial dog walkers)	Consistent with SEIS.	Changes from on-leash everywhere to on-leash in most areas with one off-leash section. Change for commercial: will continue to be allowed, and will be an improvement as there will be a new off-leash area here.		51-100 per week day and weekend day.	5-10% commercial per week day; less than 5% per weekend.	

	Crissy Field*	Moderate to high (walkers, bikers, runners, sightseers) local and visitor use.	Low to moderate (private and commercial dog walkers)	Not inconsistent with the SEIS. Overall probably moderate more often than low, but there are periods of bad weather / high winds, etc. that drive numbers of dog use to low. May need to change in FEIS to note that trend is likely moderate overall dog use.	Changes from off-leash to both on and off-leash. Beach itself no change. Trails go to on-leash. Change for commercial: will continue to be allowed off leash on Central Beach and part of the airfield, but no longer allowed on Promenade, picnic areas, and East Beach - so some restrictions. Still a lot of area left for commercial so impact not great. no commercial on weekends, weekdays allowed 8am-5pm.		See IEC report - 30.7% weekday and 17.5% weekends? See report for actual numbers.	33% of all dog walking is commercial week day, less than 10% week end	465,536 - please dblck this number	2.2	*The intensity level 3 here appears low.
	Fort Point	Moderate to high (runners, bikers, walkers, sightseers)	Low to high	N ot inconsistent with the SEIS. While dog use is more likely to be in the low to moderate range, it could be perceived as high given the limited areas at Ft. Point where dog walking is currently allowed.	Dogs have never been allowed in the Fort, only the walkway. No change for private dog walkers. Change for commercial: no longer allowed, but use is very very small, so very small impact.		1-20 per day weekday, 21-50 per day weekend.	Less than 1% during the week, 0% on the weekends.			
San Francisco County	Baker Beach*	Low to moderate (beachgoers, picnickers)	Low to moderate	Not inconsistent with SEIS, but overall number of both visitors and dogs likely trend to the moderate side, which should be changed in the FEIS.	Changes from off-leash to on-leash only in some areas (no off leash). Change for commercial: is allowed in some areas, but only on leash. no commercial on weekends, weekdays allowed 8am-5pm.		51-100 dog walkers per day, same for weekend day per current park estimate. BUT PLEASE USE IEC DATA INSTEAD	40% weekday is commercial, weekend day less than 5% per current park estimate. BUT PLEASE USE IEC DATA INSTEAD.	19,004 - please dblck this number against IEC report. DISREGARD COLUMNS H & J ESTIMATES AND USE IEC NUMBERS HERE SINCE THEY ARE ACTUAL COUNTS.	12.7	

Fort Miley	Moderate (picnickers) - local use	Low	Consistent with SEIS.	Change goes from off leash to on leash in some areas (no off leash). Change for commercial: no longer allowed, but not an impact b/c no current use.		1-20 dog walkers per weekday and weekend day.	No commercial.		
Lands End	Moderate (walkers, hikers, runners, sightseers)	Low to moderate	Consistent with SEIS.	Change goes from off leash to on leash in some areas (no off leash). Change for commercial: no longer allowed, but not a large impact b/c low numbers.		1-20 week day dog walkers, 21-50 weekend day dog walkers	Less than 5% for commercial both weekday and weekend day		
Sutro Heights Park	Moderate (walkers, garden and wedding goers)	Low	This should be changed to moderate dog use in the FEIS.	No change - dogs continue to be on leash. Change for commercial: no longer allowed, but not an impact b/c no current use.		21-50 weekday and weekend day for dog walkers	No commercial.		
Ocean Beach*	Moderate to high (beachgoers, walkers, runners, birdwatchers, picnickers, equestrians, surfers)	Low to high	Please rely on actual counts from IEC report here. Consistent with SEIS	Changes from off leash everywhere (unless a crowded condition per 1979 Pet Policy - then could be asked to move), to off leash in one section (Stairwell 21 to Sloat Blvd now no dogs). This is a large change. Change for commercial: no longer allowed on or off leash (AGAIN, REMEMBER THIS IS COMMERCIAL WITH ONLY 4-6 DOGS, 1-3 is allowed)	2.8 million per IEC report	10% on week days are dog walkers, and 8-9% on weekend days - 9.4% total (see IEC report to confirm)	Less than 5% week day, less than 1% week end day (this estimate is based on park staff observations, IEC report didn't collect this info)	232,248	10.6

	Fort Funston*	High (dog walkers, walkers, hang gliders, fishermen, equestrians, birdwatchers, environmental center participants)	High (private and commercial dog walkers)	Please rely on actual counts from IEC report here. Consistent with SEIS	Change from off-leash everywhere to off-leash in many areas - including the most popular areas. For commercial dog walking, change is same as above, plus no commercial on weekends, weekdays allowed 8am-5pm.		66% week day use is dog walkers, 57.4% dog walkers on week ends per IEC report but please doublecheck.	##############	382,218 - where did this number come from? Please confirm.	1.6
San Mateo County	Mori Point	Moderate to high (walkers, runners, bikers) - local use	Moderate	Consistent with SEIS.	Changes from on-leash to on-leash everywhere to on-leash in about half the area. Change for commercial: will no longer be allowed.		21-50 dog walkers weekdays, 51-100 dog walkers weekends. Total percent of dog walking visitors during week is 60% of visitors, 70% on week ends.	During week, 50% of dog walkers is commercial, weekend is 0%.		
	Milagra Ridge	Moderate (bikers, walkers, hikers) - local use	Low to moderate	Inconsistent with SEIS, should be changed to high dog use per current condition.	Changes from on-leash to on-leash everywhere to on-leash in about half the area. Change for commercial: will no longer be allowed.		Less than 20 dog walkers on both weekdays and weekends. Estimated that 45% of all visitors are dog walkers.	40% of all dog walkers are commercial.		
	Sweeney Ridge / Cattle Hill	Low (hikers, bikers)	Low to moderate	Inconsistent with SEIS, should be changed to moderate dog use per current condition, not low to moderate.	Sweeney Ridge: Changes from on-leash in three key areas to no dogs. Still allows on leash in some areas. Change for commercial: will no longer be allowed, impact zero b/c no commercial there now. CATTLE HILL - NOT YET NPS LAND.		Sweeney Ridge: 30% of all visitors are dog walkers. 100% are private dog walkers. Total number at the site on week days are 21-50. Weekends unknown. CATTLE HILL - NOT YET NPS LAND - UNKNOWN.	Sweeney Ridge: 0% commercial. CATTLE HILL NOT YET NPS LAND - UNKNOWN.		

	Pedro Point Headlands	Low to moderate (hiking, horseback riding)	Low to moderate	NOT ADDRESSED IN RULE	NOT ADDRESSED IN RULE		NOT ADDRESSED IN RULE	NOT ADDRESSED IN RULE
	Rancho Corral de Tierra	Low to moderate (hikers, runners, bicyclists, equestrians)	Low to moderate	Inconsistent with SEIS, should be changed in FEIS to moderate to high dog use per current condition, not low to moderate. Moderate dog use overall, but could be high dog use in the Montara section of Rancho.	Change is from current on-leash on all trails to on-leash on some trails - and maintaining loop trails from 3 communities but eliminating trails in the backcountry. Change in commercial: goes from on leash to no commercial, but impact small b/c number of commercial dog walkers is small. Again, recall that 1-3 dogs not regulated under a permit even if commercial.		##############	Montara section of Rancho: 30% of dog walkers are commercial. REST OF RANCHO: 10% of dog walkers are commercial.
			TOTAL				-	

*Study site.

Source: Dog Management Plan/SEIS.

Dog Management

- Since 2002, Golden Gate National Recreation Area has been developing a plan for dog management of the park. The goals of the plan are to protect visitor safety, provide for a variety of visitor experiences (with and without dogs), and protect park resources for the future.
- The plan followed a court order that essentially said that unless the park completed a public rulemaking process, it could not deviate from a pet policy that had been established in 1979 by the park's then-Citizen's Advisory Commission. The 1979 Pet Policy identified major areas of the park for off-leash dog use, despite the national regulation on dog use that specifies that only on-leash dog use in permitted in national park areas.
- A plan is needed because as both visitation and dog use has skyrocketed, conflicts have also increased, resources have been threatened, visitor and employee safety has been compromised, and some users feel excluded from some prime areas because of the lack of dog management.
- In January 2011, the park submitted a Draft Dog Management plan for 5-month public review. Over 4700 individuals responded with over 8,000 comments. Following review of the comments, changes in the alternatives, review of new information, and the addition of a new 3700 acre parcel (Rancho Corral de Tierra) in 2011, the park decided to issue a Supplemental draft dog Management Plan in September 2013.
- The comment period on this second draft plan closes on February 18, 2014. Thus far, over 2000 comment letters have been received.
- The park's proposed plan recognizes that dog walking, if managed effectively, is a healthy, appropriate use of the park. The plan's preferred alternative proposes off-leash dog use in seven areas of the park, and on-leash use in many more park areas.
- Many off-leash advocates feel the park's proposal constitutes a major reduction in dog opportunities. Many of these people feel that requiring a dog to be on leash is tantamount to banning dog from an area. Many environmentalists, the park's proposal is a giveaway of park resources to dogs, and that dogs only belong in fenced-in areas far away from prime resources.
- If the park's proposal is implemented, Golden Gate will be the only one of the 401-unit national park system that sanctions off-leash dog use.
- Off-leash dog advocates have mounted a well-funded political campaign to resist change to the status quo. They have barraged the offices of elected officials with targeted messages that the park has not been responsive to their needs. They have suggested that the NPS draft plan lacks a scientific basis, despite the fact that over a dozen peer-reviewed studies were consulted in formulating the plan's recommendations. They say that the park is "anti-recreation," despite evidence that the park welcomes arguably the widest variety of recreation pursuits of any park in the country.
- Environmental advocates have recently begun to put out action alerts in an attempt to counter the pressure being brought by off-leash dog advocates.
- Timeline going forward –

  Feb 18, 2014 – Close of public comment period on Supplemental dog mgt plan
  Spring/Summer 2014 – Review of comments; adjustments to plan
  Fall 2014 – Release of Proposed Rule on Dog Walking for public comment

Winter/Spring 2015 – Review of comments on Proposed Rule; preparation of Final Plan and Rule

Late 2015 – Release of Final Plan, Record of Decision, and Final Rule

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VERSION 1

Martha Walters
Crissy Field Dog Group
P. O box 475372
San Francisco, California 94147

Dear Ms Walters:

Your April 10, 2015 letter to Director Jon Jarvis concerning his radio appearance on KQED Forum on March 26, 2015 was forwarded to me for a response.

In your letter you cite what you believe are incorrect interpretations by Director Jarvis of how the nation's national parks are to be managed, and you offer your viewpoint on the recreation emphasis in establishing the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Director Jarvis's interpretation of the applicability of uniform management policies throughout the 407 unit National Park System is accurate. Furthermore, your selective use of quotes from Director Jarvis's Forum appearance ignores the ways he described the countless recreational opportunities at Golden Gate National Recreation Area - including off leash dog walking.

Director Jarvis, and everyone else in NPS management, understand that recreation is a pillar of the purpose of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. As you point out, PL 92-589 states the purpose of Golden Gate National Recreation area is to preserve for use and enjoyment the park's outstanding natural, historic, scenic and recreational values. The park has been managed to preserves all of those values since its inception, continues to de managed for this purpose today, and will continue to be managed for these values in the future. The park's more than 17 million annual visitors are testimony to the popularity of the park for an exceptional variety of recreation activities, including dog walking.

We know that continuing to have opportunities to enjoy the park with a dog is of primary concern to Crissy Field Dog Group and many others. As you know, off-leash and on-leash dog walking opportunities have been part of every iteration of the park's 14 year dog management planning process. The park has listened carefully to those like you who advocate for more off-leash dog walking, as well as those who prefer a dog-free experience. It should be very evident to you, given your longtime involvement in this issue, that all stakeholders feel passionately about the park.

We urge you to continue the dialogue with Golden Gate NRA Superintendent Chris Lehnertz and her team, and to p[rovide constructive comments on the Draft Rule of Dog Management at Golden Gate when it is released for public comment this summer of fall.

Sincerely,

Patty Neubacher
Acting Regional Director

VERSION 2

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Acting Regional Director

Cc:

Secretary of the Interior
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
Congresswoman Jackie Speier
Congressman Jared Huffman
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer

VERSION 2

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Patty Neubacher
Acting Regional Director

Cc:
Secretary of the Interior
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
Congresswoman Jackie Speier
Congressman Jared Huffman
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer

United States Department of the Interior

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:
W34 (GOGA-VRPCR)

Memorandum

To: Frank Dean, General Superintendent

From: Kevin Cochary, Chief Ranger

Subject: Interim Compendium Amendment for Commercial Dog Walking

Summary:

GGNRA and the Presidio Trust wish to establish a public use limit and permit requirement for persons who are walking four or more dogs at one time for consideration (commercial dog walker) on lands under the administrative jurisdiction of the National Park Service in Marin County and the City and County of San Francisco, and the Presidio of San Francisco (Area B, Presidio Trust) where dog walking is allowed. Permits will allow a maximum of 6 dogs per dog walker, and require a business license and proof of liability insurance and approved dog-handling training through existing training courses. Permit holders must abide by all NPS and Presidio Trust regulations. This includes NPS regulation 36 CFR 2.15(a), which requires that dogs be restrained by a leash no longer than 6 feet in length in sites that are not open to voice control dog walking per the 1979 Pet Policy; and Presidio Trust regulation 36 CFR 1002.15. GGNRA would implement a permit system for the GGNRA, and the Presidio Trust would honor those permits on lands administered by the Trust. The annual permit cost would be a $75.00 application fee and $300 per person for a non-transferrable badge.

This use limit would be an interim action for both GGNRA and the Presidio Trust, and would remain in effect in GGNRA until a final special regulation for dog walking, including commercial dog walking, is promulgated. That final special regulation is anticipated in late 2015.

Should the Superintendent of GGNRA approve this interim public use limit and permit system, an amendment to GGNRA's Compendium would be completed. Should the Presidio Trust Executive Director approve this interim public use limit and permit system, an interim rule would be promulgated through publication in the Federal Register.

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Recommended Regulatory Action

I recommend that you exercise the discretionary authority delegated to you under 36 C.F.R. Section 1.6 to adopt an interim compendium amendment that would require that any person walking more than three dogs at one time for consideration (commercial dog walker) in any Marin or San Francisco site of Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) where dog walking is allowed, must first obtain a permit from the park.

The proposed text of the Compendium amendment is as follows:

PART 1 – General Provisions

36 CFR § 1.6 Permits

☐ COMMERCIAL DOG WALKING

(a) The walking of more than six dogs at one time by any one person for consideration (commercial dog walking) is prohibited within San Francisco County and Marin County sites administered by Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA).

(b) The walking of more than three dogs, with a limit of six dogs, at one time by any one person for consideration (commercial dog walking) within San Francisco County and Marin County sites administered by GGNRA, where dog walking is otherwise allowed, is hereby authorized provided that:
   i. That person has a valid commercial dog walking permit issued by GGNRA;
   ii. The walking of more than three dogs, with a limit of six dogs, is done pursuant to the conditions of that permit; and
   iii. The commercial dog walker badge issued to the permittee by GGNRA shall be visibly displayed at all times as directed in the permit while the permittee is engaging in commercial dog walking activities, and shall be provided upon request to any person authorized to enforce this provision.

If approved, this Compendium amendment would remain in effect until the final special regulation for dog walking in GGNRA is promulgated, which is anticipated in late 2015.

Justification

Adjacent Jurisdictions: This proposed public use limit and permit requirement is a direct response to commercial dog walking permit programs enacted in 2013 by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the Town of Tiburon in Marin County. These permit programs limit the number of dogs per commercial dog walker to 8 or 6 dogs, respectively. Given the extremely broad geographical reach (parks, open spaces, Port of San Francisco lands, and San Francisco Public Utility Commission properties) of the City and County of San Francisco's ordinance, coupled with the effect of the Town of

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Tiburon's ordinance, the National Park Service (NPS) reasonably anticipates that a number of commercial dog walkers who use the areas in San Francisco and Tiburon that would cause them to fall under these ordinances, will instead walk their dogs in GGNRA areas in San Francisco and Marin Counties that are already heavily used by dog walkers, including commercial dog walkers. The San Francisco ordinance on commercial dog walking went into effect July 1, 2013, with a 120 day grace period to November 1, 2013, to allow completion of permit training requirements. As of March 11, 2014, 163 commercial dog walking permits had been issued by San Francisco's Animal Care and Control. The Town of Tiburon's permit program went into effect July 19, 2013; as of March 12, two permits had been issued by the City of Tiburon.

The San Francisco ordinance is anticipated to have a noticeable impact, particularly at Fort Funston and Crissy Field, the two sites most regularly used by dog walkers. Crissy Field already receives very high visitor use (approximately 3.2 million in 2009), including from individual and commercial dog walkers. GGNRA staff estimate that there are generally ten to fifteen commercial dog walkers per day (fewer on weekends than weekdays), and typically at least three present, with at least four to eight dogs each, at any given time of the day. A 2011 visitor use study found that 24% of visitors at Crissy Field were dog walkers. That same study found that at Fort Funston, where the average number of dogs walked at the site each day is 1,600, an average of 62% of daily visitors were dog walkers (66% on weekdays and 57% on weekends). On weekends, 3.1% of dogs at Fort Funston are walked in groups larger than 6, accounting for 10 dog walker visits. However, on weekdays, 34.7% of dogs were in groups larger than 6, accounting for approximately 127 dog walker visits. Of that group 19.4% of dogs were in groups larger than 8 (approximately 61 dog walker visits). The study notes: "At Fort Funston, many visitors were observed with large groups of dogs. While some of these visitors may be individuals who own multiple dogs, most are likely professional dog walkers."

Marin County Parks and Open Space began requiring permits for commercial dog walkers on Open Space lands in 2002; the permits allowed a maximum of 6 dogs per walker. Currently, certain GGNRA-managed sites in southern Marin, particularly Alta Trail above Marin City, are used by commercial dog walkers with more than six dogs per person. The Alta Trail, an easily accessible GGNRA site in close proximity to the town of Tiburon, is regularly used by commercial dog walkers who have an average of ten dogs each. GGNRA staff have often experienced up to 50 off-leash dogs at one time at that site. Because of the ease of access and parking, Alta Trail is likely to be an alternative for those commercial dog walkers who would otherwise use Tiburon open space areas where there is now a permit requirement and limit of 6 dogs per walker.

Safety and Visitor Experience: In heavily used areas, especially areas popular with multiple user groups, limiting the number of dogs per dog walker for this interim period would lessen the potential for conflict between user groups by allowing better control by dog walkers. Additionally, a limit on the number of dogs would address the safety and visitor experience concerns of other users, including private dog walkers, who have been displaced from areas heavily used by commercial dog walkers where large groups of dogs are not always well controlled. Numerous comments on the draft Dog Management Plan/EIS and visitor

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complaints received by park staff have voiced safety and visitor experience concerns about large groups of dogs that are not adequately supervised. Additional control made possible by limiting the number of dogs walked at one time by commercial dog walkers would also address park employee concerns about working outdoors in areas heavily used by commercial dog walkers.

Establish Control and Regulations: Research and interviews conducted as part of GGNRA's dog management planning project indicate that there are now at least 100 commercial dog walking businesses in the City and County of San Francisco. There are also commercial dog walkers who operate without a business license. Commercial dog walkers include individual dog walkers, as well as companies with several employees. There is at least one association for commercial dog walkers in San Francisco, the San Francisco Professional Dog Walkers Association (Prodog). In a July 14, 2013, San Francisco Chronicle article about San Francisco's new commercial dog walking ordinance, a spokesperson for ProDog estimated that there might be as many as 300 commercial dog walkers in San Francisco. In San Francisco, the GGNRA sites most often used by commercial dog walkers are Fort Funston, Crissy Field and Fort Mason, but commercial dog walkers are also seen at Baker Beach and Ocean Beach. Commercial dog walkers typically bring between four and ten dogs, or more, at a time to GGNRA sites and spend about one hour, twice a day, in the park.

Without this interim action, commercial dog walkers would be able to continue walking unlimited number of dogs in GGNRA sites where dog walking is currently allowed until the NPS completed the GGNRA dog management planning process, which addresses both commercial and recreational dog walking. The dog management plan and its accompanying environmental impact statement (EIS) are well underway. In 2014, following review and consideration of public comment on the draft plan/SEIS, the NPS will develop and seek public comment on a proposed rule that codifies the dog management plan's regulatory elements in the Code of Federal Regulations. A final rule is not anticipated until 2015. When that rule is in place, the GGNRA interim compendium amendment for commercial dog walking will expire.

Basis of the Interim Permit Six Dog Limit

The maximum number of dogs per commercial dog walker in this proposed interim compendium amendment was drawn from the permit conditions developed in the dog management planning process. The permit conditions - including the number of dogs allowed per dog walker - proposed in the preferred alternative of the draft Dog Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (draft plan/EIS) and the draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (draft plan/SEIS), were developed initially by the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management (2006-2007), and, as one of the Committee's consensus agreements, were incorporated in the preferred alternative of the 2011 draft Dog Management Plan/EIS, and the 2013 draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental EIS. During the public comment period on the draft Plan/EIS, the NPS received multiple comments regarding the appropriate number of dogs allowed per dog walker. Some commenters expressed support for limiting the number at six dogs with strict guidelines. Other commenters, including some dog walkers, expressed

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concern that public health and safety would be adversely impacted by allowing more than three dogs per dog walker, with some noting that four or more dogs could be hard to control. Some commercial dog walkers noted the potential economic impacts to their businesses of limiting the number of dogs to a maximum of six, while other commenters requested that commercial dog walking not be allowed at all.

In proposing alternatives for the maximum number of dogs per walker in the draft plan/EIS, the NPS was concerned first and foremost with visitor experience and safety, as well as resource protection, key objectives of the plan. The NPS questioned whether a dog walker could consistently control more than six dogs in areas open to voice control, of particular concern in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. The NPS was unable to find literature supporting the idea that more than six dogs would provide both visitor experience and safety, and resource protection. Based on public comment, input from the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management, park staff observations, research on national and international best practices and law enforcement experience, the NPS believes that allowing more than six dogs total could negatively impact visitor experience and visitor and employee safety.

The preferred alternative proposed in GGNRA's draft Plan/EIS and SEIS would require that commercial and private dog walkers with more than three dogs obtain a permit; the permit would limit the number of dogs per walker to a maximum of six, and permits would be issued for only seven park sites, all of which are in either Marin or San Francisco counties. This interim public use limit is similar in that it would impose a maximum of 6 dogs per dog walker for the protection of visitor experience, visitor and employee safety and resources, however, it would only address commercial dog walkers, and would not limit them to only seven sites. Rather, all GGNRA sites open to dog walking in San Francisco and Marin would be available for commercial dog walkers under this interim action.

Applicable Law and Policy:

NPS regulations allow superintendents to implement public use limits to protect park resources, equitably allocate use of areas, protect public health and safety, and avoid conflicts among user groups. Public use limits may be adopted following a written determination and publication of the use limitation in the park's Compendium. In addition, under 36 CFR § 1.6, Permits, the National Park Service may adopt a permit system to implement a public use limit enacted under 36 CFR §1.5.

This proposed interim proposed use limit is consistent with NPS Management Policies, which allow the issuance of permits for special park uses that provide a benefit to an individual, group or organization rather than the public at large; that require authorization and some degree of management control to protect resources and the public interest and that are not prohibited by law or regulation. In that commercial dog walking is not a visitor-serving use, a permit is the proper authorizing mechanism rather than a commercial use authorization, which is intended to benefit the visiting public at large. This interim action allows continued access by commercial dog walkers to all GGNRA

Marin and San Francisco sites open to dog walking, but in a manner that is protective of other park users. Use of the most popular dog walking sites in GGNRA is already heavy – additional unregulated use could aggravate issues among dog walkers both commercial and private, as well as impact or displace other users. Finally, the 1979 GGNRA Citizen's Advisory Commission Pet Policy did not address commercial dog walking, thus this interim action is not inconsistent with that policy.

This interim action is not of a nature, magnitude or duration such that it would result in a significant alternation of the public use patterns of the park. The expected duration of this proposed interim action is approximately two years, when the NPS intends to replace it with a special regulation published in the Code of Federal Regulations that will govern dog walking, including commercial dog walking, in GGNRA. The final special regulation will be based on the alternative selected in the Record of Decision for the GGNRA dog management Plan. Further, the scope of this proposed interim action is limited, applying only to GGNRA lands in San Francisco and Marin counties where dog walking is allowed; GGNRA lands in San Mateo County would not be affected. In addition, this proposed action would only affect commercial dog walkers; private dog walkers would not be affected. Commercial dog walkers are a subset of the dog walking that occurs on GGNRA lands, and only a portion of commercial dog walkers handle more than 6 dogs at one time. More importantly, the proposed action does not ban commercial dog walking. It allows the use to continue, with the requirement of a permit for those with more than 3 dogs, and a limit of 6 dogs, in San Francisco and Marin GGNRA sites.

This interim action would not adversely affect the natural, aesthetic or cultural values of park lands in Marin and San Francisco counties. Because this interim action limits the number of dogs per commercial dog walker, it potentially allows greater control of dogs, particularly in areas where dogs are currently allowed under voice control. Thus, this action would not adversely affect, and may even have a beneficial effect, on natural, aesthetic and cultural values of park lands, by reducing the potential for multiple, large groups of dogs in park sites.

Adoption of the proposed action would not require a long-term or significant modification in the park's resource management objectives since it is an interim action and the park anticipates that it would be replaced by a final regulation in approximately two years. The proposed action is also not inconsistent with the park's resource management objectives and broadly follows the goals and objectives of the GGNRA dog management draft Plan/EIS and SEIS, both of which considered the park's resource management objectives in developing the range of alternatives. This proposed action is also consistent with natural resource goals of the updated GGNRA General Management Plan, particularly the goal of maintaining the integrity and diversity of natural resources and systems and mitigating the effects of urban pressures.

The proposed interim restriction is not highly controversial. Multiple jurisdictions in the Bay Area, including the City and County of San Francisco, the Town of Tiburon, and Marin County Parks and Open Space, have recognized the need to impose reasonable restrictions on commercial dog walking and have done so; the most recent actions were in

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July of this year. The interim action proposed here was initially proposed by the commercial dog walking representative to the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee, and was further developed, with much public review, throughout the GGNRA dog management planning effort. Finally,this action is similar to the approach that is currently being used by the adjacent jurisdictions mentioned previously.

This interim action is also the minimum necessary action at this time; narrowly tailored to address the anticipated increase in commercial dog walking that is expected to result from the adoption of local ordinances regulating commercial dog walkers in San Francisco and Tiburon. Without this interim action, it is reasonably expected that GGNRA lands in San Francisco and Marin Counties could see an increase in the amount of commercial dog walkers with large groups of dogs, which in turn would affect the use and enjoyment of park lands by other visitors, including other dog walkers.

Special Park Use: This action is considered a special park use (NPS 2006 Management Policies 8.6). A special park use is an activity that takes place in a park area, and that

- Provides a benefit to an individual, group, or organization, rather than the public at large;
- Requires written authorization and some degree of NPS management to protect park resources and the public interest;
- Is not prohibited by law or regulation;
- Is not initiated, sponsored, or conducted by the NPS; and
- Is not managed under a concession contract, a recreation activity for which the NPS charges a fee, or a lease.

Furthermore, this action, when implemented with the permit terms and conditions:

- Will not create an unacceptable impact on park resources or values;
- Is not contrary to the purposes for which the park was established;
- Would not unreasonably disrupt the atmosphere of peace and tranquility of wilderness, natural, historic, or commemorative locations within the park;
- Would not unreasonably interfere with interpretive programs, visitor activities, visitor services, or NPS administrative activities;
- Would not substantially interfere with the operation of public facilities or the services of NPS concessioners or contractors;
- Would not create an unsafe or unhealthy environment for other visitors or employees;
- Would not result in conflict with other existing uses.

Finally, this interim action is not expected to displace commercial dog walkers to adjacent lands managed by other agencies. Both the Town of Tiburon and the Marin County Parks and Open Space District already have similar restrictions on commercial dog walking. In San Francisco, there may be some commercial dog walkers who prefer to use City and County of San Francisco lands, in that they would be allowed an additional 2 dogs per walker under the San Francisco permit. However, that difference is not

expected to result in a significant amount of displacement from GGNRA lands to San Francisco-managed sites. There would also be no displacement onto Presidio Trust (Trust) lands as a result of this action, in that the Trust will be proposing to institute a similar interim restriction on Trust lands, intended to be enacted in concert with the GGNRA interim restriction under the GGNRA permit system.

NEPA Compliance:

The Handbook for NPS Director's Order 12 contains a listing of Categorical Exclusions. Section 3.4 A(5) of the Director's Order 12 Handbook provides that "Issuances, extensions, renewals, reissuances or minor modifications of concession contracts or permits not entailing new construction or new environmental impact as a result of concession operations." may be categorically excluded under NEPA.

This compendium amendment requiring permits with a limit of 6 dogs per dog walker for commercial dog walking within GGNRA Marin and San Francisco sites that are open to dog walking would result in minor changes to commercial dog walking activities in the park. The park has prepared all the appropriate Categorical Exclusion screening forms, which are available for review. These forms disclose that the actions would result in no measurable adverse environmental effects. Furthermore, no exceptional circumstances or conditions exist that would make use of a Categorical Exclusion inappropriate. As such, we believe that a Categorical Exclusion under NEPA is the appropriate form of NEPA compliance for this regulatory provision.

Public Notice:

The park will provide public notice as described in 36 C.F.R. Section 1.7., specifically through community outreach, outreach to dog walking organizations, brochures and the Park's website.

Concurrence:

(signed original on file)
General Superintendent, Golden Gate NRA

Date

GGNRA045933_A

Qs and As: Muir Beach

Why were dogs eliminated entirely from Muir Beach?

> Muir Beach is relatively small, is somewhat challenging to monitor, and includes three species (Coho Salmon, Steelhead Trout, and Calif Redlegged Frog) that are known to be highly sensitive to disturbance.

How is Rodeo Beach different from Muir Beach?

> Rodeo Beach is substantially larger than Muir Beach; the opportunity for a variety of experiences not affected by other uses is greater. Also, Rodeo Beach is easily monitored, and fencing will already have been installed to protect the lagoon. In addition, there is a logical demarcation point at Rodeo Beach – south end where Lagoon Trail hits the beach – to allow a no-dog experience for those seeking it.

Why not install a fence to keep dogs out of the creek at Muir Beach?

> Muir Beach is highly dynamic; past attempts to install fencing failed as the fences were quickly buried in sand or damaged in the wind as sand was blown off the footings. Also, a fence on the beach could constitute a negative visual intrusion, and depending on design, could impede the passage of wildlife from beach to creek or lagoon.

Where are Muir Beach community residents supposed to go to walk their dogs?

> There is a small county beach accessible from the community, north of the main part of Muir Beach.

Dog Management at Golden Gate National Recreation Area

- Since 2002, Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) has been developing a plan for dog management of the park. The goals of the plan are to ensure visitor safety, provide for a variety of visitor experiences (with and without dogs), and protect park resources for the future.
- In 1979, the GGRNA's Citizen's Advisory Committee adopted a dog management policy, known as the 1979 Pet Policy. It identified major areas of the park for on and off leash dog use, but it generally did not address the specifics of each area, consider any other park uses, resources, or needs, and it did not receive any environmental analysis as to its impact.
- The dog management planning process followed a court decision which held that unless the park promulgated a federal regulation specific to GGNRA, it could not implement the National Park Service's existing regulations prohibiting off leash dogs, because it deviated from the 1979 Pet Policy.
- A plan is needed because as both visitation and dog use have skyrocketed, conflicts have increased, resources have been impacted, visitor and employee safety has been compromised, and many users feel excluded from prime areas of the park because of the lack of dog management in general, and controls on off leash dogs, specifically. From 2008-2011, there were over 2400 law enforcement incidents in the park involving dogs.
- In January 2011, the park submitted a Draft Dog Management plan for 5-month public review. Over 4700 individuals responded with over 8,000 comments. Following review of the comments, changes in the alternatives, review and incorporation of new information and studies, and the addition of a new 3700 acre parcel (Rancho Corral de Tierra) in 2011, the park decided to issue a Supplemental draft dog Management Plan in September 2013.
- The comment period on this second draft plan (also 5 months) closes on February 18, 2014. Thus far, over 2000 comment letters have been received.
- The plan recognizes that dog walking, if managed effectively, can be a healthy, appropriate use of the park in areas where it does not pose conflicts with other visitors, nor damage park resources. The plan's preferred alternative proposes off leash dog use in seven areas of the park, and on-leash use in many more park areas.
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- In order to prevent professional dog walkers from shifting to NPS land while the park's rules are still being developed, the park intends to issue an interim Compendium change to limit dog walkers to a maximum of 6 dogs per person. This change will be proposed for public comment in early March 2014, and will be in effect until the park's final rule on dog walking is in place in late 2015.
- Timeline going forward –

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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason Bldg. 201
San Francisco, California 94123

A72 (GOGA-CP)

April 22, 2014

Kristen Ostro
Exemption 6
San Francisco, California 94131

Dear Ms. Ostro:

Your March 18, 2014 letter to NPS Director Jon Jarvis has been forwarded to me for a response. Thank you for sharing your strong concerns over the proposed Interim Compendium Amendment related to commercial dog walking in the park.

Your comments will be taken into account in the decision on this proposed interim compendium change.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Pb comments DRAFT 02092016 V1
Word count for body copy: 496
Goal: Under 500

A Friendly GGNRA Dog Rule or A GGNRA Dog Rule for All

Comment [pb1]: Just trying to shorten here and play off of your theme of most friendly dog park

Christine Lehnertz
General Superintendent
Golden Gate National Recreation Area

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area just published a Proposed Rule for Dog Management that is unique to the National Park system. Our challenge has been to create plan that allows for a complete range of uses, while protecting the parks spectacular resources. That's not easy in a place that spans 80,000 acres in urban and natural areas such as Crissy Field, Alcatraz, Muir Woods, Mt. Tam, Ocean Beach and Mori Point. With years of community input as its foundation, the proposed rule is one of compromise and a landmark achievement. It would establish GGNRA as the most dog-friendly park in the entire National Park system, provide a dog-free experience for others, and care for its resources.

Comment [pb2]: I think this is a good point that provides support for the rule, but those opposed will say/have said it's a unique urban park that needs to be treated differently than a National Park like Yosemite or Yellowstone.

It's a plan for everyone — people, animals and nature. There would be more off leash and on-leash opportunities than ever before. Thirty percent of park beaches and 46 miles of park trails are proposed for dog use. Thirty-five of 85 acres at Fort Funston will be off leash areas. In National Parks, State Parks and many local parks dogs are not allowed. Of the 409 National Park units nationwide, the GGNRA would the only one where dogs would be permitted off-leash in many areas. For those seeking a dog-free experience — while walking, jogging, bicycle riding, picnicking, bird watching, or enjoying the park in some other way — the proposed plan acknowledges how you enjoy the park. The plan also helps to protect sensitive habitat like (insert example) and more than (insert number) rare and endangered species like (insert example).

Since the GGNRA was established in 1972, it has had to adapt to the massive growth in the Bay Area's population and the number of park visitors. Last year, GGNRA - along with Muir Woods and Fort Point - welcomed 17.5 million people, up from (insert number) at the park's inception. The reasons for the park's popularity are obvious to those who know and love it: The natural and historic resources, scenery, and the realm of recreation opportunities. Every day, we see throngs of people windsurfing, running and picnicking at Crissy Field, enjoying 150 miles of hiking and biking trails, and spending time with their dogs. With this growth in population and in park visitors has come an explosion in the number of dogs using the park, which requires thoughtful management of natural resources and ways to ensure a visitor experience that recognizes everyone's desired uses.

Since 2002, the park has been working on a plan to manage dog use with the public and stakeholders ranging from those who want unfettered dog access to those who oppose expanding dog usage areas. GGNRA is seeking public comment about its third draft plan to help us develop a final plan and rule. It's clear from years of debate that satisfying everyone is impossible. However, we believe this version allows for the fullest range of recreation experiences for all park users and protects it for the future. We're eager to know what you think.

Dog management planning process is in its 12th year. NPS has completed analysis of comments from the September 2013 SEIS and is developing a draft Rule, which is anticipated to go to OMB in Feb/March 2015. After OMB review, Draft Rule will be released for public review (60-90 days). Depending on release date of Draft Rule, FEIS could be released in fall 2015, and a Final Rule published in winter 2016.

Re Commercial Dog Walking, the park has instituted an effective permit system, which has achieved good compliance.

Off-leash advocates have been relentlessly pressing elected officials and government decision makers to open more areas for off leash dog use. On the other hand, environmental groups and some advocates for seniors and children, while less vocal than the off leash advocates, have made it clear they are watching closely to make sure their desires (fewer off leash dog areas, fenced areas, etc.) are respected.

City elected officials have been enlisted to intervene with NPS and DOI decision makers. One Supervisor has been particularly active in advocating for the off-leash constituency. Mayor's Office has not reached out to the park.

Dear Senator Feinstein:

As you may know, we have spoken with Gina Banks of your San Francisco office several times about the draft environmental impact statement for dog management (DEIS) at Golden Gate National Recreation Area that is currently out for public review. Gina has passed on to us the concerns of some of your constituents regarding the preferred alternative presented in the DEIS. In response, I would like to update you on the park's efforts to help people understand what's in the DEIS, why we selected the site specific options in the preferred alternative, and how we intend to address the comments received in order to craft the best possible final plan. I also want to outline what comes after the public comment period on the DEIS closes May 30.

First, I want to underscore that our draft environmental impact statement is just that – a draft. It will be further refined by the specific ideas and suggestions that come to us through the review process. To date, we have received nearly 3000 comments. Some are very general; others are very specific. All of the comments will be thoughtfully reviewed and all specific suggestions will be carefully weighed against the criteria that we must use in creating an appropriate plan: protection of the resources of the park; provision of a variety of visitor experiences; improved visitor and employee safety; reduced user conflicts; and maintenance of park resources and values for future generations.

Exemption 5

Our public outreach on the DEIS has been extensive. In addition to the four public meetings held in March in which we accepted extensive public comment, and attended by over 1400 people, park staff have made numerous presentations to organizations – both upon invite and as proactive outreach. The organizations we have spoken to include: Friends of Sutro Heights; Coalition to Save Ocean Beach, Planning Association for the Richmond, Neighborhood Association for Presidio Planning, and Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council and the Coastside Community Council in Montara. We have also made presentations to SPUR and the San Francisco and Marin County Board of Supervisors. We have briefed state, local and federal elected officials and their staff and have met several times with our colleagues at San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, and with San Francisco Animal Care and Control. We have provided briefings for members of the park's former Citizens Advisory Commission and those who represented various park user groups as part of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee that attempted (unsuccessfully) from 2006-2007 to create a consensus rule for dog management. Park staff have spoken frequently with representatives of the dog community, the environmental community, and people with disabilities as well as with members of the general public who are concerned about this issue. We have been interviewed many times for newspaper articles, radio programs, and television news pieces on the plan. We will continue to work right up to the end of the comment period to make sure as many people as possible have a chance to weigh in on this important issue.

At the conclusion of the comment period, the National Park Service (NPS) staff, both local managers and other experienced senior staff from outside the park, will spend the summer and early fall reviewing comments, developing responses and considering how the preferred alternative may change based on comments. We will brief your staff frequently on what our thinking is during this period.

Once the preferred alternative has been finalized, it will become the basis of a draft rule for dog use in the park that will go out for public comment. We estimate that this next comment period will occur in early to mid 2012. Following review of public comment on the proposed rule, the Final Plan and EIS, incorporating public comments on both the DEIS and the proposed rule, will be published, with a notice of availability published in the Federal Register and by other means.

The final step will be the drafting of the Record of Decision on the Final EIS, and the final rule. Both of those will be forwarded to Chris Lehnertz, NPS Pacific West Regional Director, for approval and a summary will be published in the Federal Register. Thirty days after the rule has been submitted to Congress, it will be implemented. This is expected to occur at the end of 2012 or early 2013. Implementation of the new rule will begin with an extended period of education, including the installation of signage and other needed improvements, and outreach by park staff at major visitor destinations and to stakeholder organizations. We hope to enlist the partnership of key stakeholders in making the plan work.

As you know, this is one of the most difficult and controversial issues the park has ever faced. We understand the importance of dogs in people's lives and in their enjoyment of the park, and the passion this inspires in response to the proposed changes. We also understand that not everyone loves dogs as part of their park experience. Our goal has always been to create a plan that continues to allow people to enjoy the park with their dogs in a way that is balanced and protective of resources. Our proposal to designate areas for off-leash dog use in the park for recreational purposes is an exception to the rules on dogs in every other unit of the national park system, but it reflects our belief in the uniqueness of this park and its history.

Exemption 5

We have appreciates the assistance Gina and the San Francisco Field Office team has provided in helping get the word out to your constituents on the DEIS and how they can provide input through their public comments. We will continue to keep your staff updated throughout this long process.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean

General Superintendent

Site Specific Recommendations

Comment [JLW1]: Each of these sections should be carefully reviewed—I have tried to update them, but I don't have all the information needed.

Interpretive and Educational Programs, Media, and Facilities 2009-2019

Section Description. The following site-specific recommendations are based on the foundational information and parkwide recommendations detailed in this document, as well as the ideas generated at the stakeholder workshops. They represent the tangible implementation of the ideas, meanings, and strategies generated during the planning process.

The Golden Gate National Parks embrace three urban counties covering over 70,000 acres. Although the units are disjointed, the park stretches over 70 miles north to south. Collectively they harbor a vast array of both natural and cultural resources that are accessible to over seven million residents within an hour's drive.

The park's interpretive program is varied and vast. Listed below are descriptions for twenty-two specific visitor destinations in the park, current programs and strategies to be employed to achieve the park's overall interpretive goals.

I. MARIN AREA--Muir Woods, Redwood Creek Watershed, Tomales Bay, Olema Valley/Bolinas Ridge, Stinson Beach, Muir Beach, Tennessee Valley, Point Bonita, Rodeo Valley, Fort Cronkhite, Fort Barry, Nike Missile Site, Fort Baker, Battery Spencer, Conzelman Road

Overarching Recommendations:

- Public transportation to these areas must be improved to facilitate audience access and diversity.
- The National Park Service identity should be elevated through better signage, use of the Arrowhead and Golden Gate Parks logos, and increased ranger presence.

- The Marin Headlands Visitor Center needs better directional signage and identification as a visitor center. Often visitors do not enter the center because it looks like a church.
- A mobile visitor center and bookstore could bring park services and interpretation to the public where they are—on beaches, trailheads, etc.
- Relationships with program partners and volunteers should continue to be enhanced with reciprocal benefits and marketing—a "seamless" experience should be facilitated for visitors.
- Curriculum-based programs should be expanded to reach college students, and more emphasis should be placed on cultural stewardship as well as a watershed-wide high school education program.
- Programs and services that extend students interaction with park partners to their parents should be considered to help build a broader, more diverse audience.
- Consider adding more "warming huts" in higher visited areas to encourage return visitors and longer stays.
- Use electronic media and social marketing tools more effectively to market parks and programs, and encourage virtual visitation and extended interpretive experiences.
- Increase stewardship volunteer opportunities.

A. Muir Woods

Site Description: Muir Woods is the only old-growth coastal redwood forest in the Bay Area and one of the last on the planet. It is estimated that nearly 2 million acres of forest just like Muir Woods once covered a narrow strip along the coasts of California and Oregon. Today, 97% of this has been impaired or altered and most coastal redwoods now grow on protected second and third growth forests or

managed timber plantations. Thanks to William Kent's preservation efforts, Muir Woods was spared this fate and remains as a very accessible yet prime example of an old-growth forest.

The forest along Redwood Creek in today's Muir Woods was spared from logging due to limited access. Redwood Creek contained one of the Bay Area's last uncut stands of old-growth redwood. Congressman William Kent bought 611 acres here in 1905. To protect the redwoods he donated 1/2 of the land to the Federal Government and, in 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt declared it a national monument. Roosevelt suggested naming the area after Kent, but Kent wanted it named for conservationist John Muir.

Muir Woods has a rich and varied history, from its use by the Coastal Miwok people, to its early days of tourism, to an era of conservation, to modern preservation. In each era, the forest has been affected by the actions of humans, for better or for worse.

Over 50 species of birds have been identified in Muir Woods over a year's time. A deep, wooded redwood canyon is a specialized habitat. Although this old growth forest supports spotted owls and pileated woodpeckers, the overall lack of food is the primary reason for the apparent scarcity of birds. "Birds, as is generally the case in a redwood forest, are conspicuous by their absence - Steller's jays being the only bird seen in any numbers."

Comment [JLW2]: Quote Reference?

"*This is the best tree-lovers monument that could possibly be found in all the forests of the world*," declared conservationist John Muir when describing the majestic coast redwoods of Muir Woods.

Implementation Strategies: A 1990 interpretive plan for Muir Woods described four distinct zones of visitor experience. The first is the “Welcoming Zone” in which the identity of Muir Woods is established, and basic orientation is provided.

The next zone, from the visitor center to the first bridge, is the "Decompression Zone" in which exhibits introduce the site's themes. "Zone Three," from the second bridge to Cathedral Grove, is where a self-guided nature trails explores themes in greater depth. "Zone Four," beyond Cathedral Grove, is where an intimate experience with Muir Woods can occur without interpretive media.

A package of proposals intended to solve some of the traffic and congestion problems that affect visitors to Muir Woods is included in a draft Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan for Southern Marin County. These proposals include removing the parking lot at the entrance to Muir Woods, developing satellite parking areas, instituting a shuttle system, and relocating the concessionaire facility and visitor center. The feasibility of each of these proposals needs further study, and a public review process is yet to be completed, but all would have major implications for interpretive services at Muir Woods. Long term studies of the Redwood Creek Watershed and Big Lagoon are also underway that will include recommendations that will deeply affect Muir Woods. A "Visitor Experience, Resources Protection" study, a component of the transportation plan, is currently underway and will produce important information that will help shape the future interpretive program at Muir Woods.

Comment [JLW3]: Does the GMP provide a preferred alternative here? This section needs to be updated by Mia.

It is likely that some of these proposals will be implemented in the mid to long-range future. Consequently, the Muir Woods interpretive site plan will assume that many of the proposals will come to fruition during the life of the plan. If they do not, the existing zone concept will continue to be the organizing principle for interpretation at Muir Woods, with only minor modification in information/orientation, personal services, and interpretive media.

Information/Orientation/Way Finding:

- **External Intercept Facility**—A satellite parking area/shuttle hub and visitor contact station should be developed.
    - Highway signs are in the process of being installed to direct Muir Woods visitors to this facility, which should include the fee collection facility and serve as a multi-agency information center.
    - Informational wayside exhibits at the shuttle pickup points will provide information about the access route, time schedules, available facilities and services, pertinent regulations and program offerings.
    - An audio tour may be offered on the shuttle bus to communicate information in different languages, highlight the importance of urban parks and provoke awareness of park features in a broader context such as watersheds, coastal systems or early settlement patterns.
    - The shuttle buses will unload passengers near the trailhead entrance. A small interpretive contact station, sensitively located, will give visitors a sense of arrival and provide orientation. It will complement the setting without impacting the natural systems or viewshed. Restrooms will be located nearby. The kiosk may serve as an interpretive sales outlet and fee-collection station. Informational wayside exhibits, perhaps with bulletin cases, will augment the staffed facility and help disperse visitors. Visitors will be informed of the various tour loops to help them structure their visits within their time and physical constraints and learn that they will encounter less development and fewer people the farther they walk.
- **Newly Landscaped Parking Lot**—The current parking lot, newly landscaped, will open a vista of the big trees, a sense of expectation and a gateway to discovery. The park folder received on the shuttle bus and

low-profile wayside exhibits along the trail will connect visitors with the values of Muir Woods.

- **Wayfinding Tools—**Multi-lingual and universally accessible wayfinding tools such as maps and signs should be expanded.
- **Radio Information—**Provide a park radio station for Highway 101, and explore Garmin and other technology.
- **Advance Organizer—**Provide an menu of recommendations for desired visitor experiences to help people plan their visit—this could be available online and at the external intercept.

Personal Services: Personal services will continue to be a key element in the overall interpretive program. Guided walks, talks, demonstrations, and roving and stationed interpreters all contribute personalized touches to visitors' experiences at Muir Woods.

The current visitor center is also the fee collection station, staffed by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. Its staff is skilled in providing visitors orientation, information and interpretive aids. An interpretive contact table at the park entrance, staffed primarily by volunteers, augments the visitor center.

- **Visitor Center—**The visitor center should be remodeled to make it more efficient for fee collection and dissemination of park information.
- **Concession Facility—**The current concession facility should be relocated and/or redesigned to provide shelter for visitors during inclement weather and also serve as a convening space for educational groups or special programs. Currently there is no educational space to convene school/group programs.
- **Location for Ranger Programs—**Identify an optimal location within the park for ranger-led programs.

- **Tours and Programs**—Daily mini-talks, 15-minute presentations given primarily by interns and volunteers, introduce visitors to redwood ecology, the NPS and critical issues. One-hour tours that offer a more in-depth look at redwood ecology and stewardship are scheduled daily. Special programs such as ranger-led hikes, full-moon programs and the winter and summer solstices reach out to local audiences to foster personal identity with national parks and the earth's natural cycles. Annual special events at Muir Woods include Earth Day, Founders Day, International Migratory Bird Day and Coastal Cleanup.
    - All of these regular and special programs will continue
    - More evening programs should be introduced
    - Drama and historical storytelling should be added to the program repertoire, with an emphasis on Traditional Ecological Knowledge
    - Expand programs outside of the woods
    - Create a "Field Institute" to increase life-long learning
- **Junior Ranger Programs**—The junior ranger program is an important self-guiding youth and family activity. The NPS will continually evaluate and improve the program booklet and supporting materials.
- **Office Space**—Office space for park staff is inadequate and inaccessible. The work area should be renovated incorporating universal design standards and adequate work and storage space for park staff.
- **Field Institute**—Consider developing a field institute for expanding life-long learning opportunities.
- **Historic District**—included for visitor access

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits—**Twenty-six new wayside interpretive panels were completed and installed in 2003/4. They will contribute to an inspiring experience for years to come, providing information and provocation on the old-growth forest, the influence of climate change in shrinking their range, redwood ecology and the significance of the Redwood Creek watershed. Topics include the multi-layered canopy, species diversity, seasonal changes, redwood burls, the role of fire, endangered species and ecological connections in the forest. A wayside exhibit beyond the first trail loop commemorates the site of the United Nations' assembly in 1945. In addition, trailhead information signs provide visitors with trail and hiking information, including maps.
- **Interpretive Exhibits--**Future interpretive exhibits will focus on providing seasonal activity information to visitors at the beginning of their visit to the woods.
- **Visitor Center Exhibit Area—**The exhibit area of the proposed visitor center, at either the park entrance or the shuttle hub, will present the Muir Woods preservation story and its connections with the conservation movement in the United States. Exhibits will interpret past and present ecological restoration and monitoring procedures and techniques. Interpretive media will link Muir Woods' significance as part of a biosphere reserve with other Bay Area sites, including John Muir NHS and the Phleger Estate.
- **Book Store—**The Parks Conservancy's bookstore will continue to carry a variety of theme-related items. Merchandise sold by the concessionaire will also be of good quality and thematically relevant to the park.
- **Concession—**Signage complements park message
- **Print Media**

- Publications will include an expanded selection of self-guiding brochures, multilingual publications, a watershed hiking map, a natural history guide, booklets on the cultural heritage of Muir Woods and Redwood Creek, children's materials and stewardship kits.
- Handouts will be updated and improved in both format and content and posted on the park's website.

- **Audio-tour—**The feasibility of a multi-lingual audio-tour of Muir Woods, to complement the self-guided trail map, will be investigated and there is a strong probability that an audio-tour will be developed within the life of this plan, in conjunction with an external intercept facility.
- **Website**—The NPS will continue to develop the Muir Woods web page as a resource for information, trip planning, extended learning experiences, the junior-ranger program, access to archival materials and updates on planning efforts. Web visitors will have virtual opportunities to experience the forest canopy, glimpse a spotted owl nest or go underwater to view spawning salmon. Internet links will be established between Muir Woods and John Muir NHS as well as other sites relevant to John Muir and conservation history. Additional web resources could include:
  - Podcasts of soundscape research "Sounds of the Woods"
  - Podcasts and video of docent and staff stories
  - Favorite photo page for visitors to post their photos
- **Interpretive materials/CD for bus tours—**More than 20% of visitation to Muir Woods comes from bus tours. Providing interpretive materials and training to bus drivers/tour companies would augment tours and prepare visitors for their experience at the park.
- **Equipment for Enhanced Wildlife Viewing—**Research and obtain equipment to enhance wildlife viewing such as infrared lighting.

Education: Targeted outreach brings 3rd through 5th-grade students from diverse backgrounds to the monument for curriculum-based educational programs. Teacher workshops and an NPS pre-site visit to the class are prerequisites for participation. This program will continue.

- **A dedicated education space** should be created in the remodeled concessionaire space.

Cooperating Association: The Parks Conservancy collects entrance fees at the visitor center and manages the bookstore. The Parks Conservancy provides the "welcoming hand" orientation at the monument entrance. Its theme-related sales items, exhibit space and personal contacts with visitors complement NPS programs. Parks Conservancy personnel receive training in visitor service, natural and human history, interpretive skills and emergency response.

- This role should be evaluated for expanded opportunities and efficiencies as the new external intercept facility and the new concession contract comes online.

Park Partners:

- **Programmatic Partners—**Programmatic park partners at Muir Woods include Lomo Lodge, Hillwood Academy, Green Gulch Zen Center and Slide Ranch. All offer lifelong learning opportunities and expanded interpretive and educational programming. The partners reach diverse audiences and extend their outreach into targeted communities. These partners all have long associations with Muir Woods and the early years of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. NPS staff will work with these partners to connect their programs closer to the resources of the park. When staffing permits, the NPS will explore interpretive seminars,

Elderhostel programs and professional-development retreats that could include the partners' staffs and use their facilities.

- **Concessions—**The concession facility is well situated for evening programs, special events and exhibits; these will be continued and expanded. The NPS trains the concession staff in basic informational skills and collaboratively explores opportunities for outreach and product development that would support park efforts. Future concession operations may include shuttle bus operations or shuttle hub management. Interpretive and informational functions will be integrated into those concession services, should they materialize.
- **State Parks—**Increased collaboration with state parks and other partners will be increased for providing youth and visitor experiences.

Volunteers: Trained Muir Woods volunteers and interns present programs, staff the information table, rove through the woods and provide support for special events. Large volunteer events are scheduled several times a year to promote critical issues and support resource-restoration initiatives. The successful Muir Woods volunteer program will be expanded in the future as opportunities present themselves.

- **Transportation—**Transportation for volunteers should be subsidized or provided in conjunction with the intercept facility. The visitor shuttle should also expand its hours.
- **Stewardship Staff—**Additional stewardship staff is needed to support and coordinate volunteer activities in coordination with the Redwood Creek watershed opportunities such as monthly beach clean ups, trail keepers, etc.
- **Watershed Program—**Multi-agency watershed program should be sustained and expanded.

B. Redwood Creek Watershed (Mia Updating Language)

Site Description: Historically, Redwood Creek had a prodigious salmon run, but due to years of habitat degradation and heavy fishing this steady flow of returning spawning salmon has been reduced to a mere trickle. In the 1930's the Civilian Conservation Corps straightened the creek with rip-rap walls and cleared all the deadfall and logjams out of the stream. They did so in an effort to beautify the stream without realizing that they were destroying important spawning and rearing habitat for the salmon. Since then, nearly two million visitors a year walking along the streambanks have contributed to excessive erosion and the depletion of stream side vegetation.

Big Lagoon is the estuary which connects Redwood Creek to the ocean at Muir Beach. This area provides crucial habitat to the salmon when they are making the transition from living in the stream to living in the ocean. Unfortunately much of this estuary was filled to build a parking lot and create pasture land for farming.

Two different species of salmon are found in Muir Woods; the Coho or Silver salmon and the Steelhead salmon (formerly steelhead trout). Although the Coho begin and end their lives in Redwood Creek, the Steelhead battle their way up the creek, spawn and race back out to sea in hopes to return home the following year to Redwood Creek.

The National Park Service is now planning to restore much of Big Lagoon. Efforts are underway along Redwood Creek to monitor fish populations, revegetate the watershed and restore fallen logs for salmon to lay their eggs.

Comment [JLW4]: Does this need to be updated?

Information/Orientation/Wayfinding:

- **Internet—**Visitors will continue to rely on word-of-mouth and, increasingly, online internet trip planning to learn about the watershed.

- **Road Signs—**Road signs on Highway 1 and Panoramic Highway will direct visitors to destinations within the watershed.
- **Printed Media—**Printed information on Golden Gate's trail network will also serve to attract new visitors to the watershed.
- **Kiosks**—Kiosks at key locations will provide onsite orientation.
- **Restoration Project—**Wayfinding will be updated.

Personal Services: Interpretive services will be offered throughout the watershed, at times (generally weekends) and locations of high visitor use, dependent on staff and volunteer availability.

- **Roving Interpretation—** Roving interpretation at high-visitation sites such as Muir Beach will be a priority.
- **Public Hikes and Programs—** Programs to introduce Parks Conservancy members, local visitors and park neighbors to lesser-known areas in the watershed; promote critical issues; and interpret research or restoration work will be offered periodically.
- **Cooperative Programming—**Collaborative programs with other agencies, partners and neighbors will be expanded for outreach to target audiences, and evaluated for their effectiveness.

Interpretive Media:

- **Trailhead Kiosks—**Kiosks at Big Lagoon, Golden Gate Dairy, Coastal Trail trailhead, Deer Park trailhead, Dipsea Trail, and Four Corners will provide information, maps, program information and updates on restoration activities.
- **Wayside Exhibits—**Wayside exhibits at key locations will interpret significant watershed features and stories.

- **Self-guiding Publications—**Publications will interpret the watershed's natural and cultural history; provide maps and information about recreational opportunities; and facilitate experiences for special audiences such as youth, disabled visitors and birdwatchers. Initially, the Redwood Creek watershed will be featured in a guide to the Coastal Trail which passes through it.
- **Webpage—**An expanded web page, possibly including an on-line newsletter, will inform the public about the status of planning and restoration activities and provide program information.
- **Facilities—**Park staff will evaluate existing facilities for possible rehabilitation to provide opportunities for in-depth, multi-day, lifelong learning experiences that may include workshops, seminars, classes, retreats and summer camps. Potential sites include Hillwood Academy, Lomo Lodge, the ranger residence, the Caddell House at the Golden Gate Dairy and the barn in Kent Canyon.
- **The Alan Watts Library—**The library in Camino del Cañon will be considered as a possible research and library center. Park neighbors will be invited to provide additional public services and park orientation at sites such as the Tourist Club, Green Gulch Farm and the Pelican Inn.

Volunteers: The large-scale, varied restoration activities in the Redwood Creek watershed will continue to offer optimal opportunities for volunteerism, from internships to focused volunteer days, to assisting researchers.

Education: The cultural stories of the watershed, the opportunities this setting affords to participate in research and monitoring, and the outdoor laboratory it offers local schools suggest strong potential for curriculum-based education. The interpretive staff will explore options for cooperative projects with the USGS, Point Reyes NS and NOAA.

- **High School Program—**A watershed-scale high school education program should be developed.

C. Tomales Bay

Site Description: The long blue finger of Tomales Bay points seaward, straight along the San Andreas Fault from the north end of the Olema Valley out to the Pacific. This sheltered 12-mile-long estuary can be accessed by car, bicycle, canoe, kayak, or sailboat. Waterfowl include blue herons, cormorants, osprey, egrets, sandpipers, and gulls—as well as wintering birds such as scoters and Brant geese.

Clams, oysters, crabs, fish, and a rich variety of marine life live in the depths of Tomales Bay. The fish not only attract fishermen, but also natural predators such as birds and seals. The Tomales Bay Ecological Reserve is a marshy, tidal wildlife sanctuary, home of many shorebirds, wading birds, and waterfowl.

Information/Orientation/Wayfinding: The NPS will develop a trail map of the area and perhaps a site bulletin to distribute at area visitor centers, including Point Reyes, Tomales Bay State Park and the Tomales Bay Ecological Reserve. Information will also be available on the Internet.

A trailhead kiosk will be placed at Martinelli Ranch to orient users to the trail system in the area. The exhibit will identify major points of interest and destinations and provide information about safety, the terrain and pertinent park regulations.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits—**The NPS will evaluate the potential for additional wayside exhibits along the trail.
- **Website—**Advance organizing information will be available on the web.

D. Olema Valley/Bolinas Ridge

Site Description: Olema Valley—a rolling landscape of grassland and forest—stretches ten miles from Tomales Bay to Bolinas Lagoon. Part of the Golden Gate National Parks, this area has been shaped by geologic forces and changing patterns of human use.

Grazing cattle and Victorian farmhouses imbue the Olema Valley with a pastoral, rural charm. This lovely landscape stretches for nine miles between the dark slopes of Bolinas and Inverness ridges. Olema Valley's historic farms and fields offer pleasant roadside scenery on the way north.

Its redwood and fir forests provided lumber used to build San Francisco; logging transformed parts of the ridge into grassland and chaparral. The top of Bolinas Ridge offers bird's-eye views up and down the San Andreas Rift Zone.

Thanks to a recent study by National Park Service historian Dewey Livingston, the area's fascinating ranching past is coming to light. The study details life in the Olema Valley from the time of the Mexican rancheros to the area's national park beginnings, and recommends ways to preserve the fascinating remnants of this time period.

To protect Olema Valley's natural heritage, volunteers in the Site Stewardship Program, a cooperative program of the National Park Service and the Golden Gate National Conservancy, are focusing attention on threats to the area's native habitats. Using a unique approach to habitat restoration, park experts train volunteer stewards in state-of-the-art restoration techniques.

The Olema Valley/Tomales Bay Areas of Golden Gate National Parks is administered by Point Reyes National Seashore. The Point Reyes Bear Valley Visitor Center is the closest information station for Olema Valley and Bolinas Ridge.

Information/Orientation:

- **Trail Maps—**Area trail maps and other informational materials such as the park newspaper will be available at park visitor centers, nearby state and county parks, area bike shops and other offsite venues (e.g., outdoor stores) that park users are likely to patronize.
- **Wayside Exhibits—**
    - The NPS will determine which area trailheads have the best potential for developed parking and trail access. An informational wayside exhibit at each identified trailhead will orient trail users to the local and park trail systems, identify day-hike destinations and provide information about safety, terrain and pertinent park regulations.
    - Cooperative interpretive and trail planning with the staffs of Point Reyes National Seashore, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Audubon Canyon Ranch and Mt. Tamalpais and Samuel P. Taylor state parks will be required to make these initiatives successful.

Interpretive Media:

- **Trailhead Kiosk—**The trailhead kiosk at the Randall Ranch trailhead and a wayside exhibit will relate the valley's dairy-ranching history and the courageous human story associated with the ranch. This exhibit will require development of a safe turnout on Highway 1.

E. Stinson Beach

Site Description: Visitors to Stinson Beach experience the pleasures of this quiet beach community. Whether hiking, enjoying a picnic, exploring the town, or relaxing on the beach, people continue to find Stinson Beach a great place to escape from the frantic pace of everyday life, just as it has been for over a century. Stinson Beach facilities include rest rooms, showers, picnic areas, and BBQ grills. A snack bar is open during summer months at the base of the main lifeguard tower.

The diverse wildlife, pristine marshes, and water-snaked mud flats nearby Bolinas Lagoon make it one of the richest within the Golden Gate National Parks. Wildlife abounds in this 1,100-acre tidal estuary. Snowy egrets, blackbirds, warblers, and dozens of other species live in and around this Marin County Open Space District wildlife preserve. Seasonal avian highlights include ducks in the winter, herons in the springtime and pelicans in the summer. Between April and June, harbor seals and their pups often appear on Pickleweed Island.

Information/Orientation:

- **Wayside Exhibit—**A wayside exhibit near the parking lot at the pedestrian access point will provide visitors orientation and information.
- **Information Kiosks—**Twelve information/orientation kiosks placed at pedestrian points of access to Stinson Beach provide visitors with information about safety precautions, hazards and pertinent park regulations. Special attention is focused on the dangers of rip currents and sharks. These exhibits clearly identify the site as a unit of the Golden Gate National Parks and the national park system.
- **Pre-trip Information—**Pre-trip information and better information on travel conditions to Stinson Beach – traffic congestion, full parking lots, etc. – will be developed as part of long range transportation plans currently underway.

Comment [JLW5]: Is this done?

Personal Services:

- **Roving—**When staff is available, roving interpretive contacts and special programs will highlight seasonal features. High-profile sites and events such as "Shakespeare at the Beach," the Dipsea Race, the harbor seal haul-out and Audubon Canyon Ranch will be considered for a complementary NPS ranger or volunteer presence.
- Train junior lifeguards as park ambassadors.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits**
  - Among the low-profile wayside exhibits that will interpret the site, one will illustrate and explain the operation of the base-end station as part of the coastal-defense system of the early 1900s.
  - From one of the key vista points, future possible waysides will identify landscape features, including the Gulf of the Farallones, which are visible on clear days and encourage visitors to look for migrating whales, illustrating the more commonly seen species. NPS may partner with The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on these exhibits.
  - Future wayside exhibits will focus on marine ecology, emphasizing the significance of the California coast for whales, marine birds, seals and sharks. Illustrations of common species may be included. Exhibits may also be developed that addresses the edge of the continent, the continental shelf, the meeting of land and sea and the San Andreas Fault, which runs through the area.
- **Print Media**

- Literature about the site will be available to visitors, including a site bulletin on Willow Camp, the resort community of the late 1800s now called Stinson Beach.

F. Muir Beach

Site Description: Muir Beach preserves a sandy strip of coastline where Redwood Creek reaches the ocean. High bluffs border the beach to the north and south, while wetlands and a lagoon can be found behind the beach. The brackish lagoon was created by a sandbar that traps some of the outflowing water from Redwood Creek. This lagoon is home to numerous shorebirds, amphibians, young salmon and trout, and a reedy grass called rush. Restoration of the upper lagoon ecosystem is in the planning stage.

Comment [JLW6]: Full name?

Comment [JLW7]: Update?

Nearby, the Muir Beach Overlook provides spectacular panoramic views. The location from this high coastal bluff led military planners to site several base-end stations here long ago. There are opportunities to explore the old stations, hike to the tip of a rocky promontory, and enjoy views of migrating whales and the California coastline.

Information/Orientation:

- **Information/Orientation Kiosks**
  - Kiosks will be placed at key pedestrian entry points to Muir Beach. Visitors will receive information about safety precautions, possible hazards and pertinent park regulations. These exhibits will clearly identify the site as a unit of the national park system and the Golden Gate National Parks.
  - Another informational kiosk will be placed at the trailhead for the Coastal Trail. This exhibit will include a map of the entire trail and a

"You Are Here" marker. Since many people use the trail for day hikes, detailed maps will highlight local destinations, weather, safety, terrain and regulations.

Personal Services:

- **Roving—**When staffing permits, interpretive roves will be scheduled to coincide with high-visitation days, low tides and spring wildflowers. Public programs and special events such as hikes, summer solstice celebrations and coast cleanup days will introduce local users to little-known park areas and interpret park restoration work.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits**
    - Developed in conjunction with the restoration of Big Lagoon, wayside exhibits will present the primary stories and themes of Muir Beach. One will interpret the significance of Big Lagoon, the relationship of the lagoon to the salmon's life cycle and community involvement in restoring this ecological asset. A second wayside will interpret dune restoration. The potential effectiveness of a third wayside exhibit interpreting the history of Portuguese dairy ranching, especially as it relates to the nearby park-owned Golden Gate Dairy, will be explored. A bulletin board will allow local residents to post their observations.

Education: Park staff will coordinate cooperative educational programs with the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, NOAA and other groups engaged in research and monitoring.

Volunteer Program: The interpretive and maintenance divisions will promote and jointly sponsor adopt-a-beach and coast cleanup volunteer activities to foster stewardship, an understanding of the restoration work underway and the value of a natural beach system. These efforts will also enhance with the restoration of Big Lagoon.

Community Outreach: Special programs and activities in the community of Muir Beach will foster good relationships, introduce neighbors to the significant resources in their backyard and promote volunteerism.

G. Tennessee Valley

Site Description: Tennessee Valley is a secluded valley of serene rolling hills north of the Marin Headlands, with several hiking trails and a level stroll to Tennessee Beach. The beach was named from the wreck of the steamer SS Tennessee, which ran aground in the fog in 1853. Remnants are visible during low tide.

During the spring, the vegetation of the valley is lush and green and/or blooming: lupines, checker-bloom, blue-eyed grass, California buttercup, and California poppy. Late summer plants include fennel, lizardtail, sagebrush, sticky monkey flower, and blackberry bushes. The winter rains turn the golden grasses into green fields. Although close to San Francisco, wildlife abounds, from mighty raptor birds to common swallows, deer to coyotes, and on an occasion, even bobcats.

Few tangible links with Tennessee Valley's agricultural past remain, but for decades, family dairies nestled in Tennessee Valley and provided milk to the growing city of San Francisco. Horses were another common sight, and today can be seen on a number of area trails. The Miwok Livery Stables, one of many Golden Gate National Parks Partners, provides unique opportunities for riders,

visitors, and students, including interpretive guided horseback rides to Muir Beach and other areas.

Information/Orientation:

- **Directional Signage—**A new trail connecting Tennessee Valley with the bike trail at the Dipsea Bridge on Highway 1 may be constructed during the life of this plan. If so, directional signage and some orientation information will be provided at the trail junction.
- **Informational Kiosk—**Currently, an informational trailhead kiosk at the Tennessee Valley trailhead orients trail users, including hikers, cyclists, backpackers, horseback riders and dog walkers. The kiosk features an area trail map, and identifies day-use destinations and provides information about safety, terrain difficulty and pertinent park regulations. The NPS will develop additional kiosks or informational signs if needed as part of upgraded trailhead facilities at Tennessee Valley.
- **Bulletin Boards—**In 2003, NPS installed a bulletin board with up-to-date information and -- in coordination with Oakwood Valley site stewards, -- an exhibit about the Oakwood Valley site restoration and stewardship program. Additional bulletin boards may be provided at other locations in or near Tennessee Valley, including the new Alta Avenue/Marin City area.

Personal Services:

- **Roving—**Interpretive rangers and park volunteers will rove the main trail and the trailhead area to make personal contacts with visitors. They will cultivate a relationship with the Tennessee Valley horse patrol to promote public contacts that are effective and message-consistent.
- **Public Hikes and Programs—**Ranger or volunteer-led hikes will be offered regularly in Tennessee Valley. Public programs such as bicycle

rides, family camping trips to Haypress Campground and junior ranger programs (in collaboration with the Crissy Field Center) will also be offered.

- **Partnerships—**The NPS works with park partner and outreach programs such as Aim High, Women Reaching All People and the park's native plant nurseries through programs, site arrangements and staff training.

Interpretive Media:

- **Kiosk—**The trailhead kiosk interprets the wreck of the SS Tennessee and its connection with the development of navigational aids such as the Point Bonita light to help sea captains find the Golden Gate. The kiosk also interprets the role of Portuguese ranchers in the Marin dairy industry as well as the story of the recovering ecosystem and the efforts of volunteers to aid its recovery.
- **Wayside Exhibit—**Remnants of the proposed Marincello community are nearby. A wayside exhibit near the trailhead tells the story of the "park that almost wasn't."

    - No interpretive exhibits will be installed on the Tennessee Valley Trail west of the trail entrance gate at the end of Tennessee Valley Road. This is considered a decompression zone for visitors.

H. Point Bonita

Site Description: Point Bonita is located at the extreme southwestern tip of the Marin Headlands. The steep, half-mile walk to Point Bonita Lighthouse takes you along a narrow ridge, through a hand-chiseled tunnel, and over a heart-stopping suspension footbridge to what seems like the end of the world. California's coastline stretches north and south, the Pacific rolls away to the west, and San

Francisco glitters inland.

Point Bonita is still an active lighthouse maintained by the U.S. Coast Guard. Originally sited on a hill above the current location, the lighthouse was first built in 1855 (the third lighthouse to be built on the West Coast) after San Francisco's infamous fog sent many a ship crashing against the headlands' rocky shoreline. It was moved to its current location in 1877. Early lighthouse keepers fired a cannon every half-hour in foggy weather, day and night. This sentinel now operates automatically, sending a flashing beam of bright light out into the fog and issuing periodic warning blasts. Point Bonita lighthouse is currently open 12:30-3:30 PM on Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays, weather permitting.

Apart from the lighthouse, sights along the trail include the ruins of an historic Coast Guard rescue station, wildflowers, and pillow basalt rock formations. Old army buildings near Point Bonita are now used by the YMCA Outdoor and Conference Center available to groups and conferences for environmental education programs.

Information/Orientation:

- **Print Media**—Park visitor centers, and public information materials, such as the park newspaper and web sites, will continue to advertise the activities, programs, and hours of operations of the Point Bonita lighthouse.
- **Signage**—Improved directional signage in the Marin Headlands will help visitors find Point Bonita.

Personal Services:

- **Public Programs**—Generally, a 45-minute guided walk is offered on the days the Lighthouse is open by a dedicated cadre of docents. Special

walks on other days are arranged as staffing allows. One to two Full Moon programs are offered each month and provide a special opportunity to experience the lighthouse and the setting at night. Full Moon programs are extremely popular and fill well in advance. Other special request tours are occasionally arranged for special groups. In addition, one special event combining a celebration of art and music is offered annually. Special opportunities, such as access to the lantern room, will be explored to provide additional unique public experiences. Expansion of services is dependent on NPS ability to further develop the docent program.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits—**The lighthouse does not offer adequate room for interpretive panels; trailside exhibits and personal services provide the majority of interpretation. Improvements in trailside exhibits will be explored.

    - The trailhead sign will be upgrade and/or replaced. The new design will draw attention to the resource, provide adequate information of the trail, regulations, safety, hours of operation and general information on the lighthouse.
    - The current trailside exhibits panels will be replaced over time. Future topics will include: navigational hazards, the role lighthouses and rescuers played in safety, technological improvements from manned stations to automated lights, coastal weather patterns such as wind and fog, the life styles and stories of the early lighthouse keepers and life saving service (isolation, hardships, family, equipment, etc.), historical and cultural contributions made by people of diverse backgrounds, and the highly visible pillow basalt formations along the trail.

- A new wayside panel should be developed to inform the public of what is on the other side of the locked tunnel door. Information would include the lighthouse, geological processes, human history and dramatic photographs.

Bookstore—The small cooperating association sales outlet carries theme-related items. There will be also be a display panel that will allow staff to provide updates on trail conditions, hours of operation, activities, and special safety concerns.

Print Media—A free brochure will continue to be available from the docents who staff Point Bonita, as well as at the Marin Headlands Visitor Center. The Parks Conservancy will also develop a more detailed brochure to be sold as a sales item.

Education:

- **Curriculum-based Program—**A curriculum-based middle school program, "Rocks on the Move," brings students to the lighthouse for half-day sessions rock identification, plate tectonics and mapping. These programs are offered 1-3 times each week during the school year from October through May. This is one of Golden Gate's flagship programs and will be continued in the future.
- Headlands Institute and Point Bonita YMCA provide guided walks to Point Bonita as part of their environmental education program. There is high demand for these walks, which are limited by the relatively few number of students that can be handled on the narrow trial to the lighthouse or can negotiate the substandard trail to the tidepools below Point Bonita, and by the requirements to protect the harbor seals hauled on the nearby rocks. The park will work with partners in the future on access issues to the rocky

intertidal coast to prevent disruption to marine mammals, minimize impact to the tidepools and provide for trail safety.

Volunteers: Virtually all personal services at Point Bonita are offered by docents and interns, which currently number approximately 60 people. They staff the open houses, rove trails, provide regularly scheduled and special request guided walks, and lead full moon walks. An annual docent training and refresher will continue to be offered with 5-10 new docents hired each year. Training events at other lighthouse sites or with other lighthouse docent programs will be encouraged. Strides have been made at increasing diversity in the intern and docent staff and these efforts will continue.

Community Outreach: Community outreach at Point Bonita is currently limited to pre-site visits to schools through the "Rocks on the Move" education program. This program will continue in the future. When staff is available, outreach to the local community of Marin City will be pursued

I. Rodeo Valley

Site Description: Rodeo Valley winds through the heart of the Marin Headlands, and is edged by grassy, wind-swept hillsides where no native tree could possibly put down roots (though a few imported cypress and eucalyptus cluster around the valley's buildings and landmarks). The valley and lagoon offer habitats for birds, butterflies, and bobcats, as well as miles of backcountry and coastal trails.

Rodeo Lagoon is a favorite bird-watching spot in the Rodeo Valley area. Here you will see egrets, ducks, and other birds feeding and resting in its shallow wetlands. In order to protect the beach and the endangered tidewater goby, which burrows in the lagoon's soft shoreline sediment—people and pets are not allowed in any part of Rodeo Lagoon.

Wood beams grace the ceiling of a one-time army chapel, now the Marin Headlands Visitor Center packed with exhibits, maps, and park memorabilia. Exhibits tell the story of those who once lived on the Headlands, including a willow hut (*kotcha*) of the Coastal Miwok Indians, Spanish vaqueros, Portuguese ranchers, lighthouse keepers and army soldiers; as well as local flora and fauna, birds and marine ecology.

Information/Orientation:

- **Visitor Center—**The primary information/orientation resource is the Marin Headlands Visitor Center.
- **Trailheads and Kiosks—**A kiosk at the primary pedestrian entry to Rodeo Beach provides visitors information about safety precautions, possible hazards and pertinent park regulations. Orientation information will be provided at all of the major trailheads in Rodeo Valley. Other trail signs will be improved as part of Trails Forever, especially in the section between the Fort Barry Youth Hostel and the Golden Gate Bridge.

Personal Services:

- **Roving—**Interpretive roves and contact stations will provide an NPS presence at high-profile areas, complement park partner activities and support other NPS services.
- **Public Programs—**Walks on various topics, especially bird life, around Rodeo Lagoon will be scheduled regularly. Ranger or volunteer-led hikes will be provided periodically on trails in and around Rodeo Valley. Also under consideration are evening programs during meteor showers, an NPS table at Hawk Hill during fall migration, a park table at The Marine Mammal Center "Run for the Seals, "Farm Days with Park Partners" and

coordinated programs with the #76 Muni bus and other transportation services.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits—**Wayside exhibits at the beach and along the lagoon will interpret beach development, coastal ecology and the brackish water that is constantly changing and affecting the organisms that live there. Visitors will discover that the lagoon supports abundant, diverse life, including endangered species, and is important to migrating birds.
- **Site Bulletins—**Site bulletins on geology, wildflowers, the Miwok Indians and ranching history will enrich visitors' knowledge and experiences at the headlands.

Park Partners: Nonprofit park partners (e.g., Headlands Institute, Marine Mammal Center, Point Bonita YMCA, Hostelling International) provide learning opportunities to student groups in their environmental education programs. The public is welcome for some of these programs, and the park will work with the partners to find ways to broaden access to programs by the non-school visitor. Several partners, including Headlands Institute and The Marine Mammal Center, are planning significant improvements to their campuses.

J. Fort Cronkhite

Site Description: Located in the Marin Headlands, Fort Cronkhite is a former World War II military post that stands at the edge of the Pacific Ocean. Today its 1941 era buildings are one of the few preserved examples of these World War II "mobilization posts" remaining in the country. The fort's barracks, mess halls, supply buildings, and other structures are preserved to tell the story of the soldiers who waited here for an enemy that never came.

Fort Cronkhite is also the location of Rodeo Lagoon and Rodeo Beach. Trailheads lead up into the Marin Headlands coast line and Battery Townsley. It is also home to many park partners, including the Marine Mammal Center, The Headlands Institute, the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory and others.

The beach offers good picnic spots, plenty of wind for kite flying, and nearby bluffs for hikes and wave-watching. Careful beach-walkers may see (but must not collect) jasper, carnelian, black agate, and jade among the beach sands. Surfers frequent the 1,000-yard crescent of Rodeo Beach.

Information/Orientation:

- **NPS Identity—**Using signage and interpretive media the NPS Identity should be elevated at this site—the use of the arrowhead and Golden Gate National Park logo should be more prominent.
- **Print Media—**Park visitor centers (especially the Marin Headlands Visitor Center) and informational materials such as the park newspaper and websites publicize the activities and programs occurring at Fort Cronkhite.
- **Kiosk—**A trailhead kiosk near the parking lot provides some of the same information about operating hours and programs. A map and several publications provide information on the site. In the future, improved directional signage will help visitors reach Fort Cronkhite and additional publications will provide better visitor orientation.

Personal Services:

- **Partner Programs—**Most visitors to Fort Cronkhite come to participate in a park partner program or attend a meeting at Building 1050 which is frequently leased out for business and corporate purposes. Headlands Institute provides the most personal interpretation of the area, including the history of Fort Cronkhite in all of its programs and the park will

continue to provide training for Headlands Institute staff on the stories and themes of the area.

- **Roving—**Informal roves occur occasionally. In the future, interpretive roves will be provided at periods of peak use and during special events such as NPS/Park Partner Open House weekends.
- **Docent Program—**The Mess Hall and Barracks, partially refurbished to a period look, are staffed very irregularly. The park will explore ways to revitalize a docent program for those important buildings.

Interpretive Media:

- **Historic Furnishings Plan—**A professional furnishings plan is needed for the barracks and mess hall to furnish them authentically for the World War II era.
    - The refurnished mess hall currently contains reproduction tables, benches and accoutrements. Consideration will be given to opening the mess hall to school groups and other visitors as a place to eat lunch or a snack. Careful planning will be needed to assure protection of the historic structures and any significant artifacts.
- **Self-guiding Brochure—**A self-guiding brochure for the barracks and mess hall will be developed.
- **Exhibit Labels—**Labels will be placed on many of the historic structures at Fort Cronkhite, including the date built and function.
- **Wayside Exhibits—**A wayside exhibit on site will interpret the missing administration building. The presence of this building would make the site complete. In the future, but not within the life of this plan, park staff will seek to acquire and relocate an identical period administration building from another site to Fort Cronkhite.

- **Exterior Period or Reproduction Elements—**Elements should be added to the setting to give visitors a better feel for being stationed at Fort Cronkhite during World War II. Features could include a 48-star flag; period bulletin boards, which could display period documents or contemporary interpretive materials; and World War II military vehicles that would have been used on the post. These interpretive embellishments will depend on an active and interested docent cadre.

K. Fort Barry

Site Description: Fort Barry's first battery, Battery Mendell (1901), featured two 12-inch breech-loading rifles capable of firing an 1,100-pound projectile over eight miles. Batteries Samuel Rathbone and James McIndoe (1904-1945) defended the minefields outside the Golden Gate during World War II. Owing to its panoramic views of the bay, Fort Barry also served as a mine groupment command post during the war, ensconced in concrete stations along Bonita Ridge dating from the 1900s.

Within Fort Barry's scenic Marin Headlands location is a 1921 balloon hangar (now used as horse stables), a WWII garrison and a 1941 chapel serving as to the National Park Service's Marin Headlands Visitor Center. Many empty gun emplacements are accessible to the public and provide spectacular views of the rugged shoreline.

The non-profit Headlands Center for the Arts occupies several rehabilitated Army buildings--(both 1907)--which are occasionally open to the public for special exhibitions and performances. The Golden Gate Hostel provides overnight accommodations in a former hospital ward and general's quarters overlooking the parade grounds.

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However, Fort Barry's most distinctive site is the SF-88 Nike Missile Museum--the Nation's only officially restored Nike Missile site. A dedicated group of Nike veterans and volunteers have restored the anti-aircraft installation to near pristine condition

Information/Orientation:

- **Visitor Center Signage—**Wayfinding signs must be improved to direct visitors to the Headlands Visitor Center as the primary source of park information and orientation. The visitor center requires a large banner to identify it as a visitor center and invite people to drive off the main highway and visit the center. Currently, visitors frequently overlook the center and do not avail themselves of its information and services.
- **Visitor Center Services—**The visitor center offers an introduction to the area's main themes, resources, programs and activities. In the future, the hours of operation of the Visitor Center will be reviewed to better match visitation patterns to the site.

- **Wayside Exhibits—**
    - A wayside exhibit outside the visitor center will provide information about hours of operation, programs, activities, pertinent park regulations and a headlands map. This exhibit will be especially useful when the visitor center is closed.
    - Another wayside panel, to be developed in coordination with park partners, will orient visitors to the surrounding Fort Barry buildings. The exhibit will identify the military use(s) of each building within view and inform visitors that, except for the visitor center, these buildings are open to the public only during open-house events.

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Personal Services:

- **Visitor Center—**The Visitor Center will remain the primary visitor contact opportunity at Fort Barry. The Fort Barry Youth Hostel and Headlands Center for the Arts also provide programs. Park staff will explore ways to expand public activities at these two facilities.

Interpretive Media:

- **Exhibits—**
    - The exhibits at the Headlands Visitor Center give visitors a good introduction to the habitats of Rodeo Beach and Rodeo Lagoon. Other exhibits describe the Coastal Miwok's early use of the area for hunting and gathering, the area's ranching and military history, the Point Bonita Lighthouse and the beach ecosystem. Seasonal exhibits feature hawk migration, spring wildflowers and wildlands fires.

    - Additions may include a display of headlands site bulletins, indicating that copies are available on request at the information desk, and a multimedia interactive exhibit highlighting headlands geology. This exhibit would complement a proposed self-guiding geology trail nearby. The U. S. Geological Survey, partners and volunteers could collaborate in their planning and development. The staff will also explore effective ways to display student projects and information about the education program.

- **Electronic Media—**Park staff will expand use of the Internet, intelligent transportation systems and park partner list serves to extend the reach and effectiveness of information services.

L. Nike Missile Site

Site Description

During the tense years from 1953 to 1979, the United States Army built and operated a total of 280 Nike missile firing batteries in the United States. This Nike missile site was emplaced in 1954 as the last line of defense against Soviet bombers. The site was originally armed with Nike Ajax missiles, and modifications were made to the site in 1958 to allow it to also be armed with Nike Hercules missiles. In 1974 SF-88 was closed, but was not demolished.

Today, a dedicated group of volunteers works in partnership with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area on the continuous task of restoration at site SF-88, which has been turned into a museum and interprets the Cold War era. This valuable historical resource is the only restored Nike missile site in the entire country.

Comment [JLW8]: Is this still true?

Information/Orientation:

- **Print/Web Media—**Park visitor centers, especially the Marin Headlands Visitor Center, and informational materials such as the park newspaper and websites publicize the activities and hours of operation of the Nike missile site. The site will continue to gain news media exposure as a result of active promotion by the park and Parks Conservancy.
- **Wayside Exhibit—**A wayside exhibit outside the site entrance will provide some of the same information.

Personal Services:

- **Docent Programs—**Guided tours conducted by the volunteers will continue to be the best way, in the near term, for visitors to experience the Nike site,

hearing first-hand accounts, interacting with men actually stationed at missile sites and participating in hands-on activities. However, as Nike-era veterans become less available to provide tours, the docent cadre will be expanded. Oral histories must be taken of these aging veterans to document their knowledge and expertise, their military experiences and their restoration efforts and day-to-day maintenance and operating procedures.

Interpretive Media:

- **Exhibits—**Preserving the site's historic character is critical to the visitor experience and to its interpretive value. Essentially, the entire site is a furnished exhibit. Consequently, we will install no wayside exhibits or other modern intrusions inside the entrance gate. Modern interpretive media at the site will be placed only inside structures not furnished in a historic context. Potential locations for these exhibits include the Hercules assembly building and one of the un-restored underground missile bays. One option under consideration is use of a portion of the Hercules building as a small exhibit area and one of the bays as a theater/classroom. Indoor exhibits will illustrate how this site, one of three components of Site SF88L, fit into the nationwide missile defense system of that time. Another possible exhibit will illustrate the site-restoration process and acknowledge the invaluable service of the volunteers. Other interpretive exhibit elements will give visitors a feel for the secrecy and security measures that cloaked the site and a sense of the duties, tensions, family life and communications at a missile site.
- **Self-guiding Booklet—**Visitors will continue to tour the site on their own, with the help of a self-guiding booklet. This publication will be revised and translated into multiple languages.
- **Audiotour—**An audiotour of the site will be developed.
- **Audio-visual Program—**An audiovisual program, incorporating original film of Nike launches, will be shown in the theater, once it is developed. The

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underground theater, if developed, could show a longer audiovisual program. This will place the Nike missiles in a Cold-War context and present some of the strategic and ethical questions and issues surrounding the threat of nuclear war. This program could become a springboard for more in-depth discussions and be especially pertinent for visiting school groups. Copies could be loaned to schools and sold through the Parks Conservancy.

Education: For visiting school groups, mainly grades 11-12, the staff will integrate the site into the high-school curriculum, especially social studies and history. The exhibit room will include space for displaying student projects, special activity/event materials and information about the education program.

Volunteers: The Nike site volunteers are among the most important in the park, because so many of them participated in the operation of the site when it was active. As mentioned above, the park will focus extra attention toward nurturing these volunteers and adding to their ranks. Most of the next generation of Nike volunteers will not have come from that era, but will need to be trained in the first-hand accounts of the Nike veterans.

M. Fort Baker

Site Description: Fort Baker lies at the confluence of San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. Founded as an Army post more than 100 years ago, Fort Baker recently began a vital new chapter of public service as a leadership conference retreat center benefiting both local residents and visitors to the Bay Area.

The land at Fort Baker was once used by the Coastal Miwok, the indigenous inhabitants of present day Marin County, who may have sought shelter from the wind here and gathered mussels, tules and cattails at the marsh. The earliest

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sailing vessel into San Francisco Bay anchored at Fort Baker's shores in 1775 and later, when the area was part of Rancho Sausalito, it was used for grazing cattle and collecting spring water.

Fort Baker is one of the gems of the national parklands at the Golden Gate. Its rich tapestry of historic structures, scenic views, natural features and recreational opportunities exemplifies the character of the Bay Area so treasured by residents and visitors alike. The 335-acre site is nestled in a tranquil valley at the northern entrance to San Francisco Bay, adjacent to the Golden Gate.

An additional 183 acres of federally-owned tidelands, a mile of pristine rocky bay shoreline and the picturesque harbor at Horseshoe Bay further enhance the site. A cluster of historic buildings arranged around a 10-acre parade ground lend it a campus-like appearance.

Information/Orientation:

- **Site Bulletin—**A site bulletin will be developed to provide basic information and orientation. It will include a good site map, show what visitors can see and do, list programs and activities, and clearly identify the site as a unit of the Golden Gate National Parks administered by the NPS.
- **Visitor Contact Station—**A visitor contact station is proposed for Building 615. This facility will include information and exhibits and will serve as the start point for a Fort Baker visit.

  Comment [JLW9]: Check number.
- **Wayside Exhibit—**Outdoor orientation panels will complement the proposed visitor contact station to provide information when the station is closed.
- **Orientation Kiosk—**An orientation kiosk was installed adjoining the southeast edge of the Parade Ground in 2003. It may be relocated in the future depending on visitor use patterns. If a bay ferry shuttle system is developed and instituted at Fort Baker, a visitor contact station and/or

orientation kiosk will be developed to serve arriving passengers on the bay shuttle system.

- **Signage**—Site and trail information signs will be produced for installation near the visitor contact station, along the waterfront, and adjacent to the vista point at the north end of the Golden Gate Bridge.

Visitor Facilities:

- **Warming Hut**—A facility offering affordable public food is needed at the Fort Baker waterfront.
- **Picnic Areas and Campgrounds**—Additional picnic facilities and campgrounds are needed at Fort Baker.

Personal Services:

- **Roving**—Additional ranger presence at Fort Baker and all the Marin areas is needed. Horseback roving should be considered.
- **Public Programs**—The Bay Area Discovery Museum will continue to interpret the natural history of the bay and the Fort Baker area. Park interpreters and volunteers will offer programs focusing on such topics as shore ecology, the sheltered microclimate, preservation of the mission blue butterfly and the over-wintering phenomenon of monarch butterflies. Other ranger programs will interpret the site's history.
- **Fort Baker Institute**—A "Fort Baker Institute" may be developed in conjunction with the retreat and conference center. If this institute becomes a reality, a wide variety of audiences and the general public will be able to participate in seminars and workshops on a broad range of topics affecting national parks.

Comment [JLW10]: Did this happen?

Interpretive Media:

- **Self-guiding Booklet—**A self-guiding booklet to Fort Baker military history and historic architecture was produced in 2003. Additional booklets will be developed to go deeper into the human stories of the site, and to feature Fort Baker's important natural history as well.
- **Publication—**A publication on the 'post to park' process at Fort Baker will be produced as the conference and retreat center comes on line.
- **Wayside Exhibits—**Wayside exhibits will supplement these site bulletins. The park wayside exhibit plan will specify topics and locations. Appropriate topics include the World War II mine depot, the fog-signal station, the U.S. Coast Guard Station, the Golden Gate Bridge, Battery Cavallo and ships on the bay.
- **Exhibits—**Exhibits at the proposed visitor contact station will present a brief orientation to Fort Baker's military history and related sites around the bay. The main focus will be on the post's history and resources. Some exhibits may include excerpts from oral-history interviews of soldiers and civilians stationed here.

N. Battery Spencer

Site Description: For half a century, Battery Spencer was one of the most strategically important sites guarding the Golden Gate. Named for Major General Joseph Spencer, a hero of the Revolutionary War, battery construction started in 1893. It was initially armed with three 12-inch breech loading rifles. In 1917 one gun was removed to rearm Battery Chester at Fort Winfield Scott. The remaining two guns were removed and scrapped in 1943.

Today its height and prominence affords the most close-up dramatic views of the Golden Gate Bridge and the cityscape of San Francisco. From morning to late

evening visitors from around the world flock to Battery Spencer to savor this spectacular scene.

Information/Orientation:

- **Trailhead Kiosk—**Because much of Battery Spencer is not accessible to some visitors, information about the scenic view and history of the battery, as well as information about the Marin Headlands and a map of the area, is included on a trailhead kiosk near the Battery Spencer parking area.
- **Wayside Exhibits—**Orientation exhibits will be regularly updated and improved since Battery Spencer is in many ways a gateway point into the park.

Interpretive Media:

- **Wayside Exhibits—**Waysides and a trailhead kiosk at this site enable visitors to understand the site's military importance from the Civil War through World War II. Several new and replacement exhibits will be installed soon at the site on this and other aspects of the site's importance, including the natural history of the Golden Gate, and the construction history of the bridge.

O. Conzelman Road

Site Description:

This five-mile, tightly curving road hugs the cliffs from the Golden Gate to the Point Bonita parking area and offers magnificent views of the bridge, the bay and the city of San Francisco. The road provides access to Point Bonita and its historic lighthouse, numerous coastal-defense sites from the Civil War to the Cold War, and important natural features such as Hawk Hill, Kirby Cove and Bonita Cove.

Nineteen different raptor species can be seen above the narrow Marin peninsula during their autumn journey south down the coastal flyway. Each year, more than 20,000 raptors fly over the Headlands during the five-month migration season. Volunteers with the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory have counted as many as 2,800 raptors on a peak day.

Information/Orientation:

- **Print and Web Information—**Park visitor centers, especially those at the Headlands, the bridge and Fort Baker, and informational materials such as the park newspaper and websites publicize the touring options along Conzelman Road.
- **Signage—**Signs or small exhibits will be installed at major trailheads along Conzelman Road to orient and inform trail users about trail destinations, safety precautions, difficulty of the terrain and pertinent park regulations. Safety concerns about the narrow, winding road used by vehicles of all kinds will be addressed through publications and signs.

Personal Services:

- **Roving—**The NPS will regularly assign roving interpreters to the popular, heavily visited Conzelman corridor and will coordinate those assignments with the Kirby Cove Campground, Hawk Hill and Point Bonita Lighthouse volunteers and docents. Roving assignments and interpretive activities will also complement and support the resource management efforts to improve endangered species habitats.

Interpretive Media:

- **Auto-tour—**A self-guiding driving tour of Conzelman Road, in printed or electronic form, is proposed as a sales item for the Parks Conservancy. Interpretation would focus on military history, ecological values and geology. The narration or text would encourage visitors to get out of their vehicles and take short walks to experience the headlands more personally. This tour could be part of a series of park driving tours that could include Shoreline Highway and the Presidio.

- **Wayside Exhibits—**Wayside exhibits and a trailhead kiosk interpret Battery Spencer and the Conzelman corridor. The park wayside exhibit plan may propose one or more wayside exhibits for Hawk Hill (Battery 129). The exhibit(s) will interpret the military significance of the battery, the hill's importance for observing hawk migration and key features in the viewshed.

- **Website—**Interpretive staff will evaluate the potential for park web pages that would include a virtual tour, in-depth treatment of the geological and migration stories, and presentation of those stories in other languages.

II. SAN FRANCISCO AREA—Crissy Field, Presidio, Baker Beach, Fort Point

Overarching Recommendations:

- **Orientation, Wayfinding and Visitor Services**
  - Improve information and wayfinding through five interpretive hubs/visitor facilities: Presidio, VCD, Fort Point, Crissy Field Center, and Warming Hut. Interconnect these sites through branding and provide more orientation, wayfinding, and interpretive options.
  - Provide kiosks along main routes into the area and explore using new technologies in concert with them (downloadable interpretive information from GPS coordinate, cell phone interpretive information, layer languages.
  - Provide downloadable maps and trail guides
  - Use Stilton Hall as a visitor center
- **Personal Services**
  - Reach out to dog lovers—provide interpretive programs for people and their dogs—such as "Walk your dog with a Ranger"
  - More senior programming
  - Tai Chi and other outdoor recreation and health based interpretive programming
  - Increase roving and tabling during high visitation days
- **Interpretive Media**
  - Add an interactive exhibit to the Crissy Center that presents the tidal wetland, the natural resources found in a wetland and the importance and relevance of wetlands in our ecosystem.
  - Focus media for children
  - Involve community in developing media such as pod-casts
  - Keep media short, current, and real-time when possible
- **Education**
  - Use Crissy Center as an educational hub
  - Be know for connecting youth to nature

Comment [JLW11]: What is this?

- Add Teacher to Ranger to Teacher program
- Institute online reservation system for programs
- Create a strategic partnership with San Francisco Unified School District for program evaluation
- Improve collaboration between NPS, Conservancy, and Trust

- **Volunteerism**
  - Create more volunteer opportunities for youth—apprenticeship program, college service learning
  - Docent program for seniors
  - Expand and build infrastructure and resource support for Trail Keepers
  - Reverse volunteerism—park staff volunteer in community

- **Marketing**
  - Create youth park ambassadors
  - Center on community to bring community to parks
  - Create a Junior Ranger, inner city career ladder

- **Partnerships**
  - Evaluation partnerships to expand and improve
  - Enhance relationship with Presidio Trust
  - Develop partnerships with Mason Street businesses
  - Provide meeting space for collaborative meetings, trainings, and community meetings

A. Crissy Field

Site Description: Crissy Field stretches 1.5 miles along the San Francisco Bay waterfront from the city's Marina to Fort Point. Once part of an extensive system of rich tidal marsh and coastal dunes, it was home to Ohlone people for

thousands of years. Since the arrival of the first Europeans in the 1770s, the area has been under Spanish, Mexican and American military rule for over 200 years.

Most notable uses were for a world's fair and an airfield. The most dramatic change of Crissy Field has been its recent transformation from the Presidio's industrial backyard of run-down buildings to a resplendent shoreline. From 1998 to 2001, the National Park Service and the Park's Conservancy led an unprecedented community effort to enhance this new national park site. Through the efforts of generous donors and volunteers, restoration has returned the wetland back to a natural ecological community.

The Crissy Field Center is the park's focal point for community outreach. Its programs are designed to reach out to the diverse local community through a series of educational programs, summer camps, workshops and classes, multi-lingual publications, community festivals, and special events.

Information/Orientation

- Increase information, orientation, and non-personal interpretation at the Warming Hut.

Personal Services

- Increase roving interpretation and tabling during high visitation days.

Interpretive Media

-

Education Programs

Volunteer Programs

- Expand the volunteer program to address the need for increased personal services and assist in the presentation of formal educational programs.

Community Outreach

- Increase group participation at the Crissy Field Center and grow park participation at off-site events.
- Seek better transportation options to the Center.
- Create "store-front" park centers in communities—bring park programs to neighborhoods.

Partnerships

- The Amendment to the General Management Plan of the Presidio proposes an aviation museum to be located near the hangers at Crissy Field and would interpret the historic airfield, early phases of military air power and examine the past and future of transportation technology. One possible partnership could be the Crissy Field Aviation Museum Association.

- A west coast immigration museum located on Crissy Field may be developed. Partnerships with non-profit groups would be fostered such as the NJAHS and Angel Island Immigration Foundation.

B. Presidio--Main Post

Site Description

The Main Post has served as the headquarters for two centuries of military occupation under three flags, from Spain to Mexico to the United States. The Main Post contains part of one of the oldest structures in San Francisco: original adobe walls from the late 1700s Presidio.

Historic structures and military architecture abound with Victorian-period homes, turn-of-the century brick barracks, Mission revival buildings, an art-deco movie theatre, steepled chapels, etc. The Parade Grounds hosted many drills and ceremonies. The layout of the Main Post exemplifies the stratified structure of military society.

Tens of thousands of veterans received medical care at Letterman Hospital, the largest military hospital in the country during World War II. Historic figures and personalities are buried in the San Francisco National Cemetery.

Today, the buildings are being rehabilitated and leased to for-profit and non-profit organizations by the Presidio Trust. Housed in the former Letterman Hospital, the Thoreau Center is a good example of sustainable re-use. Currently Lucasfilms is developing a 28-acre site for the future Letterman Digital Arts Center.

Information/Orientation

- Currently, Building 102 is being seismically retrofitted and may require several years. When complete, the NPS visitor center will move back to its former location there as the William Penn Mott, Jr. Visitor Center with a new permanent exhibit entitled *Voices of the Presidio*. There will also be a room for special temporary exhibits and a small auditorium for audio-visual presentations.

Personal Services

- Collaborative programs and events should be developed.
- New walks and programs will be developed with the opening on the Letterman Digital Arts Center.

Interpretive Media

- Several wayside exhibits need their panels replaced.
- New free publications will be produced including bulletins on the National Cemetery and Lettermen Hospital.
- A self guide for the Spanish and Mexican era Presidio has been produced, but should be edited and redesigned, and then published in both English and Spanish.
- A unigrid format publication for the Presidio also should be produced to replace Under Three Flags as the site bulletin and Under Three Flags reworked onto a theme bulletin on military history.
- A site bulletin on the National Cemetery currently exists in draft form and be finalized for publication.
- The Presidio web site has rudimentary pages on the history, archeology, and architecture of the Main Post, Letterman, and the National Cemetery. These pages will be improved and expanded in the future. The history of Letterman Hospital in particular needs to be better portrayed. Also, notable people buried at the cemetery will be tied to short biographical pages.
- Exhibits at present are restricted to several four-sided, kiosk-like exhibit panels on the natural and cultural history of the Presidio at the temporary visitor center in Building 50, where there is also an exhibit panel on William Penn Mott Jr. and an exhibit comparing Spanish and U.S. military uniforms. The NPS and Presidio Trust are initiating cosponsored exhibitions in Building 50 that will interpret aspects of the Presidios' history' the first being on the Panama Pacific International Exposition.
- The Presidio Trust is working on a plan to interpret the Spanish portions of Building 50, where archeological work is ongoing. The park service should take an active role in developing this interpretation.
- In the coming year, the William Penn Mott Visitor Center should be reopened to the public and the Voices of the Presidio exhibit installed. This multimedia exhibit, which is mostly written and designed, will interpret the natural and cultural history of the Presidio through the spoken and written

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voices of those who has experienced it through the centuries. It will provide a rounded introduction to the significance of the Presidio and encourage people to visit park sites where this history can be further explored.

- In addition, other areas of Building 102 will be used for a theater and rotating exhibits.
- A short video will be developed to for the theater that will augment the Voices of the Presidio exhibit. A longer 30-minute video should be produced as a sales item and to show to specific groups.
- Additional areas of the building should be opened up to more fully interpret the military history at the Presidio with exhibits that will display some of the materials from the closed Presidio Army Museum.
- The 1906 earthquake shacks currently behind the Building 2, the old Army Museum, need to be moved to the back courtyard of Building 102, where they should be rehabilitated, made accessible and exhibits installed.
- The park service would take an active role in working with Lucasfilms in developing interpretive materials to be placed at the Letterman Digital Arts Center. Waysides and other interpretive media would be explored as ways to interpret the historical significance of that area.

Education Programs

- Classrooms should be made to accommodate educational activities based at the visitor center.
- Additional curriculum-based education programs should be developed for the Presidio.

Volunteer Programs

- Expand volunteer programs to provide desk 100% coverage at visitor center and other interpretive areas such as the Digital Arts Center grounds.

Community Outreach

- In the past, local groups have used Building 102 to hold community meetings. When Building102's seismic retrofit is complete, this space should be used for community meetings, special events, and temporary exhibits designed for the local community.

Partnerships

- The Presidio Trust is headquartered at the Main Post. NPS closely collaborates with their public programming staff to plan, fund, staff and host a wide variety of special events and interpretive projects throughout the year.
- Tenants under the Trust such as the Thoreau Center have requested assistance with media development. In the next few years, waysides and other media will be planned and developed with Lucasfilms.

C. Fort Scott

Site Description

Fort Winfield Scott encompasses the western third of the Presidio. It has sweeping views of the Pacific Ocean as well as the entrance to the bay. Potential naval attack from powerful nations overseas was a major Army concern in the 19th and 20th centuries. For this reason, the U.S. Army transformed coastal scrub- and chaparral-covered hills into a heavily armed Coast Artillery post.

A massive investment was made over a 90-year period, first with brick and then with concrete batteries armed with massive steel guns, as well as command posts, observation stations, a planted forest, barracks, quarters, and clubs. All the necessary facilities were built for the base, which by WWII commanded the entire Harbor Defense of San Francisco, with forts north, south and east of the Golden Gate. Coastal Defense gave way to Air Defense in the 50's, and

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although none of the defenses were attacked, new strategies and technology made them all obsolete by the 70's.

Now a remarkable number of these historic structures remain in the national park to tell the stories of the soldiers' efforts to make our nation invulnerable. And a new story is being created, with the park's efforts to put the old buildings to new uses and to restore the native plant and animal habitat.

Information/Orientation

Personal Services

- Battery Chamberlin is open one weekend per month (and for groups by appointment) and offers information and interpretation on the coastal defense system and demonstrations on how the gun there today was loaded and maintained. This program should be expanded with more volunteers.
- Regular interpretive programs should be offered at Fort Scott.
- The museum and gun demonstrations are only open one weekend a month. These should be open on a weekly basis.

Interpretive Media

- The Presidio web site interprets the history of coastal defense at Fort Scott. Web pages on the Native Plant Nursery should be added. The Parks Conservancy web site has some information of the Native Plant Nursery.
- At present there are no free publications that deal specifically with Fort Scott. A free brochure on the battery Chamberlin and the coastal defense system should be developed.
- A 16-inch shell should be moved to the battery and the 16-inch donut cut from the gun at Battery Davis should be moved to Chamberlin to accompany it.

- A 155 mm gun should be moved to the battery from the Main Post and a replica of the barbette mounted 6-inch gun used at the battery in World War II.
- Museum exhibits should also be expanded in the other magazine areas.

Comment [JLW12]: No idea what this means...

Education Programs

Here's the Dirt, curriculum-based education program is currently offered to the East Palo Alto school district (in conjunction with *Legacy! Buffalo Soldiers* in the Presidio) and a few other schools. This program should be expanded to serve more schools throughout the San Francisco Unified School District.

Volunteer Programs

- The volunteer program at Battery Chamberlin, should be enhanced with replica artillery uniforms and tools, and targeted recruitment efforts should bring in more volunteers.

Community Outreach

- Currently, the *Here's the Dirt!* program involves a diversity of children, but other efforts should be developed at the Log Cabin, the parade ground, and on warm days, Baker Beach.

Partnerships

- Continue to build a strong relationship with the Presidio Trust, and the Golden Gate Bridge District.

C. Presidio Natural Areas

Site Description

The Presidio is a park like no other in the nation, and its long history of intense management for military purposes is now being complemented by collaborative efforts to understand, interpret, and restore its natural systems of flora, fauna, water soil and rock. With "islands" of ecologically rich habitat surrounded by

human development, it is also last refuge for many species, including the Ravens Manzanita.

Unique habitats are the result of unique geology and hydrology, and projects such as the Tennessee Hollow Creek Restoration and the Vegetation Management Plan team with public education and support to succeed.

The Natural Areas are used for recreation by visitors and their pets as well, and the challenge of managing and interpreting areas to so many people is great. These areas are small remnants, yet are subject to increasing use.

Information/Orientation

Personal Services

Interpretive Media

- A self-guide to Lobos Creek Dunes should be published and implemented with the addition of markers along the boardwalk. A brochure on the natural history and resource issues at the Presidio is in development and should be published.
- The Presidio web site should be expanded to include information on changes to the landscape, restoration activities, wildflowers, and wildlife.
- A geology guide to the Presidio and Marin Headlands should be developed as a sales item.

Education Programs

Volunteer Programs

Community Outreach

- As the Presidio's natural resources division is mandated to have an interpretive component in the proposals, there will be continued interpretive collaboration and support. One of these interpretive components consists of developing personal services and media to inform the local community of the environmental impacts of restoration projects.

Partnerships

- Maintain and strengthen partnership between the NPS, the Trust, and the Parks Conservancy.
- Additionally, continue to nurture partnerships with non-profits such as the Urban Watershed Project and the Native Plant Society.

D. Presidio Neighborhoods

Site Description

The neighborhoods were the sanctuary for the soldier and the military family, and now they are the same for civilians. The buildings depict a century of architectural changes and military status. Recreational areas such as the golf course were established are used by the local community.

Interpreting these areas emphasizes how military life differs from civilian life. Even in this small "city within a city", elegant officers' quarters and the Golf Course illustrate that "Rank has its Privileges", while the utilitarian enlisted quarters were "better than being overseas."

As the Trust finds new residents and new uses for historic and non-historic buildings, the "living" park, a self-sustaining community, becomes an interpretive message as well as a management goal.

Information/Orientation

Personal Services

- Expand personal services in the old Public Health Service Hospital area, as it is redeveloped.

Interpretive Media

- A wayside should be designed and installed in the Public Health Service (PHSH) area to interpret its history.
- A wayfinding kiosk should also be installed in the area once the redevelopment plans are completed. This area is included in the Presidio pad map.
- There may be a need for specific site bulletins on housing areas that may be removed in the future, such as along MacArthur, when the Tennessee Hollow restoration begins, or at Baker Beach Apartments if they are removed.

Volunteer Programs

- Recruit volunteers to interpret the Public Health Service Hospital.

Community Outreach

Partnerships

- The Presidio Mayors (one selected for each residential street) have had interpretive programs at monthly meetings, and represent a potential audience of stakeholders.

- The Golf Course is managed by Arnold Palmer Golf Management, and there has been a joint program introducing the Presidio and golfing to students. Again, potential exists to reach new audiences through these kinds of programs.

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E. Crissy Field Center

Site Description

The Crissy Field Center, located on the edge of Crissy Field at the gateway to San Francisco, is a community environmental center that connects the mission of the National Park Service with urban environmental issues. Working in partnership with Bay Area communities, the center offers multicultural programs that actively engage people with the park and their communities by promoting collaboration in building environmental sustainability and justice.

Information/Orientation/Media

- Community advisors have observed that the center feels somewhat sterile for a community center. In response to their critique, the staff will create exhibits of items created in the workshops, such as kites, paper maché and other artwork made of recycled materials, on the ceilings and walls.
- A selection of culturally relevant environmental publications will be available for on-site reading in the vicinity of the cafe. Take-away informational brochures, such as the Crissy Field brochure and the Golden Gate National Parks folder, will be made available in English, Spanish and Chinese.
- The Crissy Field Center hosts a website that provides basic operations and program information. "Crissy Corkboard" offers a link to digital video and images created by participants, staff, partners and volunteers at the center. Other products will be added as they are produced, and some will be phased out.
- The Community Heroes exhibit showcases citizens who have made a difference in their communities. This exhibit will eventually provide more

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information about these heroes and the environmental issues they have addressed through video or other visual media.

Personal Services.

- The complex tasks of community involvement, evaluation and programming adjustments will be ongoing. The Crissy Field Center will continue to improve and expand programs.

Education

- The center will partner with or host programs and conferences offered by other Bay Area education organizations (e.g., CREEC, Urban Watershed, SF Ed Fund) and provide guided walks, host professional workshops and share resources to further the mission of the NPS and the Crissy Field Center.

Volunteer Programs.

- The volunteer Community Advisory Council provides guidance and advice on center programming and will continue to help expand community participation in program development.

Community Outreach

- Transportation options to the Presidio are limited and inhibit diverse community participation at the center. Staff should work to remove this barrier through innovative initiatives for additional transportation funding.

Partnerships

- Community partnerships are essential to the Crissy Field Center's success. A number of strong partnerships currently exist and will be sustained. The center will continue to seek and establish partnerships with other environmental, social-service and other community organizations.

F. Fort Point

Site Description

Fort Point National Historic Site encompasses 29 acres at the northernmost point of the Presidio of San Francisco, including Battery East and the seawall on the waterfront. The U. S. Army built the masonry fort, now located under the south anchorage of the Golden Gate Bridge, as part of the seacoast defense system that protected San Francisco Bay.

Begun in 1853, construction was completed in 1861, at the beginning of the Civil War. The edifice, the first line of defense protecting San Francisco Bay, never fired a shot in anger, although the guns were manned and ready if challenged. Designed by army engineers, the fort exemplifies fortifications of its era and showcases the craftsmanship available in San Francisco in the 1850s and '60s.

A visit to Fort Point offers visitors a glimpse of a soldier's life and duties during the time that the fort stood as the only one of its kind on the West Coast.

Information/Orientation

- Strategically located informational kiosks should be developed to display days and hours of operation, scheduled programs and maps of associated sites.

- With the advent of the national threat level warning system, the means of getting information out more effectively on when threat closures are in place, must be developed.

Personal Services

- Add interpretive stations, staffed by rangers or volunteers to further enhance visitors' experiences.
- Periodically, re-enactors should "people" the Fort as they go about the routine chores that a soldier would participate in which will further expand the visitor experience.

Interpretive Media

- The self-guiding tour booklet should be updated and reformatted to add new information and make it more accessible.
- Orientation exhibits should be placed in the sallyport and guardroom to inform visitors about what to see during their visit and explain how the fort operated in the 1860s.
- New exhibits in the officers' quarters should be developed to interpret the lighthouse and its keepers, and the story of the fort being saved when building the Golden Gate Bridge.
- A temporary panel about the seismic retrofit (on-going) of the bridge will remain in place during that project. Waysides now located within the fort acquaint visitors with some of its human stories.
- Expanded web pages for the fort should be developed to further enhance visitors' understanding of the site before they arrive and will feature special programs. For example, web-based technology would allow users to take a virtual tour of the fort, learn how it fit into the mid-19th century defense

system for San Francisco Bay and enable disabled visitors to see inaccessible sections of the fort.

- Audio and lighting should be installed to create scenes in different rooms during re-enactments. In a casemate, the sounds of guns being loaded and fired would help visitors visualize how the guns worked. Visitors could sit in the officers' mess, hearing the sounds of kitchen work and the odors of cooking, or wander into the hospital steward or enlisted men's quarters and hear sounds common to those areas.
- The furnishings plan for the fort acknowledges the harsh environment that allows for only minimal furnishings. An implementation plan for the furnishings plan should be completed. Other interpretive methods must be used to set the scene and connect visitors to the human drama that occurred here.
- Some areas such as the powder magazine need to be brought more into character by removing or hiding modern materials. Lighting should be more discreet.
- The east gun bastion on the first level should be replicated to the 1861 period. Coupled with the opening of the embrasures, an accurately furnished exhibit would help people better understand how the fort's guns were used to defend the entrance to the bay. A hidden speaker could convey the sounds of the bastion's operation, even the firing of the gun.

- Reproductions of the guns used at the fort would help visitors better understand the fort's architectural features and its firepower. Entering the fort, they would see, across the parade ground, one of the three casemate guns that would be used for the interpretive firing-drill demonstrations.

- Non-representative guns, including the 15" Rodman, should be removed. Although the Spanish cannon does not fit with the present fort, it is related

to the site and may be incorporated into the Spanish-era exhibits, mounted vertically, if necessary. The Napoleon will be retained for interpretive demonstrations and living history programs.

- An interactive exhibit should be developed to help visitors understand the fort's operation, its role in defending the bay and how more advanced systems led to its obsolescence. A computer could set the scene and ask users to place the fort's guns to prevent enemy vessels from entering the bay. The computer would then test the defenses, offer suggestions for improving the system and ultimately enable visitors to see why the fort became outdated.

- Temporary exhibits occupy several rooms in the fort. The Fort Point staff should evaluate them for condition and content and rehabilitate or replace them to meet the goals of this plan.

- New exhibits on the Lighthouse keeper story should be developed. Exhibits should also explain that the fort was built before the Civil War to protect the harbor and its valuable gold shipments from the French, British and Russians. The fort's role in defending the harbor against Confederate raiding ships, along with its relationship to Angel Island and Black Point, will also be illustrated.

Education Programs

- When the current retrofit project at the fort is completed, the staff will establish a middle-school program that brings a student historian to the site to facilitate the experience. This program, planned for other sites in

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the park, will use the National Trust for Historic Places *Teaching With Historic Places* curriculum.

Volunteer Program

Community Outreach

G. Battery East

Site Description

Batteries built into the hillsides overlooking the Golden Gate, San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean defended this coast for many years. Battery East, part of Fort Point National Historic Site, exemplifies an early form of these fortifications. Built in the 1870s, Battery East became the U.S.'s first line of defense after older fortifications became obsolete. The battery consisted of gun emplacements and powder magazines that gave the gunners protection and the ability to see ships coming through the Golden Gate.

Media/information/Orientation

- As a site on the Coastal Trail, Battery East will be included among the improvements planned for the parks' trail system. Accordingly, redesign of the viewing platform around the battery will meet accessibility standards. Development of new wayside exhibits will also proceed as planned, although the current bridge retrofit could delay their installation.

- A gun mounted at the battery, perhaps the 15-inch Rodman now at Fort Point, would further visitors' understanding of Battery East's value in coastal defense.

Personal Services

- Battery East is on the route of several walks offered by the Fort Point and Presidio staffs. These activities will continue. With the weekly four-day closure of Fort Point during the Golden Gate Bridge retrofit project, this site is an ideal location for programs that tell the stories about defending the bay.

Education Programs

- A curriculum-based cultural-history program should be developed for this site.

Volunteer Program

III. SAN FRANCISCO BAY—Alcatraz, Fort Mason

A. FORT MASON

Site Description

ADD

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Relocate Pacific West Information Center
- Install revise large sign installed
- Replace chain link – improve pedestrian access and safety
- Improve directional signs to all major Fort Mason destinations
- Design and install clear building labels
- Install new waysides
- Provide information about the park at the bus shelter
- Provide orientation information at youth hostel and Home Away

Facilities

- Add bathrooms
- Recommend a development concept plan that addresses visitor amenities
- Pacific West Info Center at retail
- Create a classroom / training center
- Add seating in great meadows
- Install secure bicycle parking
- Develop a campfire ring/amphitheater
- Add more picnic tables

Personal Services

- Develop an array of occasional public tours at Fort Mason
    - Develop a docent program
    - Provide ranger programs for dog lovers—"walk your dog with a ranger"
    - Develop an earthquake program
    - Provide interpretive programs at Youth Hostel

Education Programs

- Develop a 4th-grade program
- Program at Galileo
- NPS program at Home Away from Homelessness

Interpretive Media

- Develop an introductory park video
- Develop a cell phone or digital media guided tour

Volunteers

- Cross train docents from other sites to provide Fort Mason tours

Partnerships and Community Engagement:

- Grow youth hostel and HAFH partnership
- Strengthen relationships at Senior Centers
- Connect with Safeway, Chestnut St., 24 Hour Fitness
- Improve relationship with Bike and Segway rentals
- Create better interpretive connection at Fort Mason Center
- Establish relationships with tenants

B. ALCATRAZ

Add description

Orientation/Way-Finding

Improve Pre-visit and Mainland Orientation:

- Update the website
- Downloadable island maps
- Translated mailer/general information about island online—downloadable

Expand Boat Orientation:

- Improve boat orientation
- Make print materials available on boat

Improve on Island Information and Way Finding:

- Expand training for deckhands
- Design ways for queuing system on island to interpret and market other park sites
- Improve "Island Loop" directions
- Evaluate / improve dock announcement form and function

Market Other NPS Areas:

- Orientation film at Pier 33/monitors

- Orientation film online before visit

Visitor Facilities

Open more of the Island to Visitor Access:

- Install a laundry facility
- Install a trail around the island

Improve visitor amenities:

- Continue bathroom expansion
- Provide more seating
- Improve transportation options to traditional pier
- Provide food services
- Expand museum facilities
- Cyclically review and address facility safety issues
- Create an event space with storage and seating
- Create a dedicated classroom space

Create Programming Space:

- Create an indoor interpretive space for inclement weather
- Identify a daytime eating space for volunteers and classes

Public Programs

Expand Program Options:

- Consider expanding fee-based tours
- Add music/theater/performance
- Develop overnight programs for schools

Improve Program Depth:

- Provide fee-based private tours (pre-arranged)
- Connect island volunteerism with behind-the-scenes tour
- Expand island interpreters research time toward new programs
- Consult outside experts for public programs

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Education Programs

Expand Education Programs:

- Develop a digital curriculum for independent study
- Develop dedicated classroom space
- Provide an Alcatraz "Teachers' Day" In-Service training programs
- Evaluate current education programs and consider adding a 4th-grad program
- Create service learning programs and opportunities
- Develop a college intern program targeted to Alcatraz's needs
- Create a self-guided Alcatraz program for school groups

Interpretive Media

Develop new media:

- Update theater technology
- Create a GPS self-guided tour
- Develop a digital tour

Add Exhibits on Current and Topical Themes:

- Dedicate space for temporary exhibits
- Expand Civil War interpretation: Displays, personal tours, re-enactment schedule
- Create or facilitate rotating exhibits

Update Existing Media:

- Expand multi-lingual materials in bookstores
- Develop rotating exhibits
- Continue collaboration with the parks conservancy

Outreach and Community Engagement

Expand Offsite Programming:

- Rangers should go to classrooms and community programs and events
- Take Alcatraz to community venues

Expand Diversity of Stories and Contemporary Meanings:

- Research and interpret more diversity-based stories
- Expand on contemporary connection of Alcatraz to incarceration/penology/justice

Increase Financial Accessibility:

- Expand free community ticket program

Volunteer Programs

Enhance Infrastructure:

- Create a dedicated space for volunteers
- Get tools and plans in place and organized for volunteers
- Expand youth volunteer opportunities
- Establish volunteer contact persons (maintenance, docent, episodic)
- Improve volunteer training, monitoring, and mentoring

Augment Volunteer Opportunities:

- Expand volunteer opportunities
- Provide better volunteer supervision

Partnerships

Strengthen Existing Partnerships:

- Be clear regarding partnership ability/limitations
- Possibly expand partnership with GGNPC, Alumni,

Develop New Strategic Partnerships:

- Explore new partnerships with others such as Audubon, Natural Tidepool, and Lighthouse, local Firefighters
- Explore partnerships to provide different transportation modes to Alcatraz

IV. SOUTHERN LANDS AREA— From the Presidio south through San Mateo County

A. Sutro Historic District/ Lands End

Site Description

Centered around the area named for Adolph Sutro - successful immigrant, city mayor and philanthropist - and the prominent northwest corner of San Francisco, the Lands End/Sutro Historic District area comprises China Beach, Fort Miley, Lands End, Sutro Heights, Sutro Baths and the Cliff House. The area depicts the local history of immigration, shipping and commerce and seacoast fortifications, as well as the growth of populist urban recreation in the late 19th/early 20th centuries.

Ohlone peoples used the area for centuries before Europeans arrived.

The rugged coastline, spectacular scenery, and recreational features of this area have attracted visitors for decades.

Sutro developed the area above the Cliff House in the late 19th century in a grandiose Victorian style to promote leisure and recreational activities. He built an elegant hotel and restaurant, museums, gardens, viewing galleries, amusement rides, and the indoor swimming pools of Sutro Baths. He also established a railway through Lands End to transport San Francisco residents from the more settled areas of the city to Ocean Beach and his attractions.

Visitors from all over the world dine at the Cliff House, recently remodeled to restore its former architecture and historic character, marvel at scenic vistas at every turn, stroll a Victorian garden, and explore the ruins of Sutro Baths. The Lands End trail is a popular segment of the Coastal Trail that traverses the park; the westerd portion of the Lands End Trail has been made into an accessible promenade that is well used by local hikers and visitors from around the world. The Cliff House area is a destination for most major San Francisco bus tours. Trail volunteers offer interpretive information on the Lands End trail throughout the year. Visitors to China Beach come to enjoy one of San Francisco's smaller

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beaches in a spectacular setting, and Fort Miley is used mostly for hiking or bird watching by local residents or employees of the adjoining Veteran's Administration Hospital.

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Improve way finding and universally consistent signage in connection with Trails Forever [1-3 years]
- Develop downloadable/Podcast/wifi maps/trail guides [1-3 years]
- Develop orientation information highlighting the Coastal Trail, Lands End and Sutro Heights and other western San Francisco park destinations and make available in park visitor centers, at the Cliff House, at the Beach Chalet and online [1-3 years]
- Assure that orientation exhibits at Eagle's Point and Merrie Way are updated [5-10 years]

Personal Services

- Expand programs in connection with Trails Forever [1-3 years]
- Undertake research and develop programs on the untold stories of this area – i.e Ohlone history, Chinese-American history, etc. [3-5 years]
- Provide training for staff at the Cliff House, Louis' and the Beach Chalet on the history and interpretive themes of the area [3-5 years]
- Expand public programs in the Sutro Historic District on the Cliff House, Sutro Baths, local ornithology, global climate change and ocean health [1-3 years]
- Provide special interpretive activities for participants in volunteer service workdays [1-3 years]

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- Develop Jr Ranger program for this area [1-3 years]
- Support programs emanating from community centers in the adjoining community – i.e Richmond District YMCA [1-3 years]

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Interpretive Media

- Develop self-guiding trail brochures for Lands End, Sutro Baths, and Sutro Heights about key interpretive stories and themes [1-3 years]
- Develop strategic wayside exhibits at Fort Miley, and the Cliff House [1-3 years]
- Complete the Lands End Visitor Center at Merrie Way [3-5 years]
- Complete a site bulletin for the U.S.S. Memorial [1-3 years]
- Replace the wayside exhibit at Battery Chester [1-3 years]
- Expand information about China Beach on safety precautions and pertinent regulations, as well as interpretive themes through a series of park signs, a bulletin board and/or an informational wayside exhibit [3-5 years]
- Complete research on the historic name of China Beach and evelop an interpretive exhibit with the accurate information [3-5 years]

Education Programs

- Lynn

Volunteer Programs

- Expand docent programs and roving volunteers,as well as habitat stewards, in collaboration with the Parks Conservancy/Trails Forever [1-3 years]

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- Enlist volunteer designers to develop proposals for needed interpretive media [1-3 years]
- Recruit a volunteer cadre to staff the Lands End Visitor Center, provide specialty interpretive programs, and to assist with education programs [3-5 years]

Community Outreach

- Target outreach to the Chinese-American and Russian-American communities of the Richmond District.
- Consult with specific cultural groups (including the Ohlone community) for their collaboration in interpretive programming to assure their stories are interpreted accurately and with sensitivity [3-5 years]

Partnerships

- Develop relationships with community groups adjoining this area to assure their active participation in helping shape programming and stewardship of the area [1-3 years]
- Work with the veterans groups involved with the U.S.S. San Francisco Memorial to determine a succession plan for the partnership with these groups as their members age [1-3 years]
- Establish agreements with the Cliff House and Beach Chalet on dissemination of park information [1-3 years]

B. Ocean Beach

Site Description

Ocean Beach lies at the western end of Golden Gate Park, and stretches four miles from the Cliff House to Fort Funston. Since the 19th Century, Ocean Beach has been a popular destination for city residents visitors from elsewhere in the region, and tourists from around the world. As they were in years past, visitors today are drawn by the opportunity to stroll the water's edge, play on the sand or enjoy the setting sun. On mild nights, some people enjoy bonfires on the beach. Fog and brisk wind temper visitation many months of the year, but occasional warm summer and early fall days attract thousands of people to the beach. The large rolling waves are inviting to expert surfers and board sailors, but conceal dangerous (and occasionally fatal) rip currents. Visitation at Ocean Beach is high and highly diverse.

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Expand web-based, downloadable information about Ocean Beach [1-3 years]
- Place Ocean Beach orientation information at the Beach Chalet and link to City of San Francisco websites [1-3 years]
- Assure guidebook information on Ocean Beach is accurate [ongoing]

Personal Services

- Offer occasional interpretive roves on beach safety, ocean stewardship, global warming, and threats to endangered species [1-3 years]
- Expand interpretive activities in connection with volunteer beach cleanup efforts [1-3 years]

Interpretive Media

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- Improve signage on beach regulations and safety, including the beach fire policy, and prevention of drowning [1-3 years]
- Develop downloadable interpretive information about Ocean Beach [3-5 years]
- Include printed and downloadable information at the Lands End visitior when it comes online [3-5 years]
- Develop an exhibit at the Beach Chalet information center [3-5 years]
- Produce clear signage about the Snowy Plover Protection Area that cannot be missed by beach visitors [1-3 years]

Education Programs

- Lynn

Volunteer Programs

- Expand "Adopt-a-Beach clean up program and include a stronger education component [1-3 years]

Community Outreach

- Target youth/school groups through the Crissy Field Center for community service work at Ocean Beach [1-3 years]

Partnerships

- Expand collaboration with Surfrider Foundation and Burners Without Borders on beach cleanup activities [1-3 years]
- Monitor work of the Ocean Beach Task Force and Coalition to Save Ocean Beach for future interpretive partnerships [3-5 years]

C. Fort Funston

Site Description

Fort Funston is situated in the southwest corner of San Francisco. It comprises a historic gun emplacement – Battery Davis – a former Nike missile installatio, and expanses of dunes on a bluff overlooking a mile-long beach that is the southern extension of Ocean Beach. The site includes one of the most heavily used hang-glider areas in the country. Visitors come in large numbers to explore seacoast fortifications and hike the trails, particularly the Sunset Trail, which is accessible from the parking lot to Battery Davis. Dog walkers have claimed Fort Funston as their own, with people coming from long distances to enjoy the dunes and beach with their dogs with relatively few restrictions. The Coastal Trail, beginning in Marin County, has its southern terminus in the park at Fort Funston.

In collaboration with the Parks Conservancy, the Fort Funston native-plant nursery offers informal programs and field trips for local schools. Protecting bank swallow habitat and stabilizing dunes and cliffs are natural-resource protection priorities. The site is geologically significant—the San Andreas Fault enters the sea just south of Fort Funston, and the epicenter of the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake lies not far to the south. A broad stretch of the Pacific shoreline from north of the Golden Gate to far down the San Mateo County coast can be seen from the bluffs at Fort Funston, presenting excellent opportunities to tell the stories of ocean dynamics, stewardship, and commerce,along with coastal geology.

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Upgrade web-based orientation for the site [1-3 years]

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- Develop and implement a wayfinding plan for the site using the new park wayfinding design system [3-5 years]
- Update orientation kiosks at major entry points to Fort Funston [5-10 years]

Personal Services

- Conduct interpretive programs on weekends on military history, ocean health, climate change, geology, and endangered species [3-5 years]
- Provide roving interpretation targeted to the local user groups, especially the dog walking community [3-5 years]
- Train members of the dog walking community to provide programs on Fort Funston themes, and oversee their activities [1-3 years]
- Provide interpretive activities for participants in habitat restoration programs [1-3 years]

Interpretive Media

- Post all Funston site bulletins and other printed brochures on the web [1-3 years and ongoing]
- Develop a cellphone or other digital self-guided tours of the site [3-5 years]
- Deploy mobile visitor facility to Funston parking lot on weekends [3-5 years
- Update all kiosks and waysides [5-10 years]
- Develop a Jr Ranger program for Fort Funston [1-3 years]

Education Programs

- Lynn

Volunteer Programs

- Develop a volunteer cadre to better inform Fort Funston visitors about natural resources issues and concerns [3-5 years]
- Harness the volunteer spirit of the dog walking community to assist in site protection and interpretation [1-3 years]
- Promote youth service projects at Fort Funston [1-3 years]

Community Outreach

- Create a camping program targeted to diverse communities [3-5 years]
- Promote Fort Funston visitation at community centers in San Francisco and Daly City [1-3 years]
- Reach out to families of participants in the SF Unified School District Environmental Science program at Funston [1-3 years]

Partnerships

- Create partnerships with local dog walking groups to help tell Funston stories and impart park messages
- Expand the Parks Conservancy partnership on native plant nursery education programs [1-3 years]

D. Pacifica Sites – including Milagra Ridge, Sweeney Ridge, Mori Point, Cattle Hill, and Pedro Point

Site Description

These San Mateo County sites serve as open space backdrops for the city of Pacifica. Their extensive trails systems offer stunning views, vigorous recreation

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opportunities, and the opportunity to personally engage in the rehabilitation of highly impacted lands..

Milagra Ridge (240 acres) and its southern neighbor, Sweeney Ridge (1,047 acres) were home to successions of inhabitants, including native Ohlone people, Spanish settlers, Mexican rancheros, and the U.S. Army. Milagra and Sweeney Ridges were added to the park in 1984. Sweeney Ridge has a stone monument near its highest point commemorating the 1769 sighting of San Francisco Bay by Captain Gaspar de Portola's Spanish expeditionary party. Both Ridges afford stunning views in all directions.

Mori Point, a 106-acre promontory overlooking the Pacific Ocean immediately west of Sweeney Ridge was added to the park in mid-2002 as a result of community concern and activism. The area is a living laboratory of the successful coexistence of recreation and conservation.

Cattle Hill is a parcel of land which links the xxx neighborhood of Pacifica to Sweeney Ridge. It essentially constitutes one of three gateways into Sweeney Ridge, along with Sneath Lane off of Highway 280, and Shelldance off of Highway 1. Sanchez Adobe, a San Mateo County Historic Site, is located very near Cattle Hill.

Pedro Point marks the southern boundary of Pacifica and the portal to the San Mateo County "Coastside." It is a landform that has been much abused, but which is in the process of rehabilitation and discovery as a hidden gem of hiking.

Because the Pacifica properties have contain significantly impacted ecosystems, there are a number of threatened and endangered plant and animal species

present, including Mission blue and San Bruno Elfin butterflies, the San Francisco garter snake, and the California red-legged frog, among others. These ridges and promontories are colorfully ablaze with springtime wildflowers, and the grassland and coastal scrub is home to a great diversity of wildlife.

Today, these distinct areas have a strong local constituency of frequent recreational users who hike, walk their dogs or ride mountain bikes. Community stewardship programs at Sweeney, Milagra and Mori Point are restoring natural habitats. Oceana High School, adjacent to Milagra Ridge, provides a stewardship and service-learning component for its students. Use of these lands is increasing, as publicity about them takes hold and as the Bay Area Ridge Trail and Coastal Trail become better known and used. Mori Point, more easily accessible than the other sites,, has seen a marked growth in visitiation brought about by extensive community outreach and site stewardship efforts by the Parks Conservancy Trails Forever program.

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Upgrade orientation kiosks at primary parking lots for these sites [1-3 years]
- Develop 'plan your visit' information for the park website and link to the websites of the City of Pacifica and neighboring community homeowners associations [1-3 years]
- Develop changeable bulletin boards for all sites [1-3 years]
-

Personal Services

- Provide interpretive programs at Sweeney and Milagra ridges several times annually [ongoing]
- Provide interpretive programs at Mori Point several times a month [ongoing]
- Provide programs at Cattle Hill and Pedro Point as interest develops [3-5 years]

Interpretive Media

- Develop digital tours of each site [3-5 years]
- Add needed wayside exhibits to these sites [3-5 years]
- Install trailhead kiosks at all major portals to these sites [1-3 years]
- Explore options for a new partnership visitor facility in Pacifica, including the possibility of a joint facility at the Sanchez Adobe [3-5 years]
- Develop Jr Ranger programs for Sweeney, Milagra, and Mori Point [1-3 years]

Education Programs

- Lynn

Volunteer Programs

- Develop the capacity of Friends of Sweeney Ridge to provide interpretive services [1-3 years]
- Develop Trail Ambassador program at Mori Point [1-3 years]
- Explore interpretive partnerships for Cattle Hill and Pedro Point

Community Outreach

- Develop outreach strategies for diverse communities in San Francisco, Daly City, Pacifica,and Half Moon Bay [1-3 years]

Partnerships

- Strengthen collaboration with California State Parks, San Mateo County Parks, and City of Pacifica on interpretation delivery [3-5 years]
- Work with Oceana High School, Terra Nova High School and other schools for new stewardship and service learning programs [1-3 years]
- Work with San Francisco Water Department on connecting Sweeney Ridge and the watershed lands with more public access, more programs, and improved signage [3-5 years]
- Develop partnerships with Skyline College, the adjoining County Jail, and other schools and outdoor organizations in the Pacifica area. [3-5 years]

E. Phleger Estate

Site Description

Named after the family that once owned the property, the Phleger Estate comprises 1,200 acres of redwood forest and mixed evergreen woodlands in central San Mateo County. Purchased by the Peninsula Open Space Trust and transferred to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in 1995, the estate is the southern-most area of the Golden Gate National Parks, and completes a greenbelt of parklands and open space that reaches well into San Mateo County.

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The Phleger Estate is not accessible by road; most visitors approach through adjoining Huddert County Park, or from the Kings Mountain Fire Station on Skyline Drive high above the site. Although early lumbermen logged much of the old growth timber, the mature second-growth forest provides habitat for a variety of species, including the endangered red-legged frog. Phleger's redwood and Douglas-fir forests are a cool and peaceful escape for the relatively few hikers and equestrians who know about the site..

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Create a more prominent trailhead kiosk in Huddert County Park [1-3 years]
- Develop a wayfinding plan to direct visitors from Woodside to the two Phleger entrance points [1-3 years]
- Provide upgraded orientation information about Phleger at the Huddert County Park entrance station and online [1-3 years]
- Develop a kiosk about Phleger at the main information point at Huddert County Park [1-3 years]

Personal Services.

- Offer occasional guided walk for youth groups and hiking clubs [1-3 years]
- Provide interpretive sessions to local equestrian clubs [3-5 years]

Intepretive Media

- Develop a self-guided trail map for Phleger and produce both hard copy and online versions.

- Develop a site bulletin on Phleger [1-3 years]Update information kiosks at entry points to include park partners and program information [1-3 years]
- Develop several strategic wayside exhibits on the main trail (Raymundo) through the Phleger Estate. [3-5 years]

Volunteer Programs

- Develop a cadre of trained Trails Ambassadors, particularly equestrians, to rove Phleger Trails and disseminate information and monitor trail conditions and issues [3-5 years]
- Initiate a Phleger volunteer trail maintenance corps [3-5 years]

Partnerships.

- Strengthen the partnership with San Mateo County Parks, Mid-Peninsula Open Space District, and San Francisco Watershed on Phleger access and interpretation [3-5 years]
- Develop relationships with Woodside on promoting use of Phleger [1-3 years]

F. Devil's Slide and South

Site Description

This area includes the lands located south of Pacifica on Highway 1, including the Devil's Slide portion of Highway 1, Rancho Corral de Tierra, and Fitzgerald Marine Preserve near Half Moon Bay. This is the area of the park with the least amount of park presence, and very little park identity.

Devil's Slide will be bypassed by a tunnel in a few years, opening that portion of Highway 1 to recreation use, affording a unique opportunity for a car-free coastal trail. Rancho Corral de Tierra will be turned over to the park from Peninsula Open Space Trust over a period of several years, opening up vast areas of coastal valleys and ridges to public use. This area is characterized by the rural feel of an area dominated by highly productive farms, many of which have been owned for generations by the same families. Fitzgerald Marine Preserve is a San Mateo County property that includes an important intertidal zone, including extensive tide pools, that has attracted school groups and general public visitors for decades.

Orientation/Wayfinding

- Develop major park 'entrance' signs for this area [1-3 years]
- Develop trailhead orientation kiosks for major access points into Rancho Corral de Tierra [1-3 years]
- Develop a trailhead kiosk for the Devil's Slide once it becomes a trail [3-5 years]
- Work with Cal Trans to install highway signs directing visitors to Rancho Corral de Tierra [1-3 years]
- Explore designating and signing Highway 1 in this area as a "Scenic Byway" [3-5 years]
- Develop web-based trip planning and orientation information about these sites [1-3 years]
- Provide orientation information about these sites to the Fitzgerald Reserve visitor center [1-3 years]

Personal Services

- Provide occasional hiking and equestrian tours into Rancho Corral de Tierra [1-3 years]
- Support San Mateo County programs at Fitzgerald Marine Preserve with programming information on ocean stewardship and global warming [3-5 years]

Interpretive Media

- Construct San Mateo Welcome Center on Highway 1 in connection with California State Parks and San Mateo County [5-10 years]
- Plan and install wayside exhibits at key locations [3-5 years]
- Develop auto tour of NPS lands in this area [3-5 years]
- Develop downloadable digital and cellphone tours of this area [3-5 years]
- Produce an overview park brochure for this area, online and paper copy [1-3 years]
- Produce site bulletins (online and paper copy) for Rancho Corral de Tierra

Education

- Lynn

Volunteerism

- Develop a volunteer cadre based on the existing volunteer groups using the area, especially the equestrian community [3-5 years]
- Develop a Site Stewardship Team in collaboration with the Parks Conservancy [3-5 years]
- Promote the area as a venue for youth community service in the Half Moon Bay area [3-5 years]

GGNRA132197_A

Outreach

- Explore camping and other recreational opportunities for diverse communities in San Mateo County [3-5 years]

Parnerships

- Strengthen partnerships with equestrian groups to assist wth interpretation of Rancho Corral de Tierra [1-3 years]
- Develop relationships with agricultural producers to provide informal education about the agricultural history of the area [3-5 years]
- Develop an active partnership with Fitzgerald Marine Preserve [3-5 years]

GGNRA132198_A

Dog Management at Golden Gate NRA
The Political Landscape

As dog ownership has increased sharply in communities surrounding the park since the late 1970's, so has political advocacy for off leash access to parklands.

Many dog owners are well-educated and affluent, and are politically connected and savvy. Many have grown to view off leash dog walking as a right, and have lately hired attorneys and engaged in effective public affairs campaigns to convince elected officials that any attempt to limit off leash dog walking is an assault on their rights.

This viewpoint was expressed through the two lawsuits brought against the park for taking actions to in any way limit off leash dog access.

The effectiveness of the off leash dog advocates has made them a political force to be reckoned with, and many politicians have taken up the cause of off leash use for fear of political retribution, as well as their own personal viewpoints on the topic.

On the other hand, most politicians recognize that NPS has to address the desires and concerns of the spectrum of public viewpoints, as well as adhere to our mandate to protect park resources. While most of the elected officials have been relatively restrained in their public comment, most have expressed a desire to see the most off-leash access possible in our future dog management rule. A few have taken up the cause off leash dog walking and are spokespersons for the off leash advocacy groups.

Some environmental groups have been steadfastly opposed widespread off-leash use of the park for reasons of resource protection, some major environmental orgs have stayed out of the discussion because of conflicting views among their membership.

Some disabled rights advocates are for tight restrictions on off-leash use, as are some children's advocacy groups. They seem largely willing to trust that the NPS will make the right decision.

General Climate

- Since release of SEIS in Sept 2013, park has received more letters and email and social media postings supporting restrictions on off-leash dogs.
- When specifics of the dog plan are explained, the balance achieved by the plan appears to be understood by an increasing number of people.
- Dog advocates may have overplayed their hands. Many are linking them to others (i.e. tech workers) they feel are acting "entitled.
- Comments following news articles on the dog issue are at least even, if not leaning toward support of the NPS position.
- We can expect a very strong reaction as the draft rule is released.
- Strong information campaign about rule will be necessary to weather the storm. Emphasis will need to be on the **balance of interests** reflected by the plan/rule , **amount of dog opportunities**, and **need to manage for the future** and on behalf of the entire country.

Federal Elected Officials

Rep Nancy Pelosi

- Expressed her desire that the park be responsive to community comments, especially the off-leash advocates, and recognize the needs of the surrounding urban area.
- Appears not to be generally supportive of NPS, related to recent decisions on the Presidio, as well as issues around the NPS Alcatraz ferry operation.
- Not her highest priority issue, but is probably waiting to test the winds when the draft rule is released.

Rep Jackie Speier

- On record opposing the NPS preferred alternative, particularly for RCDT.
- Had done radio spots for "Save our Recreation" and SF Dog/Montara Dog
- Has stated that she expects a ROLA in San Mateo County; has implied legislative action if the plan fails to deliver to her specifications.
- Because she has been so visible on this issue, she is unlikely to shift her position.

Rep Jared Huffman

- Measured responses to date.
- Expressed hope to see more dog access, especially loop trails in Marin, and is hoping for some off-leash at Muir Beach.

Sen Dianne Feinstein

- Has asked NPS to consider more dog access.
- Contacts us regularly to forward constituents concerns.
- Difficult to predict position when rule is released. DBOC may influence her position.

Sen Barbara Boxer

- Sent obligatory letter asking us to consider comments.
- Not active on this issue.

Local Elected Officials

San Francisco Board of Supervisors

- Has passed two resolutions opposing NPS preferred alternatives on DEIS and SEIS.
- One key issue is displacement of dogs from NPS land to city land.
- Off-leash dog advocates will shape their position on draft rule.

San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee

- Dog advocates are a major force in SF.
- Suggested NPS be as permissive as possible to keep the issue under political control.
- City has its own major dog use issues in city parks; wants NPS to absorb as many dogs as possible.
- Will probably take position consistent with Rep Pelosi.

Supervisor Scott Wiener

- District does not adjoin park, but he has been the leading off-leash advocate on Board of Supes.
- Generally reasonable, and understands our position, but has staked out a purely political calculus on this issue.
- Will probably go with the wishes of SF Dog on reaction to draft rule.

Supervisor Mark Farrell

- District includes Crissy, Presidio, and Fort Mason.
- Has expressed his hope we give as much as we can.
- Not a major issue for him personally, but he is highly political, and many Marina residents are Crissy dog users.

Supervisor Eric Mar

- District includes Lands End, Sutro Heights Park, and Ocean Beach to Lincoln Blvd.
- Relatively quiet on this issue.
- Will go with consensus on Board of Supes in response to draft rule.

Supervisor Katy Tang

- District includes OB from Lincoln to Sloat.
- Supports dog access to OB south of Stairwell 21, despite plover.
- Many constituents are daily OB users, mostly off-leash.

Supervisor Norman Yee

- District includes Fort Funston
- Quiet on this issue.
- Personally opposes off-leash use, but will not publicly say so.
- Will support majority of Board of Supes on this issue.

Marin County Board of Supervisors

- Joined with SF and San Mateo Supes in a resolution supporting position of Save our Recreation.

Supervisors Steve Kinsey and Kate Sears

- Understands our issues, but want more access.

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

- Signed on with other boards on Save our Recreation resolution.

Supervisor Don Horsley

- On record asking for more dog access at RCDT.
- Letting Rep Speier take the lead on this issue.

Advocates

Dog Advocates

- Includes SF Dog, Crissy Field Dog, Fort Funston Dog, Montara Dog, and SF, Marin, and SM Co SPCA, Save our Recreation, several Muir Beach advocates
- Very well organized, well financed, and prepared to do battle.
- Have been consistently positional throughout the 14 year process.
- Likely to sue when rule is released, possibly at the draft stage.

Environmental Advocates

- Includes NPCA, SF Audubon, Calif Native Plant Society, Wild Equity, some Sierra Club members, People for the Parks (Amy Meyer group)
- NPCA and SF Audubon have been supportive of NPS process and outcomes.

- Most environmental advocates would prefer we tighten restrictions, but most are likely to support NPS position.
- Wild Equity most likely to sue, esp over commercial dog walking.

Dear Park Friend,

Thank you for your continued interest in dog management at Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). We would like to update you on our review of the many ideas and suggestions received during the public comment on the dog management plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), and let you know about an important next step in the environmental analysis of the dog management plan.

Given the substance of some of the 4,713 comments received on the DEIS, additional data and studies, and potential changes to the alternatives and impacts analysis resulting from that information, a Supplemental DEIS is being developed and will be released in late summer 2012 for public comment. This revised document will supplement those sections of the DEIS that include significant new information or that have changed substantially.

What this means to you is that there will be an additional opportunity to comment on the future of dog management in GGNRA before we issue the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for public review and comment. This added step of issuing a Supplemental DEIS for the dog management plan will affect the project timeline, adding approximately a year to the schedule.

Thank you for your continued interest and participation in this important planning process.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean

Details about the Dog Management Plan/Supplemental DEIS

Some of the changes we are considering for the Supplemental DEIS after evaluating public comment include:

- An action alternative that reflects the 1979 Pet Policy and assumes compliance
- Developing site-specific alternatives for Rancho Corral de Tierra
- Evaluating additional access for dog walking, both on leash and under voice control
- Re-evaluating the impacts to adjacent federal, city and county parklands that could result from reducing areas open to dog walking in GGNRA
- Revising the compliance-based management strategy by including natural and cultural resource monitoring, removing automatic triggers and restrictions and incorporating additional education and enforcement
- Providing additional visitor use information and law enforcement statistics into the impacts analysis
- Incorporating additional studies into the impacts analysis
- Further evaluating compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Re-evaluating fencing as a method to minimize dog walking impacts.

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

NEXT STEPS

Visitor Survey To address the need to better evaluate impacts to adjacent park lands, in February 2012 we will be sending a postcard with a link to an online survey to all individuals on the GGNRA Dog Management Plan mailing list. Our goal is to obtain input on what other areas dog walkers and non-dog walkers might visit if some GGNRA sites limit off-leash dog walking, require on-leash dog walking or are closed to dog walking. This survey should only take a few minutes to fill out; your input is important and we hope you will participate.

REVISED PROJECT SCHEDULE - DOG MANAGEMENT PLAN EIS AND RULE	
Release of a Supplemental DEIS for public comment	Late summer 2012
Incorporate public comment on Supplemental DEIS into the Proposed Rule	Fall 2012
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking issued for public comment	Fall 2013
Incorporate public comment on proposed rule into Final EIS and final rule	Winter 2013 – Spring 2014
Release of Final EIS	Fall 2014
Final Rule	Winter 2014

For further information about the Dog Management Project, including a summary of the public comments received, please visit the GGNRA Dog Management Planning webpage at [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/goga/parkmgmt/dog-management.htm"]

For questions about the project, call the Dog Management Project Information Line (415) 561-4728

Sword, James <james_sword@nps.gov>

Presidio dogwalking questions

3 messages

Treutelaar, Jennifer <jennifer_treutelaar@nps.gov> Tue, Dec 17, 2013 at 4:31 PM
To: jpelka@presidiotrust.gov
Cc: James Sword <james_sword@nps.gov>

Hi John,

We met at the commercial dogwalking meeting on December 2nd at Fort Mason. I had a couple quick follow-up questions for you as we finalize our permit language. I just left you a voicemail as well. I'm heading out on leave after today but my colleague James (cc-ed here) will be in the office until Friday, or we will pick this up again when I return on January 2nd.

1. At that meeting we talked about the GGNRA being unable to answer questions about the Presidio's commercial dogwalking program and management, and would like to know what contact information we can provide for detailed Presidio-related questions (name or office name, phone number, and email).

2. We're planning on listing Area B under Areas Open For On Leash or Voice Control Dog Walking in our permit, which is where you had handwritten it in during our meeting and handed to me. But we just wanted to double check whether other details are needed. For example, are there any areas closed to commercial dogwalking entirely, or areas where only on-leash dogwalking is permitted?

Thanks for helping us work on these details. Happy holidays!

Jeni

--
Jennifer Treutelaar
Partnership Development Specialist
Business Management Division
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
(415) 561-4949

Pelka, John <JPelka@presidiotrust.gov> Wed, Dec 18, 2013 at 9:25 AM
To: James Sword <james_sword@nps.gov>
Cc: "Treutelaar, Jennifer" <jennifer_treutelaar@nps.gov>

James-

I am meeting with our counsel today to resolve this issue and will get back to you either later this afternoon or tomorrow. Thanks.

John

John Pelka

Compliance Manager

Presidio Trust

103 Montgomery Street, P.O. Box 29052

San Francisco, CA 94129-0052

(415) 561-5365

jpelka@presidiotrust.gov

www.presidio.gov

From: Treutelaar, Jennifer [mailto:jennifer_treutelaar@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 4:32 PM
To: Pelka, John
Cc: James Sword
Subject: Presidio dogwalking questions

[Quoted text hidden]

Sword, James <james_sword@nps.gov> Wed, Dec 18, 2013 at 9:58 AM
To: "Pelka, John" <JPelka@presidiotrust.gov>
Cc: "Treutelaar, Jennifer" <jennifer_treutelaar@nps.gov>

Sounds good, I will be available all day, and in through Friday.

Thank you.

James Sword

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Office of Special Park Uses
Building 201 Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4373 Office
415-845-5720 Cell
415-561-4305 FAX

Look up permit applications and information on our website: http://www.nps.gov/goga/planyourvisit/specialparkuses.htm

The Doyle Drive project will impact events throughout the park for coming years, please visit http://doyledrive.org/ for more information.

Additional Construction is estimated to close the following locations:
1) Muir Beach for Redwood Creek Restoration (June – Late November, 2013)
2) Battery East Parking Lot (October 2013 – May 2014)

We also hope you'll visit the Crissy Airfield area to enjoy the Di Suvero sculpture exhibit (May 2013 - May 2014)

[Quoted text hidden]

From:	Shirwin Smith
To:	Frank Dean
cc:	Kevin Cochary; Marybeth McFarland; Howard_Levitt@nps.gov; Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov
Subject:	Re: Commercial dogwalker regulation -- ideas
Date:	06/08/2011 05:15 PM

Frank - thought I already sent you comments on this, but can't find any record of the send. So following are my thoughts in response to Supv. Weiner's concept and Kevin's responses:

- GOGA plan has permits to both commercial and private individuals who have more than 3 dogs - SF doesn't address private dog walkers - so in SF we'd have permits issued through the city and permits issued through NPS.
- City permits would be required to walk more than 2 dogs; GOGA requirement is for more than 3. Changing that would require changing the baseline number of dogs per person without the permit, which we arrived at that after review of other agency policies (Marin Open Space , East Bay, Midpen) and city/county policies about number of dogs per household (SF limit is 3, and we have a San Mateo recommendation to city council for the same).
- Agree with Kevin that the top limit of 6 is preferred. We arrived at that after input from reg neg committee and looking at other agency policies (Marin Open Space and East Bay and - at the time - also recommended by SF).
- Also agree with Kevin that since GOGA lands cover 3 counties, we need to be consistent; a consistent top limit of 6 would do that. SF may also want to consider being consistent within their own jurisdiction, rather than having different limits for different areas.
- Dog license should be on the dog, since dog walker should have functional leash for each dog, and a functional leash has to attach to either a collar or harness - thus a place for the license.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)

From:	Kevin Cochary
To:	Frank Dean
cc:	Howard Levitt; Marybeth McFarland; Shirwin Smith
Subject:	Re: Fw: Commercial dogwalker regulation -- ideas
Date:	06/05/2011 04:50 PM

Frank,

I understand the desire for consistency but have some concerns.

1. We will have permits in 3 different counties not just San Francisco. If Marin or San Mateo decided to develop ordinances, who would we follow? I recognize that SF is our busiest area.
2. We are developing our regulations based on the resources of a NPS area which may be different than a city park (endangered species).
3. Are regulations are based on Federal law through 36 CFR. I do not believe that we can enforce local ordinances.
4. We are operating in 3 different LE jurisdictions, exclusive, concurrent and proprietary. This would present a problem for local ordinances that may not apply on exclusive jurisdiction.
5. I believe that we are being extremely accommodating to allow up to 6 dogs with a permit. There is still a real question if 6 dogs can be controlled, especially by voice. Eight dogs just makes the problem worse.

These are just some initial thoughts. Maybe I'm just getting more conservative with the recent history of dog attacks.

Kevin

▼ Frank Dean---06/03/2011 02:20:02 PM---Hi, Please don't share this, but review and give me your thoughts on feasibility and merit.

Frank Dean/GOGA/NPS

06/03/2011 02:19 PM

To Howard Levitt/GOGA/NPS@NPS, Shirwin Smith/GOGA/NPS@NPS, Marybeth McFarland/GOGA/NPS@NPS, Kevin Cochary/GOGA/NPS@NPS

cc

Subject Fw: Commercial dogwalker regulation -- ideas

Hi,

Please don't share this, but review and give me your thoughts on feasibility and merit.

Thanks,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
(415) 561-4720
----- Forwarded by Frank Dean/GOGA/NPS on 06/03/2011 02:18 PM -----

Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org

06/03/2011 02:10 PM

To frank_dean@nps.gov

cc Sarah.Ballard@sfgov.org, Rebecca.Katz@sfgov.org, Adam.Taylor@sfgov.org

Subject Commercial dogwalker regulation -- ideas

Hi Frank. As I think you're aware, I'm contemplating legislation to regulate commercial dog walkers. Before I move forward, I want to show you our thinking and get your feedback. Ideally, it'd be great if GGNRA would honor permits issued by the City, so that dog walkers don't have to get two different permits with two different sets of requirements. Here's a draft of what we're thinking. Please note that this is all very preliminary.

1. Enforcement starts 90 days after date of ordinance

2. GGNRA will be authorized to enforce the ordinance and to issue citations to be heard in Superior Court. [Note: I don't know whether the City has the power to do this, and I've asked the City Attorney for guidance, which is forthcoming.]

3. The Treasurer/Tax Collector will issue the permits, collect fees, and maintain a publicly available database, including whether dog walkers have received citations for violating the law.

4. Applicable to commercial dog walkers who use SF city parks under the jurisdiction of Rec & Park, but only if they are walking more than two dogs at once.

5. Dog walkers can only walk dogs of clients who provide evidence that dog has been licensed by the City and that the license is current. Dog walkers must obtain this information annually.

6. Dog walker must provide evidence of having received training.

7. Dog walker must pay annual license fee and must have a valid business licence. I've not yet determined what this fee will be -- probably in the $100-$300 range.

8. Dog walkers limited to 6 dogs, except that in the following parks the limit is 8: Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, Stern Grove, Douglass Park. [Frank: I would request that GGNRA set the limit at 8 as well, to be consistent with the large SF parks.]

9. Dog walkers are responsible for cleaning up after the dogs they are walking.

10. Dog walkers must carry proof of licensing with them when they are walking dogs commercially in city parks. [Query whether licenses should have to be displayed on the dogs.]

11. Dog walkers must have one leash available on his or her person per dog at all times and must adhere to on-leash rules.

12. Dogs must be transported in safe, well-ventilated vehicles and property restrained in open vehicles to prevent injury or overheating. Proof of a safe vehicle must be provided to AC&C, which will provide a certification that can be presented as part of application for a permit.

13. Dog walkers must have canine first-aid kit in their vehicles -- minimum components include gauze pads and bandages, medical tape, muzzle, quick-stop, disinfectant wipes and ointments, tweezers and scissors.

14. Dog walkers must have liability insurance of $1 million and must present proof of insurance.

15. Violations/citations -- same as pooper scooper law.

Scott Wiener
Member, San Francisco Board of Supervisors
District 8
(415) 554-6968

***If you would like to receive my monthly email newsletter and periodic email announcements, please email Adam Taylor (adam.taylor@sfgov.org) and request that he add you. I do not provide my email list to anyone else, and I rarely send out more than 1-2 emails a month.

***To receive more regular updates, you can follow me on Facebook by "liking" my fan page. You can also follow me on Twitter @sdwiener.

Sword, James <james_sword@nps.gov>

SPUG website update needed

2 messages

Treutelaar, Jennifer <jennifer_treutelaar@nps.gov> Wed, Nov 27, 2013 at 2:31 PM
To: Shirwin Smith <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>, James Sword <james_sword@nps.gov>
Cc: Jessica Carter <Jessica_Carter@nps.gov>, Noemi Robinson <noemi_margaret@nps.gov>

Greetings,

I was thinking today we'll need to update the SPUG page on the GOGA website prior to our release of the commercial dog walking program. CDWSUPs should be covered in the information provided to the public on that site about the various permits. I have a few specific thoughts and I imagine James would be the content lead for SPUG. Just wanted to get this on our radar.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Jeni

--
Jennifer Treutelaar
Partnership Development Specialist
Business Management Division
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
(415) 561-4949

Smith, Shirwin <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> Wed, Nov 27, 2013 at 2:38 PM
To: "Treutelaar, Jennifer" <jennifer_treutelaar@nps.gov>
Cc: James Sword <james_sword@nps.gov>, Jessica Carter <Jessica_Carter@nps.gov>, Noemi Robinson <noemi_margaret@nps.gov>

Another piece of the action - thanks for bringing it up, Jeni.

And same to you!

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)
[Quoted text hidden]

Draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental EIS (draft Plan/SEIS)

Key Messages

Project Purpose and Need (from the plan)

Received 4,713 individual correspondence containing 8000 substantive comments.

Comment [SES1]: Am thinking better to not state this. The real message is the quantity of substantive comments.

This draft Plan/SEIS is a second draft of the EIS for the Dog Management Plan, in response to the substantive comments on the first draft EIS (DEIS) and the inclusion of an area newly transferred to the park..

Because of the amount of new information and analysis, the entire document has been reissued. There is a reading guide to help direct readers to the substantive changes to the DEIS released in January 2011.

Comment Period from Sept. 6, 2013 to midnight Mountain Time (11:00 p.m. Pacific Time) Dec. 4, 2013

. . . .

Project Communications Protocol

Points of contact for:

Elected officials and their staff: Howard Levitt and Frank Dean
Media: Howard Levitt and Alexandra Picavet
Stakeholders: Shirwin Smith, Howard Levitt and Alexandra Picavet
NEPA and Plan Specifics: Michael Edwards, Shirwin Smith, and Area Specialists (TBD)
General Public: Dog Management Information line

All Meetings and Phone Calls with elected officials, stakeholder groups and media:

Coordinated through Howard Levitt.
Notes and documents gathered by lead and filed in Project database/ Administrative Record

Consultation Letters:

Drafted by contractor with review by Michael/Shirwin, sent to Shirwin for Frank's signature, and mailing..

Cooperating Agency

Presidio Trust

Potentially Affected Interest Groups

General Public

Park Visitors
Park Neighbors
Environmental groups

Dog walking groups

Commercial dog walkers
Former Advisory Board
Negotiated Rulemaking Committee members
Concessionaires/ Park Partners through Business Management
(don't think they rise to the level of stakeholders)

Agencies

Exemption 5

Cal Dept. Fish & Wildlife

Cal State Parks
City and County of SF
Marin County
San Mateo County
Nat. Marine Fisheries Service
Cities in San Mateo and Marin Counties
US EPA
USFWS
US-NOAA
California Coastal Commission
MMWD
SFPUC
Presidio Trust

Park Partners+

PWR

Conservancy

Elected Officials

Local:
SF Supervisors Mar, Yee, Tang, Weiner, Chu
Marin Supervisors Kinsey and Sears
San Mateo Supervisor Horsley, and Dave Holland
State:
Assembly members Leno and Ma
Federal
Congressional Speier, Huffman, Boxer
Senators Pelosi and Feinstein

Agency Briefings:

EPA
Others:

Offer and set up as needed

All Staff Notification

Email staff announcement with attached newsletter and general FAQ's

SEISPublic meeting staff

Training Friday, 11/1

More detailed FAQ on SEIS and public communication does and don'ts

Media

Media Briefings:

Halfmoon Bay- Mark Novak

San Jose Register/ Paul Rogers OR Marin IJ- Mark Prado

SF Chronicle- Will Kane (?)

Press Release

Draft to S. Waldron and S. Burkhart by 9/3/13

Release by park on 9/5/13

Public Meetings (midway through comment period)

Nov. 2, 11-4, SF, Fort Mason Center Fleet Room

Nov. 4, 4:30-4:30, San Mateo, Farallone View School

Nov. 6, 4-8, Marin, Mt. Tam High School

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Dog walking groups

Commercial dog walkers
Former Advisory Board
Negotiated Rulemaking Committee members
Concessionaires/ Park Partners through Business Management
(don't think they rise to the level of stakeholders)

Agencies

Comment [EMB2]: Suggest using list in SEIS for consistency

Cal Dept. Fish & Wildlife

Cal State Parks
City and County of SF
Marin County
San Mateo County
Nat. Marine Fisheries Service
Cities in San Mateo and Marin Counties
US EPA
USFWS
US-NOAA
California Coastal Commission
MMWD
SFPUC
Presidio Trust

Park Partners+

PWR

Conservancy

Elected Officials

Local:
SF Supervisors Mar, Yee, Tang, Weiner, Chu
Marin Supervisors Kinsey and Sears
San Mateo Supervisor Horsley, and Dave Holland
State:
Assembly members Leno and Ma
Federal
Congressional Speier, Huffman, Boxer
Senators Pelosi and Feinstein

Agency Briefings:

EPA
Others:

Offer and set up as needed

All Staff Notification

Email staff announcement with attached newsletter and general FAQ's

SEISPublic meeting staff

Training Friday, 11/1

More detailed FAQ on SEIS and public communication does and don'ts

Media

Media Briefings:

Halfmoon Bay- Mark Novak

San Jose Register/ Paul Rogers OR Marin IJ- Mark Prado

SF Chronicle- Will Kane (?)

Press Release

Draft to S. Waldron and S. Burkhart by 9/3/13

Release by park on 9/5/13

Public Meetings (midway through comment period)

Nov. 2, 11-4, SF, Fort Mason Center Fleet Room

Nov. 4, 4:30-4:30, San Mateo, Farallone View School

Nov. 6, 4-8, Marin, Mt. Tam High School

Draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental EIS (draft Plan/SEIS)

Key Messages

Project Purpose and Need (from the plan)

Received 4,713 individual correspondence containing 8000 substantive comments.

Comment [SES1]: Am thinking better to not state this. The real message is the quantity of substantive comments.

This draft Plan/SEIS is a second draft of the EIS for the Dog Management Plan, in response to the substantive comments on the first draft EIS (DEIS) and the inclusion of an area newly transferred to the park..

Because of the amount of new information and analysis, the entire document has been reissued. There is a reading guide to help direct readers to the substantive changes to the DEIS released in January 2011.

Comment Period from Sept. 6, 2013 to midnight Mountain Time (11:00 p.m. Pacific Time) Dec. 4, 2013

. . . .

Project Communications Protocol

Points of contact for:

Elected officials and their staff: Howard Levitt and Frank Dean
Media: Howard Levitt and Alexandra Picavet
Stakeholders: Shirwin Smith, Howard Levitt and Alexandra Picavet
NEPA and Plan Specifics: Michael Edwards, Shirwin Smith, and Area Specialists (TBD)
General Public: Dog Management Information line

All Meetings and Phone Calls with elected officials, stakeholder groups and media:

Coordinated through Howard Levitt.
Notes and documents gathered by lead and filed in Project database/ Administrative Record

Consultation Letters:

Drafted by contractor with review by Michael/Shirwin, sent to Shirwin for Frank's signature, and mailing..

Cooperating Agency

Presidio Trust

Potentially Affected Interest Groups

General Public

Park Visitors
Park Neighbors
Environmental groups

Dog walking groups

Commercial dog walkers
Former Advisory Board
Negotiated Rulemaking Committee members
Concessionaires/ Park Partners through Business Management
(don't think they rise to the level of stakeholders)

Agencies

Comment [EMB2]: Suggest using list in SEIS for consistency

Cal Dept. Fish & Wildlife

Cal State Parks
City and County of SF
Marin County
San Mateo County
Nat. Marine Fisheries Service
Cities in San Mateo and Marin Counties
US EPA
USFWS
US-NOAA
California Coastal Commission
MMWD
SFPUC
Presidio Trust

Park Partners+

PWR

Conservancy

Elected Officials

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Nov. 6, 4-8, Marin, Mt. Tam High School

On July 20, 2015, an NPS ranger on routine bicycle patrol observed Exemption 6 approximately 100 yards away with two dogs off leash on a park trail where dogs are required to be on leash. One of the dogs defecated in brush near the trail. Rather than pursue Exemption 6 on the trail, the ranger continued on patrol and spoke with Exemption 6 as he Exemption 6 returned to his car in a parking lot adjoining the trail. Exemption 6 identified himself as a regular user of the area, acknowledged his dogs had been off leash, indicated that he did not intend to comply with the regulation requiring dogs to be on leash, and consequently was issued citations for having a dog off leash and for failure to remove dog excrement.

The park conducts regular patrols at Rancho Corral de Tierra and frequently reminds visitors of the rules on dog use of the area. Most visitors indicate they understand the rules and agree to abide by them, and most contacts do not result in a citation being issued.

January 30, 2012

Statement on January 29, 2012 incident at Rancho Corral de Tierra
Based on information available to date, further revisions may be provided.

An incident involving an NPS Ranger and deployment of an Electronic Control Device (a Taser) on Sunday, January 29, 2012, at Ranch Corral de Tierra was precipitated when a person contacted by an NPS Law Enforcement Ranger Exemption 6 during a routine contact. The purpose of the contact was to educate the person about the rules governing dog use at Rancho Corral de Tierra, which require dogs to be on leash. The Ranger deployed a Taser Exemption 6 Exemption 6

The incident is being reviewed by the NPS, a routine procedure after any incident involving force. A preliminary review will be completed in the next few weeks.

Sequence of Events, based on reports from NPS personnel involved:

- At around 5:30 PM on Sunday, January 29, 2012, an NPS ranger contacted a runner with a dog off-leash at Rancho Corral de Tierra for purposes of educating the runner on the current rules on dog walking at RCDT.
- Immediately previous to this encounter, the ranger contacted another individual, asked for and was given identification, and
- Following standard procedures, the Ranger asked for the man's name. Exemption 6 Exemption 6
- While the Ranger was seeking to determine his identity, Exemption 6 Exemption 6
- Exemption 6
- Exemption 6
  County Sheriff's Deputies, who had responded to the scene at the request of the Ranger.
- Exemption 6

Statement of Golden Gate National Recreation Area on the Law Enforcement Incident at Rancho Corral de Tierra on January 29, 2012

The attached Supplemental Criminal Incident Record describes the sequence of events that occurred on January 29, 2012, at Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County, in which an electronic control device (Taser) was deployed by NPS Park Ranger Sarah Cavallaro, and Gary Hesterberg of Montara, California, was arrested on charges of providing false information to a police officer, failure to obey a lawful order, and violation of the San Mateo County leash law. Portions of the Criminal Incident Record have been redacted to protect the privacy rights of individuals involved in the incident.

Summary: At approximately 4:25 PM, National Park Ranger Sarah Cavallaro contacted Gary Hesterberg for the purpose of issuing a verbal warning on the requirement to keep dogs on leash in this area. In accordance with standard law enforcement procedures, Ranger Cavallaro asked Mr. Hesterberg for his name, date of birth, and address, in order to check whether there were any outstanding warrants on him. Mr. Hesterberg [redacted] While Ranger Cavallaro was attempting to ascertain Mr. Hesterberg's identity, [redacted] When Mr. Hesterberg [redacted] Ranger Cavallaro deployed her Taser. Deputies from the San Mateo County Sheriff's department arrived at this time and assisted in the arrest of Mr. Hesterberg.

Follow up: Following the incident, Golden Gate National Recreation Area requested a review by the National Park Service Pacific West Regional Office. The case was referred by the regional office to the NPS Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) in Washington, D.C. for investigation as a complaint about the conduct of the NPS ranger involved in the incident.

The NPS is committed to being as transparent as possible about the investigation of this incident. However, details regarding OPR investigations are protected from public disclosure by the Privacy Act. Based on the information that we are legally able to release at this time, the OPR investigation determined that the actions of the ranger were within policy and consistent with the training she received as part of her initial and ongoing authorization to carry the Taser. The investigation exonerated the ranger.

The NPS policies governing use of electronic control devices (Tasers) are:

- Electronic control devices (ECD) will be used in compliance with the agency use of force policy.
- All ECD use will be consistent with agency-approved or recognized ECD training curricula.
- Prior to carrying or utilizing an ECD, commissioned employees will successfully complete the NPS ECD certification course.
- ECDs may be used when such force is legally justified and consistent with Department policy.

- ECDs may be used on individuals who are actively resisting a commissioned employee, or to prevent individuals from harming themselves or others.

The park is committed to welcoming all users to Rancho Corral de Tierra. We will continue to focus on community involvement, building relationships, and providing accurate and timely information to the community to help assure a smooth transition of the site into the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
400 South El Camino Real, Ste 410
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

On February 1, 2012, you asked NPS to provide you a report on the January 29, 2012 incident at Rancho Corral de Tierra, in which an NPS ranger discharged an electronic control device (taser) on a man visiting the park. You stated in the letter, "From the information I have to date, it does not appear that the use of a taser was warranted."

The incident was investigated by the National Park Service Office of Professional Responsibility as a complaint about the conduct of the NPS ranger involved in the incident. The scope of the investigation was to determine whether the ranger used appropriate force and tactics; was operating within valid authority and supervisory instructions; and whether the ranger effectively communicated during the incident. The investigation involved interviewing the ranger and the man directly involved, interviewing eye witnesses, and reviewing law enforcement reports, policies and procedures on use of force, and training materials on use of electronic control devices.

The Office of Professional Responsibility has concluded that the use of the taser was warranted under the specific circumstances of the incident. It was determined that the ranger was within NPS jurisdiction, possessed valid law enforcement authority, and had legal standing to detain Mr. Hesterberg for violation of NPS regulations. Exemption 6

Exemption 6

The investigation also determined that the ranger was operating within the supervisory instructions that had been given. The purpose of the contact was to inform the visitor about the rules in effect at Rancho, not to issue a citation for dogs off leash. Requesting identification is a standard practice in contacting visitors for violations of rules. Immediately before the incident in question, the ranger had issued a warning to another visitor about the leash law without any escalation. The incident that resulted in the use of the taser escalated from a simple warning into a law enforcement situation as a result of the visitor's initial lie, and subsequent uncooperative behavior.

Finally, the ranger's communications during the incident were determined to be effective. The

Exemption 6

Since the Office of Professional Responsibility investigation was conducted as a potential employee misconduct case, the investigative report cannot be released due to Privacy Act considerations. However, an OPR summary of the investigative report is enclosed.

No one could have imagined that a simple attempt to advise someone about a park rule would ever escalate into a serious law enforcement situation. This incident was regrettable and avoidable. We are committed to welcoming dog walkers and other visitors to Rancho Corral de Tierra. As you had

suggested in the weeks after the incident, because NPS management represents a change in past practices, we will extend the period during which first-time leash law violators at Rancho Corral de Tierra will receive only a verbal or written warning though the end of 2012.

Please call me with any additional questions about this incident. With your help, we're anxious to move forward into a bright future at Rancho Corral de Tierra.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Summary of Findings of the Investigation of the January 29, 2012 law enforcement action at Rancho Corral de Tierra in Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Mateo County, California

Investigation

On February 2, 2012 NPS initiated an investigation of a congressional complaint of potential employee misconduct in connection with a law enforcement incident at Rancho Corral de Tierra in Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Mateo County, California. In the incident, an NPS Ranger deployed an electronic control device (Taser) on a visitor to Rancho Corral de Tierra, while attempting to detain him. In a February 1, 2012 letter to Golden Gate National Recreation Area Superintendent Frank Dean, Congresswoman Jackie Speier, whose district includes most of Rancho Corral de Tierra, questioned the use of the Taser, writing, "From the information I have to date, it does not appear that the use of a taser was warranted."

The investigation was undertaken by the National Park Service Office of Professional Responsibility, the office within NPS that is charged with investigating serious complaints against NPS employees. The scope of the investigation was whether or not the ranger was operating within her authority as an NPS law enforcement officer; whether use of an ECD was warranted; and whether her communications were effective during the incident.

Exemption 5 es

The investigation concluded on April 17, 2012.

Incident Narrative

Rancho Corral de Tierra had only been under the management of the National Park Service since December 9. 2011, and many users of the park had been accustomed to walking their dogs off leash at Rancho Corral de Tierra, despite San Mateo County rules that prohibited off leash dog use. Because of this history, the park had determined to have a period in which visitors would be warned for violation of the leash law, rather than cited under the federal rule in effect at the site (16 CFR 2.15) that requires that where dogs are permitted in the park they must be on a leash.

Exemption 5

Exemption 5

Witness Interviews

Exemption 5

Exemption 5

Findings

Scope of Authority: Ranger Cavallero was within NPS jurisdiction, possesses an NPS-issued law enforcement commission that gives her full law enforcement authority as outlined in 16 USC 1a06(b), and was working within supervisory direction when she contacted Mr. Hesterberg for walking his dog off-leash and asked him for identification and/or his name and date of birth.

Use of ECD to detain Mr. Hesterberg: With the valid law enforcement authority she possessed, Ranger Cavallero had the right to use objectively reasonable force to affect the detention of Mr. Hesterberg.

Exemption 5

Effective Communications: While it is likely that Ranger Cavallero could have been more friendly and/or responsive to one or more of the questions posed by Mr. Hesterberg and two of the witnesses who joined the encounter, the investigation determined that Ranger Cavallero gave clear direction to them, and her instructions and intent were understood,. Therefore, she met or exceeded the minimum standards of professional conduct in her communications.

****
Dear Ms. Bowman:

We have received your FOIA requests dated February 28 (NPS-2011-0361), 2011 and March 14, 2011 (NPS-2011-0362 and NPS-2011-0363). We can provide some information in response to some of the specific items you requested in these three requests - see below. However, we will not be able to provide responses to some requests without additional research.

Below is the information that we can provide for you now:

Response to to Request 1 in FOIA #NPS-2011-0362, regarding formal tickets, warnings or complaints:
Information on incidents from 2007 and 2008 may be found online at www.nps.gov/goga/parkmgmt/foia.htm Go to the 'Reading Room' link on that web page to see the information. Reports for 2009 and 2010 will be available in a week or so, and we will provide those to you at that time.

Response to Request A1 in FOIA #NPS -2011-0363 regarding the costs of the dog management planning process:
The costs of the negotiated rulemaking, excluding NPS staff and committee member time, was approximately $500,000. DEIS preparation costs since 2008, when the drafting of the DEIS began in earnest, are approximately $200,000 per year over the past three years. It is estimated that the environmental impact statement process will cost approximately $1.2 million when complete, plus an estimated $50,000 to complete a final rule. To put this cost in context, in a 2003 Task Force Report, the Council on Environmental Quality, which is responsible for the broad regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act, noted that EISs generally range in length from 200 to 2000 pages, take an interdisciplinary team 1-6 years to complete, and cost approximately $250,000 to $2 million to complete. These costs are high, but unavoidable as the NPS is required by law to analyze the environmental effects of its actions.

To research replies to the other information requested in these two FOIAs and in FOIA # NPS-2011-0361 will require additional time. We will continue to research this information, and will release it to you as it becomes available.

Howard Levitt

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

costs. Give her the estimated total only.

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Andrea Buffa
Save Our Recreation
Exemption 6
San Francisco, California 94107

Dear Andrea:

As you know, Regional Director Chris Lehnertz asked me to respond to your September 26 letter to her. She is well aware of your concerns, and feels that maintaining the dialogue between your organization and the park is the best way to proceed.

I would be pleased to meet with you and representatives of Save Our Recreation to talk about the GMP. As you are aware, we disagree with the fundamental premise put forth by Save Our Recreation, on behalf of off-leash dog owners, that the GMP restricts recreation activity in the park. Actually, the new GMP is an unequivocal affirmation of the direction of the park's original GMP, circa 1980, that put recreation front and center in the park. In the new GMP, recreational users would continue to be welcomed in nearly every area of the park, other than those with very high resource sensitivity.

The GMP was shaped with extensive public involvement from 2006 to 2014, and was reviewed over a three month period by thousands of interested people. We held numerous public meetings at which the plan was presented. We produced five newsletters to explain the contents and recommendations in the plan. What emerged was a vision that both welcomes visitors to recreate in the park in innumerable ways – including on and off-leash dog walking – and protects park resources for future generations to enjoy.

I know that there is concern among some people that the GMP will affect in the outcome of the ongoing Dog Management Planning process. This is incorrect. Because the GMP is a high level vision for the park, operational plans like the Dog Management Plan are the means through which prescriptions for use are developed for specific areas of the park. To clarify this, we will include language in the Record of Decision for the GMP that says explicitly that the specific Dog Management Plans prescriptions will take precedence over the general guidance in the GMP. In other words, the GMP will not affect the Dog Management Plan process or outcome.

Please call my assistant, Lori Furtado, at 415 561-4720 to schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

A3815 (GOGA-CP)

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
400 South El Camino Real, Suite 410
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

We share your concern about the incident at Rancho Corral de Tierra on January 29, 2012. We are dismayed that what should have been a routine visitor contact became something very different. From the information we have to date, the incident began as an informational contact, but because the individual contacted lied to the ranger and attempted to leave the scene, it unfortunately became a more serious law enforcement situation.

As you know, all aspects of the incident, including the use of an electronic control device, are currently being reviewed. The review is being conducted independently of the park, by the NPS Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. We expect the review to be completed within the next two weeks. We will provide that report to you once the review is complete.

Responses to your specific questions are attached.

Somewhat lost this week in the furor over the January 29 incident is a bit of important news for the communities that adjoin Rancho Corral de Tierra. This week, as you know, the park announced that a Supplement DEIS and new draft Dog Management Plan would be prepared and released for public comment late next summer. This Supplemental will explore a full range of dog uses at Rancho – from off leash under voice control, to on leash, to no dogs. This means that Rancho will be planned for dog use in the same way other major areas of the park were treated in the draft plan. The decision to consider a range of uses at Rancho came about because we listened to and heard this suggestion from the public.

I know that you share the late Congressman Tom Lantos' vision of this beautiful and important Coastside parcel as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Without your effort, the land would not have been protected forever for the use and enjoyment of this and future generations. We will do everything we can to get beyond this unfortunate incident, and build a positive relationship with the communities surrounding Rancho Corral de Tierra. We know we can count on your support in this trust-building process. Please call me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Responses to questions raised by Congresswoman Jackie Speier
February 3, 2012

1. **Is it mandatory that a park ranger complete training in taser usage before he or she may carry and deploy a taser? If so, what is the extent of this training? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
    a. **What factors are park rangers instructed to take into account when deciding whether to utilize a taser?**
    b. **Are rangers informed about the risks inherent with taser usage including the fact that a taser can trigger a heart attack?**

National Park Service (NPS) Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9/Chapter 32 *Electronic Control Device (ECD) Programs*, specifies that prior to carrying or utilizing an ECD, commissioned employees must complete the NPS ECD certification course approved by the Superintendent. First time users must meet the basic Taser X26 ECD User requirements put forth by Taser International. Training also includes instruction and discussion of NPS ECD policy. [MB/SHIRWIN – can we provide a two sentence summary of NPS ECD policy??]

An additional two hour training is required annually that includes: ECD fundamentals; ECD handling and use (e.g., equipment care and inspection, function testing, carry methods, deployment, subject target areas, etc.); ECD physiological effects (e.g., recognition of high risk groups, deployment scenarios, etc.); ECD post-deployment procedures (e.g., probe removal, medical treatment, evidence collection, etc.); ECD reporting requirements and ECD use policies, and a review of use of force policy, court cases relevant to ECD use, and proficiency testing; qualification course and an open book test. GGNRA most recently conducted the annual, two hour training in March, 2011 and again in April, 2011.

Exemption 5

Information on the potential risks of ECD use is included in both the initial Taser, Inc., training and the annual in-service instruction.

A DVD including Director's Order 9 and Reference Manual 9 will be sent to you under separate cover.

2. **If lawful, would you be open to the appointment of an independent investigator who would evaluate whether park regulations were violated and excessive force utilized during the course of this incident?**

   This incident is being reviewed independently of the park, under the auspices of the National Park Service Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. The review will determine if any park regulations were violated and whether excessive force was utilized in the incident.

3. **What steps were taken to educate the public about the dog policy change at Rancho Corral de Tierra which now only allows dogs to be walked on leash rather than off leash as the previous POST policy permitted? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
   a. **Was there any signage on the newly acquired property indicating that dogs are only allowed on leash? If so, how many signs were posted and where?**
   b. **Was there a community informational meeting about the new leash policy after Rancho Corral de Tierra was acquired by the GGNRA in December?**

   As you know, when the Golden Gate National Recreation Area assumed management of Rancho Corral de Tierra, the national rule on dog use in parks came into effect, pending completion of the park's Dog Management Plan. This national rule states that where dogs are permitted, they must be on a leash. We know that this represents a change to the uses of Rancho prior to NPS management, and therefore our intent is to provide a period of education of visitors to the new rules. This was the intent of the contact in the January 29 incident.

Exemption 5

There has not been a community informational meeting about the new leash policy since NPS assumed management of Rancho in December. However, before the NPS assumed management of the property, there were a number of public meetings at which the new rules were discussed. When the park's Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Dog Management plan for Golden Gate was released in January 2011, we held numerous public meetings to seek comment and explain the proposed new rules. We also attended several community meetings to describe the proposed plan and the rule that would take effect when NPS assumed management of the site. The meetings were attended by hundreds of people from the Coastside.

A3815 (GOGA-CP)

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
400 South El Camino Real, Suite 410
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

We share your concern about the incident at Rancho Corral de Tierra on January 29, 2012. We are dismayed that what should have been a routine visitor contact became something very different. From the information we have to date, the incident began as an informational contact, but because the individual contacted lied to the ranger and attempted to leave the scene, it unfortunately became a more serious law enforcement situation.

As you know, all aspects of the incident, including the use of an electronic control device, are currently being reviewed. The review is being conducted independently of the park, by the NPS Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. We expect the review to be completed within the next two weeks. We will provide that report to you once the review is complete. In the meantime, responses to the specific questions in your letter of February 1, 2012, are attached.

Somewhat lost this week in the furor over the January 29 incident is a bit of important news for the communities that adjoin Rancho Corral de Tierra. This week, as you know, the park announced that a Supplement DEIS and new draft Dog Management Plan would be prepared and released for public comment late this summer. This Supplemental will explore a full range of dog walking options at Rancho – with alternatives providing off leash under voice control, on leash, as well as areas where dog walking would be prohibited. This means that Rancho will be planned for dog walking in the same way the other areas of the park were treated in the draft plan. The decision to consider a range of uses at Rancho came about because we listened to and heard this suggestion from the public.

I know that you share the late Congressman Tom Lantos' vision of this beautiful and important Coastside parcel as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Without your effort, the land would not have been protected forever for the use and enjoyment of this and future generations. We will do everything we can to get beyond this unfortunate incident, and build a positive relationship with the communities surrounding Rancho Corral de Tierra. We know we can count on your support in this trust-building process. Please call me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Responses to the questions raised by Congresswoman Jackie Speier in her letter of February 1, 2012.

1. **Is it mandatory that a park ranger complete training in taser usage before he or she may carry and deploy a taser? If so, what is the extent of this training? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
    a. **What factors are park rangers instructed to take into account when deciding whether to utilize a taser?**
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National Park Service (NPS) Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9/Chapter 32 *Electronic Control Device (ECD) Programs*, specifies that prior to carrying or utilizing an ECD, commissioned employees must complete the NPS ECD certification course approved by the Superintendent, Law Enforcement Training Center. First time users must meet the basic Taser X26 ECD User requirements put forth by Taser International. Training also includes instruction and discussion of NPS ECD policy. [MB/SHIRWIN – can we provide a two sentence summary of NPS ECD policy??]

An additional two hour training is required annually that includes: ECD fundamentals; ECD handling and use (e.g., equipment care and inspection, function testing, carry methods, deployment, subject target areas, etc.); ECD physiological effects (e.g., recognition of high risk groups, deployment scenarios, etc.); ECD post-deployment procedures (e.g., probe removal, medical treatment, evidence collection, etc.); ECD reporting requirements and ECD use policies, and a review of use of force policy, court cases relevant to ECD use, and proficiency testing; qualification course and an open book test. GGNRA most recently conducted the annual, two hour training in March, 2011 and again in April, 2011.

Exemption 5

Information on the potential risks of ECD use is included in both the initial Taser, Inc., training and the annual in-service instruction.

A DVD including NPS Director's Order 9 and the NPS Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9 will be sent to you under separate cover.

2. **If lawful, would you be open to the appointment of an independent investigator who would evaluate whether park regulations were violated and excessive force utilized during the course of this incident?**

   This incident is being reviewed independently of the park, under the auspices of the National Park Service Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. The review will determine if any park regulations were violated and whether excessive force was utilized in the incident.

3. **What steps were taken to educate the public about the dog policy change at Rancho Corral de Tierra which now only allows dogs to be walked on leash rather than off leash as the previous POST policy permitted? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
   a. **Was there any signage on the newly acquired property indicating that dogs are only allowed on leash? If so, how many signs were posted and where?**
   b. **Was there a community informational meeting about the new leash policy after Rancho Corral de Tierra was acquired by the GGNRA in December?**

   As you know, when the Golden Gate National Recreation Area assumed management of Rancho Corral de Tierra, the national rule (36 CFR 2.15)on dog walking in national park areas came into effect, pending completion of the park's Dog Management Plan. This national rule states that where dogs are permitted, they must be on a leash. We know that this represents a change to the uses of Rancho prior to NPS management, and therefore we planned to provide a period of education about the new rules for visitors. This was the intent of the contact in the January 29 incident.

   Regarding signage, on December 16, 2011, a week after we assumed management of Rancho, we published a map on our website highlighting areas where dogs would be permitted on leash. On December 21, 2011, we sent an email to both our general park list and our San Mateo list that announced the park's management of Rancho and pointed out the regulations that would be in effect under NPS management. During the week of January 9, 2012, we installed six signs at Rancho, all of them on the portion of Rancho closest to Ocean View Farms. Four of these signs - three in the community of Montara – include regulatory information in iconic form. One of those icons is the symbol for dogs on leash. Under separate cover, we will send you a map indicating the location and content of these signs.

   There has not been a community informational meeting about the new leash policy since NPS assumed management of Rancho in December. However, prior to that, there were a number of public meetings at which the new rules and signage about those rules were displayed and discussed. In March, 2011, two months after the park released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Dog Management for Golden Gate, we held numerous public meetings, one of them in Pacifica, to seek comment and explain the proposed new rules under the draft plan. Those meetings, especially the meeting in Pacifica, included discussion of how the Rancho

property would be managed immediately after transfer to the NPS. We also attended several community meetings in November and December of 2011 to describe the proposed plans for Rancho and the rules that would take effect when NPS assumed management of the site. In total, hundreds of people from the Coastside attended one or more of these meetings.

A3815 (GOGA-CP)

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
400 South El Camino Real, Suite 410
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

We share your concern about the incident at Rancho Corral de Tierra on January 29, 2012. We are dismayed that what should have been a routine visitor contact became something very different. From the information we have to date, the incident began as an informational contact, but because the

Exemption 6

As you know, all aspects of the incident, including the use of an electronic control device, are currently being reviewed. The review is being conducted independently of the park, by the NPS Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. We expect the review to be completed within the next two weeks. We will provide that report to you once the review is complete. In the meantime, responses to the specific questions in your letter of February 1, 2012, are attached.

Somewhat lost this week in the furor over the January 29 incident is a bit of important news for the communities that adjoin Rancho Corral de Tierra. This week, as you know, the park announced that a Supplement DEIS and new draft Dog Management Plan would be prepared and released for public comment late this summer. This Supplemental will explore a full range of dog walking options at Rancho – with alternatives providing off leash under voice control, on leash, as well as areas where dog walking would be prohibited. This means that Rancho will be planned for dog walking in the same way the other areas of the park were treated in the draft plan. The decision to consider a range of uses at Rancho came about because we listened to and heard this suggestion from the public.

I know that you share the late Congressman Tom Lantos' vision of this beautiful and important Coastside parcel as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Without your effort, the land would not have been protected forever for the use and enjoyment of this and future generations. We will do everything we can to get beyond this unfortunate incident, and build a positive relationship with the communities surrounding Rancho Corral de Tierra. We know we can count on your support in this trust-building process. Please call me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Responses to the questions raised by Congresswoman Jackie Speier in her letter of February 1, 2012.

1. **Is it mandatory that a park ranger complete training in taser usage before he or she may carry and deploy a taser? If so, what is the extent of this training? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
    a. **What factors are park rangers instructed to take into account when deciding whether to utilize a taser?**
    b. **Are rangers informed about the risks inherent with taser usage including the fact that a taser can trigger a heart attack?**

National Park Service (NPS) Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9/Chapter 32 *Electronic Control Device (ECD) Programs*, specifies that prior to carrying or utilizing an ECD, commissioned employees must complete the NPS ECD certification course approved by the Superintendent, Law Enforcement Training Center. First time users must meet the basic Taser X26 ECD User requirements put forth by Taser International. Training also includes instruction and discussion of NPS ECD policy. [MB/SHIRWIN – can we provide a two sentence summary of NPS ECD policy??]

An additional two hour training is required annually that includes: ECD fundamentals; ECD handling and use (e.g., equipment care and inspection, function testing, carry methods, deployment, subject target areas, etc.); ECD physiological effects (e.g., recognition of high risk groups, deployment scenarios, etc.); ECD post-deployment procedures (e.g., probe removal, medical treatment, evidence collection, etc.); ECD reporting requirements and ECD use policies, and a review of use of force policy, court cases relevant to ECD use, and proficiency testing; qualification course and an open book test. GGNRA most recently conducted the annual, two hour training in March, 2011 and again in April, 2011.

Exemption 5

Information on the potential risks of ECD use is included in both the initial Taser, Inc., training and the annual in-service instruction.

A DVD including NPS Director's Order 9 and the NPS Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9 will be sent to you under separate cover.

2. **If lawful, would you be open to the appointment of an independent investigator who would evaluate whether park regulations were violated and excessive force utilized during the course of this incident?**

   This incident is being reviewed independently of the park, under the auspices of the National Park Service Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. The review will determine if any park regulations were violated and whether excessive force was utilized in the incident.

3. **What steps were taken to educate the public about the dog policy change at Rancho Corral de Tierra which now only allows dogs to be walked on leash rather than off leash as the previous POST policy permitted? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
   a. **Was there any signage on the newly acquired property indicating that dogs are only allowed on leash? If so, how many signs were posted and where?**
   b. **Was there a community informational meeting about the new leash policy after Rancho Corral de Tierra was acquired by the GGNRA in December?**

   As you know, when the Golden Gate National Recreation Area assumed management of Rancho Corral de Tierra, the national rule (36 CFR 2.15)on dog walking in national park areas came into effect, pending completion of the park's Dog Management Plan. This national rule states that where dogs are permitted, they must be on a leash. We know that this represents a change to the uses of Rancho prior to NPS management, and therefore we planned to provide a period of education about the new rules for visitors. This was the intent of the contact in the January 29 incident.

   Regarding signage, on December 16, 2011, a week after we assumed management of Rancho, we published a map on our website highlighting areas where dogs would be permitted on leash. On December 21, 2011, we sent an email to both our general park list and our San Mateo list that announced the park's management of Rancho and pointed out the regulations that would be in effect under NPS management. During the week of January 9, 2012, we installed six signs at Rancho, all of them on the portion of Rancho closest to Ocean View Farms. Four of these signs - three in the community of Montara – include regulatory information in iconic form. One of those icons is the symbol for dogs on leash. Under separate cover, we will send you a map indicating the location and content of these signs.

   There has not been a community informational meeting about the new leash policy since NPS assumed management of Rancho in December. However, prior to that, there were a number of public meetings at which the new rules and signage about those rules were displayed and discussed. In March, 2011, two months after the park released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Dog Management for Golden Gate, we held numerous public meetings, one of them in Pacifica, to seek comment and explain the proposed new rules under the draft plan. Those meetings, especially the meeting in Pacifica, included discussion of how the Rancho

property would be managed immediately after transfer to the NPS. We also attended several community meetings in November and December of 2011 to describe the proposed plans for Rancho and the rules that would take effect when NPS assumed management of the site. In total, hundreds of people from the Coastside attended one or more of these meetings.

[EMBED
Word.Picture.
8]

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason Bldg. 201
San Francisco, California 94123

David Chiu, President, San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Kathrin Sears, President, Marin County Board of Supervisors
Dave Pine, President, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Scott Wiener, San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Don Horsley, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

Dear Supervisors:

Thank you for your letter of June 5, 2014, expressing your concern that recreational values should be preserved and retained on Golden Gate National Recreation Area lands in your three counties. You express your view that the park's General Management Plan (GMP) "profoundly undermines the future of recreation in the GGNRA. You further state that, "Much of the long-standing area areas used for recreation have been severely limited for future use in the GMP."

It appears that your letter conflates the General Management Plan, which embraces a broad universe of recreation, with the Dog Management Plan, which proposes what we believe are sensible limits on where and how dog owners and their pets can enjoy the park. You appear to be extrapolating from the limitations on dog use in the Dog Management Plan to a global conclusion that therefore all recreation is threatened in the park. In fact, in the General Management Plan, the vision for the future reflects the way in which people have enjoyed the park since its inception. Recreation remains the vital centerpiece of the park, thriving comfortably alongside our mandated responsibility to protect park resources for the future. For example, in areas of the park zoned as Natural, visitors will continue to enjoy an enormous variety of recreation pursuits, including walking dogs, but in these areas, the infrastructure to support those activities (i.e. buildings and other facilities) will be relatively minimal. Our future vision - built on the input of thousands of individuals, organizations and agencies in each of your counties over 8 years – supports the recreational aspirations of the park's 17 million annual visitors, and assures that the resources enjoyed by the current generation.

The Dog Management Plan proposes to establish seven areas where visitors can enjoy the park with their dogs off leash under voice control. In another 22 (check #s) areas dogs will be welcome on leash. In some areas of the park, dogs will not be permitted. Interestingly, during the course of the 12 year dog management planning process, many visitors told us that providing limits on off-leash dog use will allow them to return to areas they have avoided because they fear dogs or simply prefer not to have a dog encounter when visiting the park. For those visitors, the limitations in the dog plan will open opportunities, not close them.

You ask NPS to consider a tri-county recreational roundtable. …

DRAFT

Dear Park Friend,

Thank you for your interest in the Dog Management Plan for Golden Gate National Recreation Area (Golden Gate). This newsletter is an introduction to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Dog Management (DEIS) in Golden Gate, which will be released for a 90-day public comment period on January 14, 2011. The DEIS evaluates the impacts of a range of alternatives for managing dogs in the park, and is the first step in establishing a new regulation for dog use in this unit of the National Park Service (NPS).

This newsletter provides specific details on how to comment on the DEIS, as well as information on the public meetings scheduled at the end of February and early March.

Many stakeholders have been involvedwith the NPS in various phases of the dog management program over the years.This DEIS reflects the involvement and their significant contributions of all of these stakeholders.

Comment [MBE1]: I wouldn't say culmination, since the FEIS is still to come.

Your input on this DEIS is an important step in developing the best management solution that both protects resources and allows a balanced variety of visitor experiences in the park. We look forward to your thoughtful review and comment of the management options in this DEIS.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Final June 16, 2014

CLARIFICATIONS TO FEIS LANGUAGE:

During the 30-day no- action period following release of the FEIS, the park received XXX [??] letters from the public . Two issues Exemption 5 raised by the public would benefit from further clarification. The following constitutes clarification on these issues.

Relationship between the General Management Plan (GMP) and the Dog Management Plan

Exemption 5

Improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill

The FEIS states (Volume 1, p.124): "Improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill could enhance trail and transit access to Muir Woods and other nearby park destinations."

The statement on page 124 is not intended to suggest construction of a new parking lot to serve Muir Woods visitors. A parking lot was mentioned as an idea in an early scoping meeting for the Muir Woods Reservation System for parking and Shuttles. Based on public concerns, this idea has been eliminated from further consideration. **The NPS will not construct a parking lot on Panoramic Highway.** The improvements envisioned in the FEIS include better trail signage to help hikers reach Muir Woods and State Park lands, and improvements such as a bus stop for Marin Stagecoach passengers, to help visitors without cars to access the park along the State Route 1/Panoramic Highway scenic corridor management zone.

Final June 16, 2014

CLARIFICATIONS TO FEIS LANGUAGE:

During the 30-day no- action period following release of the FEIS, the park received many letters from the public. Two issues raised by the public would benefit from further clarification. The following constitutes clarification on these issues.

Relationship between the General Management Plan (GMP) and the Dog Management Plan

Exemption 5

Improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill

USE BRIAN'S substiture language

Final June 16, 2014

CLARIFICATIONS TO FEIS LANGUAGE:

During the 30-day no- action period following release of the FEIS, the park received many letters from the public. Two issues raised by the public would benefit from further clarification. The following constitutes clarification on these issues.

Relationship between the General Management Plan (GMP) and the Dog Management Plan

Exemption 5

Improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill

USE BRIAN'S substiture language

DRAFT 1 June 12, 2014

TO BE INSERTED AFTER DESCRIPTION OF SELECTED ALTERNATIVES –or Where??:

CLARIFICATIONS TO FEIS LANGUAGE:

During the 30-day no- action period following release of the FEIS, the park received XXX [??] letters from the public . Three issues raised by the public would benefit from further clarification. The following constitutes clarification on these issues.

Relationship between the General Management Plan (GMP) and the Dog Management Plan

Exemption 5

Exemption 5

Exemption 5

Improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill

The FEIS states (Volume 1, p.124): "A small trailhead parking lot could be developed in the vicinity of the former White Gate Ranch. Improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill could enhance trail and transit access to Muir Woods and other nearby park destinations."

The statement on page 124 is not intended to authorize construction of a new parking to serve Muir Woods visitors. **The NPS will not construct a parking lot on Panoramic Highway.** The improvements envisioned in the FEIS include better trail connections and improvements to help

visitors without cars to access the park along the State Route 1/Panoramic Highway scenic corridor management zone.

Exemption 5

DRAFT 2 June 13, 2014

TO BE INSERTED AFTER DESCRIPTION OF SELECTED ALTERNATIVES –or Where??:

CLARIFICATIONS TO FEIS LANGUAGE:

During the 30-day no- action period following release of the FEIS, the park received XXX [??] letters from the public . Two issues [three, if we add a clarification re GMP zoning and dogs] raised by the public would benefit from further clarification. The following constitutes clarification on these issues.

Relationship between the General Management Plan (GMP) and the Dog Management Plan

Exemption 5

DO WE NEED TO CLARIFY THIS ?? Permissibility of dog walking in areas zoned Natural in the GMP

Exemption 5

Improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill

The FEIS states (Volume 1, p.124): "Improvements east of Panoramic Highway in the vicinity of Homestead Hill could enhance trail and transit access to Muir Woods and other nearby park destinations."

The statement on page 124 is not intended to suggest construction of a new parking lot to serve Muir Woods visitors. **The NPS will not construct a parking lot on Panoramic Highway.** The improvements envisioned in the FEIS include better trail signage to help hikers reach Muir Woods and State Park lands, and improvements such as a bus stop for Marin Stagecoach

passengers, to help visitors without cars to access the park along the State Route 1/Panoramic Highway scenic corridor management zone.

Exemption 5

Briefing Statement FY 2016

Bureau: National Park Service

Issue: "Save Our Recreation" – GOGA Dog Management Planning and General Management Plan

Members: Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA); Sen Barbara Boxer (D-CA); Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA); Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA); Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA)

Park: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Key Points:

Exemption 5

Background:

Dog Management Planning

- The Dog Management Planning process has involved both robust public engagement and robust public controversy. Currently, as a result of a court decision, major areas of the park are open to off-leash dog use, in contradiction of NPS rules.
- Since 2002, the park has been working to develop a rule for the park. A Supplemental Draft EIS for Dog Management was released in September 2013; over 7000 comments were received, reflecting the spectrum of public opinion from those wanting dogs banned from the park to those wanting unfettered off-leash dog use of the park. The off-leash dog community organized their adherents to submit comments in great numbers, including thousands of form letters.

- NPS rules do not permit dogs to be on leash in parks. This rule specifies that dogs must be on leash, where permitted. Golden Gate's Dog Management Planning process proceeded with NPS permission to consider a GOGA-specific rule that would consider off-leash dog walking in areas where resources values are not threatened and where user conflicts could be minimized.
- The off-leash dog community is highly organized, has substantial resources, and is media savvy, with an effective strategy to attract media and elected-official interest.
- Congresswoman Jackie Speier, who represents the southern lands of the park, has been a particularly vocal advocate for off-leash dog use of the park. The Board of Supervisors in San Francisco has passed a resolution opposing the NPS preferred alternative in the Supplemental Draft EIS.
- The new GMP was developed over an eight year period, involving numerous public meetings that engaged thousands of people, and the distribution of 4 newsletters to an extensive mailing list. A total of 571 comments were received on the draft EIS for the GMP. SOR believes this proves that public involvement on the plan was not effective. A more likely explanation is that most of the public is supportive of the vision in the plan.

General Management Plan

- The GMP theme for Golden Gate National Recreation Area is "Connecting People to Parks." The theme for Muir Woods and Alcatraz is "Focusing on National Treasures." The GMP is a general plan, not a site-specific plan, such as the Dog Management Plan.
- The Record of Decision for the GMP states that the Dog Management Planning process will determine the areas of GOGA where dogs will be allowed on-leash and off-leash, and those areas where dogs will not be allowed.

Current Status:

- The NPS preferred alternative in the Supplemental EIS/Dog Mgt Plan, specified 7 areas of the park for off-leash dog walking, and dozens of other areas where dogs could be on-leash.
- The NPS will issue a Draft Rule for Dog Management in the next several months, probably in the summer. This draft rule will be subject to public review and comment. Following review of public comment, a Final Rule and Final EIS on Dog Management is expected in early 2016.

Contact: Aaron Roth, Acting Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, 415 561-4720

Briefing Statement FY 2016

Bureau: National Park Service

Issue: "Save Our Recreation" – GOGA Dog Management Planning and General Management Plan

Members: Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA); Sen Barbara Boxer (D-CA); Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA); Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA); Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA)

Park: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Key Points:

- "Save Our Recreation" is an off-leash dog walking advocacy group in San Francisco that opposes efforts of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to regulate off-leash dogs in the park. The group purports to represent other recreation user groups.
- SOR contends that the recently-implemented GOGA General Management Plan (GMP) envisions the restriction of a variety of recreation uses in the park. Their primary point is that since major areas of the park are zoned as "Natural," it is inevitable that the park will move to restrict recreation access to these areas.
- In fact, the new GMP reaffirms the park's commitment to recreation use, and envisions improvements to public access and additional facilities to enhance visitor enjoyment of the park, including in Natural zones.
- SOR attempts to conflate the new park GMP with a 13-year effort to develop a rule for dog walking specific to GOGA. SOR contends that the GMP proposes actions that are "predecisional" to the Dog Management Planning process that is underway. In fact, the Record of Decision for the GMP states that the Dog Management Plan is where decisions on where and how dogs can use the park will be made.
- GOGA Supt and staff have met several times with Save Our Recreation representatives, and have told them that we disagree with their fundamental premises.
- Regional Director Chis Lehnertz has met with other representatives of the off-leash dog constituency.

Background:

<u>Dog Management Planning</u>

- The Dog Management Planning process has involved both robust public engagement and robust public controversy. Currently, as a result of a court decision, major areas of the park are open to off-leash dog use, in contradiction of NPS rules.
- Since 2002, the park has been working to develop a rule for the park. A Supplemental Draft EIS for Dog Management was released in September 2013; over 7000 comments were received, reflecting the spectrum of public opinion from those wanting dogs banned from the park to those wanting unfettered off-leash dog use of the park. The off-leash dog community organized their adherents to submit comments in great numbers, including thousands of form letters.

- NPS rules do not permit dogs to be on leash in parks. This rule specifies that dogs must be on leash, where permitted. Golden Gate's Dog Management Planning process proceeded with NPS permission to consider a GOGA-specific rule that would consider off-leash dog walking in areas where resources values are not threatened and where user conflicts could be minimized.
- The off-leash dog community is highly organized, has substantial resources, and is media savvy, with an effective strategy to attract media and elected-official interest.
- Congresswoman Jackie Speier, who represents the southern lands of the park, has been a particularly vocal advocate for off-leash dog use of the park. The Board of Supervisors in San Francisco has passed a resolution opposing the NPS preferred alternative in the Supplemental Draft EIS.
- The new GMP was developed over an eight year period, involving numerous public meetings that engaged thousands of people, and the distribution of 4 newsletters to an extensive mailing list. A total of 571 comments were received on the draft EIS for the GMP. SOR believes this proves that public involvement on the plan was not effective. A more likely explanation is that most of the public is supportive of the vision in the plan.

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- The GMP theme for Golden Gate National Recreation Area is "Connecting People to Parks." The theme for Muir Woods and Alcatraz is "Focusing on National Treasures." The GMP is a general plan, not a site-specific plan, such as the Dog Management Plan.
- The Record of Decision for the GMP states that the Dog Management Planning process will determine the areas of GOGA where dogs will be allowed on-leash and off-leash, and those areas where dogs will not be allowed.

Current Status:

- The NPS preferred alternative in the Supplemental EIS/Dog Mgt Plan, specified 7 areas of the park for off-leash dog walking, and dozens of other areas where dogs could be on-leash.
- The NPS will issue a Draft Rule for Dog Management in the next several months, probably in the summer. This draft rule will be subject to public review and comment. Following review of public comment, a Final Rule and Final EIS on Dog Management is expected in early 2016.

Contact: Aaron Roth, Acting Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, 415 561-4720

Briefing Statement FY 2016

Bureau: National Park Service

Issue:

Member:

Park:

"Save Our Recreation" GOGA Dog Management Planning and General Management PlanEnvironmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Proposed Rulemaking

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) , Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) , Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) , Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA) , Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA)

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Key Points:

- "Save Our Recreation" is an off-leash NPS is developing a special rule to specify where and under what conditions dogs should be allowed in Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GOGA), including off leash. This public planning process has been underway for approximately 12 years.

- 36 CFR 2.15(a)(2) requires that all pets, where allowed in national parks, be crated, caged or restrained.

- The purpose of the GOGA dog management planning process is to provide a clear, enforceable implementation plan for dog walkinguse in appropriate areas of the park, with a focus on safe and diverse visitor experiencesin a manner that does not compromise our conservation mandate to, while protecting park resources and values, nor that of providing an enjoyable experience to our broader public .

Background:

- Following a court order, the NPS manages dog walking in GOGA under the 1979 Pet Policy, an informal document that did not go through the compliance process.

- The draft Plan/Supplemental EIS (draft plan/SEIS) was released on September 6, 2013 for review, initially for a 90-day comment period that was extended to February 18, 2014.

- The preferred alternativeplan proposeds to allow regulated off leash dog walking in fiveseven prime areas within GOGA. Adjacent State parks do not allow off leash dog use.

- In January 2012, an NPS ranger used a taser on a local resident walking his dogs off leash at

Rancho after the resident refused to provide identification and attempted to leave the scene multiple times despite orders not to do so. The ranger was exonerated, but the incident led to much community antagonism, which the park has worked hard to address.

Current Status:

- As a result of a federal court decision requiring NPS to complete its environmental analyses and document prior to further regulation, dogs are currently permitted off leash in many areas of GOGA under the 1979 Pet Policy. The areas of contention include manyost of the park's most visited and highly prized visitor destinations.

- Off leash dog walking stakeholders have hired attorneys and a lobbyist, and have becomeare highly organized in their opposition to any change from the status quo. to the plan, and have hired attorneys and a lobbyist. They consistently seek the intervention of elected officials and would prefer that NPS be removed from the decision process.

- Other stakeholders are supportive of the park's attempt to assure that a wide range of uses can safely occur. These stakeholders include: groupsthose interested in protecting wildlife and the environmentplants;, advocates for children, seniors, and people with disabilities;, and other individuals, including on-leash dogwalkers, who have been displaced due to their discomfort with off leash dogs. These stakeholders represent an increasingly large percentage of those submitting comments on the draftplan(though they are not as organized).

- The park expects OMB toto release a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Spring ofFall 20145, and the Final EIS in early Winter ofSummer 2015/2016, with a final rule in late Winter 2016.

Contact Person:

Superintendent Frank Dean, 415-561-4720

Last Updated:

Tuesday, January 20, 2015

DATE: February 06, 2014
FROM: Aaron Roth, Acting Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, 415 561-4720
SUBJECT: Dog Management Plan for Golden Gate National Recreation Area

This memorandum is to inform the Assistant Secretary about the dog management planning process at Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GOGA).

BACKGROUND

- The purpose of the GOGA dog management planning process is to provide a clear, enforceable plan for dog use in appropriate areas of the park, with a focus on safe and diverse visitor experiences and recreation, while protecting park resources.
- The draft Plan/Supplemental EIS (draft plan/SEIS) was released on September 6, 2013 for review, initially for a 90-day comment period then extended to February 18, 2014. This is the second draft; the first was issued in January 2011, and received over 8000 comments in 4713 pieces of correspondence.
- The plan proposes to allow regulated off leash dog walking in seven prime areas within GOGA, while striking a balance between the many diverse user groups and protecting park resources. GOGA is the only national park unit to propose formally allowing dogs off leash.
- Adjacent State parks do not allow off leash dog use, and adjacent county parks prohibit dog walking completely.
- In January 2012, an NPS ranger used a taser on a local resident walking his dogs off leash at Rancho after the resident refused to provide identification and attempted to leave the scene multiple times despite orders not to do so. The ranger was exonerated, but the incident led to much community antagonism, which the park has worked hard to address.
- Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA-14) has publicly expressed disappointment that the park has not accommodated the desires of vocal dog advocates for more off leash areas in San Francisco and San Mateo counties, especially at Rancho Corral de Tierra.
- On June 19, 2013, Rep. Speier sent a letter to the Secretary requesting that she ensure the park use a complete and correct baseline analysis while developing an alternative for Rancho. On July 3, 2013, a response was sent from Superintendent Frank Dean stating that the park could not consider off leash dog walking as a baseline as 36 CFR 2.15 does not allow off leash dog walking in national parks (except where previously directed by the federal court).

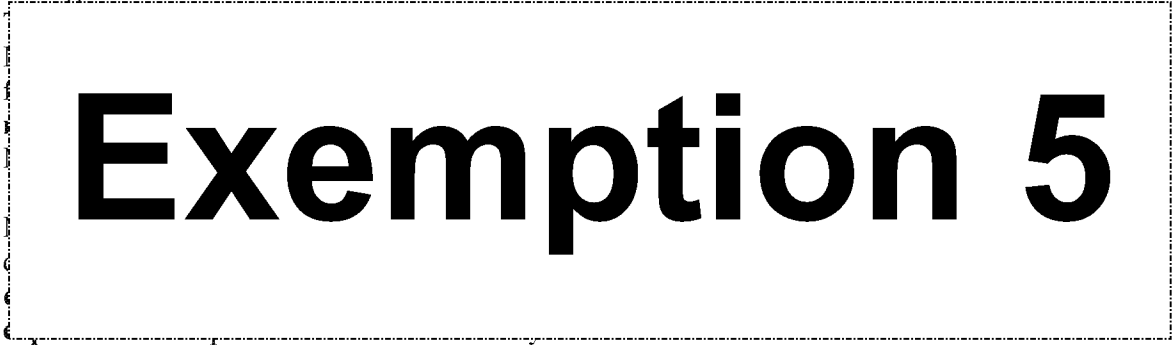
DISCUSSION

- The NPS-wide pet regulation (36 CFR §2.15) requires dogs to be restricted by cage or leash.
- As a result of a federal court decision, dogs are currently permitted off leash in many areas of GOGA. The park's plan has been controversial since its inception 12 years ago because it proposes substantially reducing the areas where dogs can be off leash.
- The areas of contention include most of the park's most highly prized visitor destinations. Dog walking advocates claim they only want to use a small percentage of the park, but the areas they want for off leash use are also in demand by all visitors.
- At Fort Funston, the park's most popular dog use area, the park proposes two large areas connected by a 50-75' wide corridor for off leash dog use, a larger area than initially proposed in the first draft.
- Off leash dog walking stakeholders are highly organized in their opposition to the plan, and have hired attorneys and a lobbyist. They consistently seek the intervention of elected officials and would prefer that NPS be removed from the decision process.
- Other stakeholders are supportive of the park's attempt to assure that a wide range of uses can safely occur. These stakeholders include those interested in protecting wildlife and plants, advocates for children, seniors, and people with disabilities, and individuals who have been displaced due to their discomfort with off leash dogs. These stakeholders represent an increasingly large percentage of those submitting comments on the draft plan.
- The park held four public meetings on the first draft plan, and has held four public meeting on the supplemental draft plan.
- Rep Speier hosted a forum in San Francisco with an invited audience from the public on January 30 to allow the public to air concerns and ask questions of NPS and key stakeholder groups. The superintendent and other NPS officials attended, and the fourth NPS public open house meeting directly followed.

NEXT STEPS

- Review of public comments from Supplemental DEIS – Winter-Fall 2014
- Release of Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for public comment – Fall 2014
- Release of Notice of Availability of FEIS – Summer 2015
- Publication of Record of Decision – Fall 2015
- Publication of special regulation – Winter 2015

Background:

- 

- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible]
- [illegible]

Exemption 5

Exemption 5

Exemption 5

Senate and Congressional Contacts:
Barbara Boxer, Senator, California
Dianne Feinstein, Senator, California
Jared Huffman, Representative, California, 6th District
Nancy Pelosi, Representative, California, 8th District
Jackie Speier, Representative, California, 12h District

DATE: January 13, 2014
FROM: Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, 415 561-4720
SUBJECT: Dog Management Plan for Golden Gate National Recreation Area

This memorandum is to inform the Secretary about the dog management planning process at Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GOGA), with emphasis on issues affecting the district of Rep. Jackie Speier, D-CA-14th.

BACKGROUND

- The purpose of the GOGA dog management planning process is to provide a clear, enforceable implementation plan for dog use in appropriate areas of the park, with a focus on safe and diverse visitor experiences, while protecting park resources.
- The draft Plan/Supplemental EIS (draft plan/SEIS) was released on September 6, 2013 for review, initially for a 90-day comment period that has since been extended to February 18, 2014. This is the second draft; the first was issued in January 2011, and received over 8000 comments.
- The plan proposes to allow regulated off leash dog walking in seven prime areas within GOGA, while seeking to strike a balance between many diverse user groups and protecting park resources. GOGA is the only one of 401 national park units to propose legally allowing this use.
- In Rep. Speier's district, the plan proposes two off leash areas at Fort Funston (upper sand dunes and the beach) and five on leash areas (Mori Point, Milagra Ridge, Cattle Hill/Sweeney Ridge, Pedro Point, and Rancho Corral de Tierra (Rancho)).
- Rancho was added to GOGA in December 2011, many years after the 12-year dog planning process began. The site had been used illegally for off leash dog walking before inclusion in the park.
- The NPS alternative for Rancho would be consistent with adjacent public lands: adjacent State parks do not allow off leash dog use, and adjacent county parks prohibit dog walking completely.
- In January 2012, an NPS ranger used a taser on a local resident walking his dogs off leash at Rancho after the resident refused to provide identification and attempted to leave the scene multiple times. The ranger was exonerated, but the incident led to much community antagonism, which the park has worked hard to address.
- Rep. Speier has publicly expressed disappointment that the park has not accommodated the desires of the vocal dog advocates for more off leash areas in the park, especially at Rancho.
- On June 19, 2013, Rep. Speier sent a letter to the Secretary requesting that she ensure the park use a complete and correct baseline analysis while developing an alternative for Rancho. On July 3, 2013, a response was sent from Superintendent Frank Dean stating that the park could not consider off leash dog walking as a baseline as 36 CFR 2.15 does not allow off leash dog walking in national parks (except where directed by the federal court).

DISCUSSION

- The NPS-wide pet regulation (36 CFR §2.15) requires dogs to be restricted by cage or leash.
- As a result of a federal court decision, dogs are currently permitted off leash in many areas of the park until a final rule is implemented (this does not include Rancho). The park's plan has been controversial since its inception 12 years ago because it proposes substantially reducing the areas where dogs can be off leash.
- The areas of contention include most of the park's most highly prized visitor destinations. Dog groups claim they only want to use a small percentage of the park, but the areas they want for off leash use are also in demand by visitors who desire a national park experience without off leash dogs.
- At Fort Funston, the park's most popular dog use area which is also in Rep. Speier's district, the park proposes two large areas for off leash dog use, a larger area than initially proposed in the first draft.
- Off leash dog walking stakeholders are highly organized in their opposition to the plan, and have hired attorneys. They consistently seek the intervention of elected officials and would prefer that NPS be removed from the decision process.
- Other stakeholders are supportive of the park's attempt to assure that a wide range of uses can safely occur, including those interested in protecting wildlife and plants, advocates for children, seniors, and people with disabilities, and individuals who have been displaced due to their discomfort with off leash dog walking. These stakeholders represent an increasingly large percentage of those submitting comments on the draft plan.
- The park held four public meetings on the first draft plan, and has held three public meeting on the supplemental draft plan. Neither Rep. Speier nor her staff attended any of these latter meetings.

NEXT STEPS

- Rep Speier is hosting a public forum in San Francisco on January 30 to allow the public to air concerns and ask questions of NPS and key stakeholder groups. The superintendent and other NPS officials will attend, listen, and respond.
- Review of public comments from Supplemental DEIS – Winter-Fall, 2014.
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released for public comment – Fall 2014
- Notice of Availability of FEIS – Summer 2015
- Record of Decision published – Fall 2015
- Special regulation published – Winter 2015

ATTACHMENTS

Correspondence from Rep. Speier to the Secretary and response from the park.
Photos of the off leash dog situation at GOGA.

DATE: January 10, 2014
FROM: Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, 415 561-4720
SUBJECT: Dog Management Plan for Golden Gate NRA

This memorandum is to inform the Secretary about the dog management planning process at Golden Gate National Recreation Area, with emphasis on issues affecting the district of Rep Jackie Speier, D-CA-14th.

BACKGROUND

- The purpose of the GOGA dog management planning process is to provide a clear, enforceable implementation plan for dog use in appropriate areas of the park, with a focus on safe and diverse visitor experiences, while protecting park resources.
- The draft Plan/Supplemental EIS (draft plan/SEIS) was released on September 6, 2013 for review, initially for a 90-day comment period that has since been extended to February 18, 2014. This is the second draft; the first was issued in January 2011, and received over 8000 comments in 4713 pieces of correspondence.
- The plan proposes to allow regulated off leash dog walking in seven prime areas within GGNRA (two within Rep Speier's district), while seeking to strike a balance between many diverse user groups and protecting park resources. GGNRA is the only one of 400 plus NPS park units to propose legally allowing this use.
- In one area of Rep Speier's district, Rancho Corral de Tierra, the preferred alternative does not include any areas for off leash use. This area was added to GOGA in December 2011; previous to that, the site had been used illegally for off leash dog walking for many years.
- Adjacent state parks do not allow off leash dog use, and adjacent county parks prohibit dog walking completely.
- In January 2012, an NPS ranger used a Taser on a local resident walking his dogs off leash at Rancho Corral de Tierra, after the resident refused to provide identification and attempted to leave the scene multiple times, despite orders not to do so. The ranger was exonerated, but the incident led to much community antagonism, which the park has worked hard to address.
- Rep Speier has publicly expressed disappointment that the park has not accommodated the desires of the vocal dog advocates for more off leash areas in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, especially at Rancho Corral de Tierra.

DISCUSSION

- The NPS-wide pet regulation (36 CFR §2.15) requires dogs to be restricted by cage or leash.
- As a result of a federal court decision, currently dogs are permitted off in many areas of the park. The park's plan has been controversial since its inception 12 years ago because it proposes substantially reducing the areas where dogs can be off leash.

- The areas of contention include most of the park's most highly prized visitor destinations. Dog groups claim they only want to use a small percentage of the park, but the areas they want for off leash use are also in demand by all visitors.
- At Fort Funston in Rep Speier's district- the park's most popular dog use area- the park proposes two large areas for off leash dog use, a larger area than initially proposed in the first draft.
- Off leash dog walking stakeholders are highly organized in their opposition to the plan, and have hired attorneys. They consistently seek the intervention of elected officials and would prefer that NPS be removed from the decision process.
- Other stakeholders are supportive of the park's attempt to assure that a wide range of uses can safely occur. These stakeholders include those interested in protecting wildlife and plants, advocates for children, seniors, and people with disabilities, and individuals who have been displaced due to their discomfort with off leash dog walking. These stakeholders represent an increasingly large percentage of those submitting comments on the draft dog management plan.
- The park held 4 public meetings on the first draft plan, and has held 3 public meeting on the supplemental draft plan. Neither Rep Speier nor her staff attended any of these latter meetings.

NEXT STEPS

- Rep Speier is proposing to host a public forum in San Francisco on January 30 to allow the public to air concerns and ask questions of NPS and key stakeholder groups. NPS will attend, listen, and respond.
- Review of comments from Supplemental DEIS released for public comment – Winter-Fall, 2014.
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- Publish final special regulation – Winter 2015

ATTACHMENTS

Maps of the preferred alternative for areas in Rep Speier's district are attached.

DATE: January 10, 2014
FROM: Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, 415 561-4720
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BACKGROUND

- The purpose of the GOGA dog management planning process is to provide a clear, enforceable implementation plan for the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park, with a focus on protecting park resources while ensuring safe and diverse visitor experiences. The draft Plan/Supplemental EIS (draft plan/SEIS) was released on September 6, 2013 for review, initially for a 90-day comment period that has since been extended to February 18, 2014. This is the second draft; the first was issued in January 2011, and received over 8000 comments in 4713 pieces of correspondence.
- The plan proposes to allow regulated off leash dog walking in seven prime areas within GGNRA, while seeking to strike a balance between many diverse user groups while protecting park resources. GGNRA is the first of 400 plus NPS park units to propose legally allowing this use.
- In one major area of Rep Speier's district, Rancho Corral de Tierra, the preferred alternative does not include any areas for off leash use. This area was added to Golden Gate NRA in December 2010, and had previous to that had experienced many years of illegal off leash dog use. Adjacent state parks and county parks prohibit dog walking completely.
- At Fort Funston, the park's most popular dog use area, the park proposes two large areas for off leash dog use, a larger area than initially proposed in the first draft.
- In January 2011, an NPS ranger used a Taser on a local resident walking his dogs off leash at Rancho Corral de Tierra, after the resident refused to provide identification and attempted to leave the scene despite multiple orders not to do so. The ranger was exonerated, but the incident led to much community antagonism, which the park has worked hard to address.
- Rep Speier has publicly expressed disappointment that the park has not accommodated the desires of the vocal dog advocates for more off leash areas in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, especially at Rancho Corral de Tierra.
- Rep Speier is proposing to host a public meeting in San Francisco in early February to air her concerns and invite the public to share their thoughts with the NPS. If the meeting takes place, NPS will attend and listen, The park has already held three public meeting on the supplemental draft plan. . Neither Rep Speier nor her staff attended any of these.

DISCUSSION

- The NPS-wide pet regulation (36 CFR §2.15) requires dogs to be restricted by cage or leash.
- Currently, dogs are permitted off leash as a result of a federal court decision in many areas of the park. The park's plan has been controversial since its inception 12 years ago because it proposes substantially reducing the areas where dogs can be off leash.
- The areas of contention include most of the park's most highly prized visitor destinations, usually in proximity to residential communities. Dog groups claim they only want to use a small percentage of the park, but the areas in demand are also in demand by all visitors.
- While the off leash dog walking stakeholders are highly organized and vocal in their opposition to the plan, other stakeholders are supportive of the park's attempt to assure that a wide range of uses can safely occur.
- These stakeholders include those interested in protecting wildlife and plants, advocates for children, seniors, and people with disabilities, and individuals who have been displaced due to their discomfort with or fear of the amount of uncontrolled off leash dog walking. These stakeholders represent an increasingly large percentage of those submitting comments on the draft dog management plan.

History of the Dog Management Plan

- In 1979, responding to public input, GOGA Citizen's Advisory Commission recommended a Pet Policy that designated specific areas in Marin and San Francisco for off- leash dog walking – a policy the park followed for over 20 years. This policy, combined with changing expectations for use of the park, have resulted in confusion, controversy, and litigation over dog management and voice control dog walking.
- In January 2001, the GOGA Advisory Commission acknowledged publicly that their 1979 "voice control" policy was not in compliance with the NPS pet regulation (36 CFR§ 2.15) and was therefore null and void.
- In January 2002, an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) for dog management in GOGA was released asking for public comment on whether GOGA should enforce the existing NPS pet regulation requiring dogs on leash, or identify specific locations/ways to address off leash use within the park. 8,580 comments were received; the majority of comments were in favor of off leash use.
- In 2002, following the release of the ANPR and the park's stated intention to pursue a special regulation for dog walking, GOGA began to emphasize education and enforcement of the NPS pet regulation; however, the regulation was routinely ignored by many park visitors. Park staff was overextended attempting to enforce the NPS regulation, ensure visitor (and dog) safety, maintain areas heavily used by dogs, and monitor and prevent resource damage.
- A 2005 decision by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California affirmed a dismissal of three citations for violations of the NPS leash regulation. The decision noted that the 1979 dog walking policy had been in effect in the park for many years, and that prior to enforcing the NPS-wide leash regulation the park was required by 36 CFR §1.5(b) to conduct a formal public notice and comment rulemaking process.

- In 2004, GOGA initiated a dog management planning process by establishing a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee pursuant to the Negotiated Rulemaking Act and initiating work on an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.
- The GOGA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management met over a period of almost two years ending in October 2007, but was not able to reach consensus.
- In January 2011, a 2,400 page Draft Dog Management Plan/EIS (draft plan/DEIS) was released for a 135-day public comment period. The NPS received 4,713 individual correspondences, containing approximately 8000 substantive comments; some were several hundred pages in length. As a result of changes to the plan based on that input, as well as the December 2011 transfer to GOGA of a new site, Rancho Corral de Tierra, the NPS determined that a supplemental environmental impact statement would be required.
- GOGA, NPS EQD, and other senior NPS staff met in September 2011 to address public comments on the draft plan/DEIS. The majority of the areas addressed in the plan received minor or no changes to the preferred alternative. Changes were made in the preferred alternative for two areas, as well as overall changes described below.

Plan/SEIS Details

- The environmental impact statement developed for the draft dog management plan evaluates the impacts of six alternatives, including the preferred alternative, for dog management in 22 areas of GOGA. Four alternatives would allow voice-control dog walking in some areas of the park.

- The draft plan/SEIS includes the following:
    - An alternative that includes as much of the 1979 Pet Policy as possible while still meeting NPS conservation mandates and the plan's goals and objectives.
    - Site specific analysis of a range of alternatives for the recently acquired Rancho Corral de Tierra.
    - Additional law enforcement and visitor use information to supplement visitor experience, health and safety impact topics.
    - Response to ADA concerns across all alternatives.
    - Changing the compliance-based management strategy to a monitoring strategy; remove the automatic trigger that would change areas to a more restrictive status upon reaching a threshold.
    - Expanded monitoring to include natural and cultural resources, providing basis for future management actions, although rulemaking would likely be required for any major or controversial future changes to dog walking access.

NEXT STEPS

- Supplemental DEIS released for public comment – September 6, 2013 to February 18, 2014
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released for public comment – Fall 2014
- Notice of Availability of FEIS – Summer 2015
- Record of Decision published – Fall 2015

- Publish final special regulation – Winter 2015

ATTACHMENTS

- Maps of the preferred alternative for areas in Rep Speier's district are attached.

INFORMATION/ BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

DATE: June 6, 2014
FROM: Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, 415 561-4720
SUBJECT: General Management Plan (GMP) Stance on Recreation

Several county supervisors in the three counties in which Golden Gate National Recreation Area is situated have sent a letter to GOGA Superintendent Frank Dean asking that the park withhold implementation of its recently completed GMP and link it to a Dog Management Plan that is scheduled to be completed in late 2015

BACKGROUND

Off leash dog walkers in the San Francisco Bay Area have rallied some local elected officials to oppose the park's recently completed GMP as "anti-recreation." The off leash dog stakeholders have also convinced some elected officials – incorrectly – that the GMP preempts decisions on the park's Dog Management Plan, to be completed in late 2015.

The park GMP, contrary to being anti-recreation, describes a vision where recreation is front and center. For example, the preferred alternative in the GMP for most of the park is titled, "Connecting People With the Parks." The range of recreation activities to be welcomed under this alternative is vast. For example, in areas designated as a Natural Zone, the following kinds of recreation activities – among many others - could occur: hiking, walking (including dog walking), biking, board sailing, surfing, beach combing, sunbathing, picnicking, fishing, swimming, sightseeing, bird and wildlife viewing, camping, horseback riding, nature study, interpretive programs, kayaking, photography, participating in stewardship programs and artistic endeavors.

Furthermore the GMP states on p 34 that the plan "does not make decisions about dog walking in the park." It further states that NPS could make changes to the GMP if there are any potential inconsistencies with the final Dog Management Plan.

DISCUSSION

The 'GOGA GMP restricts recreation" argument is being raised by the off-leash dog constituency in an attempt to derail the 12-years long dog management planning process. They are trying to characterize limits on unrestricted dog use in the park as globally anti-recreation. [It is recommended that the Secretary not respond to this letter sent to the park, and refer arising from the letter to the park.]

NEXT STEPS

The park will respond to the letter from the public officials, and will continue to correct misinformation through media contacts and direct outreach to the offices of the elected officials.

Exemption 5

INFORMATION/ BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

DATE: January 10, 2014
FROM: Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, 415 561-4720
SUBJECT: Dog Management Plan for Golden Gate NRA

This memorandum is to inform the Secretary about the dog management planning process at Golden Gate National Recreation Area, with emphasis on issues affecting the district of Rep Jackie Speier, D-CA-14th.

BACKGROUND

- The purpose of the GOGA dog management planning process is to provide a clear, enforceable implementation plan for the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park, with a focus on protecting park resources while ensuring safe and diverse visitor experiences. The draft Plan/Supplemental EIS (draft plan/SEIS) was released on September 6, 2013 for review, initially for a 90-day comment period that has since been extended to February 18, 2014. This is the second draft; the first was issued in January 2011, and received over 8000 comments in 4713 pieces of correspondence.
- The plan proposes to allow regulated off leash dog walking in seven prime areas within GGNRA, while seeking to strike a balance between many diverse user groups while protecting park resources. GGNRA is the first of 400 plus NPS park units to propose legally allowing this use.
- In one major area of Rep Speier's district, Rancho Corral de Tierra, the preferred alternative does not include any areas for off leash use. This area was added to Golden Gate NRA in December 2010, and had previous to that had experienced many years of illegal off leash dog use. The current NPS dog regulation requires Rancho Corral de Tierra to be on leash, similar to adjacent state parks. County parks, one of which is adjacent to Rancho, prohibit dog walking completely.
- At Fort Funston, the park's most popular dog use area, the park proposes two large areas for off leash dog use, a larger area than initially proposed, as a result of comments on the first draft plan. Fort Funston is estimated to receive 500,000 dog visits per year, and 62% of visitors to Fort Funston are estimated to be dog walkers. 38% of visitors are walkers, hang gliders, fishermen, equestrians, birdwatchers, and environmental center participants. The current preferred alternative rquires on-leash dog walking in hang-gliding and equestrian areas and on one beach access trail, as well as along bluffs where there have been multiple dog rescues over the years.
- In January 2011, a local resident walking his dogs off leash who refused to obey an order to provide identification and attempted to leave the scene despite multiple orders not to do so was tased by an NPS ranger at Rancho Corral de Tierra. o. The ranger was exonerated, but the incident led to much community antagonism despite the NPS's numerous efforts to meet with the community

Exemption 5

Exemption 5

Comment [SES4]: Agree – need to provide some balance.

- Rep Speier has publicly expressed disappointment that the park has not accommodated the desires of the vocal dog advocates for more off leash areas in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, especially at Rancho Corral de Tierra.
- Rep Speier is proposing to host a public meeting in San Francisco in early February to air her concerns and invite the public to share their thoughts with the NPS. If the meeting takes place, NPS will attend and listen. The park has already held three public meeting on the supplemental draft plan, and four public meetings on the initial draft plan; neither Rep Speier nor her staff attended any of these.

Exemption 5

DISCUSSION

- The NPS-wide pet regulation (36 CFR §2.15) requires dogs to be restricted by cage or leash.
- Currently, dogs are permitted off leash as a result of a federal court decision in many areas of the park. The park's plan has been controversial since its inception 12 years ago because it proposes substantially reducing the areas where dogs can be off leash.
- The areas of contention include most of the park's most highly prized visitor destinations. Dog groups claim they only want to use a small percentage of the park, but the areas in demand include most of the sites that the park manages, which are areas also in demand by all visitors.
- While the off leash dog walking stakeholders are highly organized and vocal in their opposition to the plan, other stakeholders are supportive of the park's attempt to assure that a wide range of uses can safely occur. These stakeholders include those interested in protecting wildlife and plants, advocates for children, seniors, and people with disabilities, and individuals who have been displaced due to their discomfort with or fear of the amount of uncontrolled off leash dog walking. These stakeholders represent an increasingly large percentage of those submitting comments on the draft dog management plan.

Comment [SES6]: Let's not use this %!!

Comment [SES7]: Worthwhile noting that most communities want off leash in the park areas next to them – that's how you come to see that the oveall push is general allowance of off leash throughout the park.

History of the Dog Management Plan

- In 1979, responding to public input, GOGA Citizen's Advisory Commission recommended a Pet Policy that designated specific areas in Marin and San Francisco for off- leash dog walking – a policy the park followed for over 20 years. This policy, combined with changing expectations for use of the park, have resulted in confusion, controversy, and litigation over dog management and voice control dog walking.
- In January 2001, the GOGA Advisory Commission acknowledged publicly that their 1979 "voice control" policy was not in compliance with the NPS pet regulation (36 CFR§ 2.15) and was therefore null and void.
- In January 2002, an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) for dog management in GOGA was released asking for public comment on whether GOGA should enforce the existing NPS pet regulation requiring dogs on leash, or identify specific locations/ways to address off leash use within the park. 8,580 comments were received; the majority of comments were in favor of off leash use.
- In 2002, following the release of the ANPR and the park's stated intention to pursue a special regulation for dog walking, GOGA began to emphasize education and

enforcement of the NPS pet regulation; however, the regulation was routinely ignored by many park visitors. Park staff were overextended attempting to enforce the NPS regulation, ensure visitor (and dog) safety, maintain areas heavily used by dogs, and monitor and prevent resource damage.

- A 2005 decision by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California affirmed a dismissal of three citations for violations of the NPS leash regulation. The decision noted that the 1979 dog walking policy had been in effect in the park for many years, and that prior to enforcing the NPS-wide leash regulation the park was required by 36 CFR §1.5(b) to conduct a formal public notice and comment rulemaking process.
- In 2004, GOGA initiated a dog management planning process by establishing a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee pursuant to the Negotiated Rulemaking Act and initiating work on an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.
- The GOGA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management met over a period of almost two years ending in October 2007, but were not able to reach consensus.
- In January 2011, a 2,400 page Draft Dog Management Plan/EIS (draft plan/DEIS) was released for a 135-day public comment period. The NPS received 4,713 individual correspondences, containing approximately 8000 substantive comments; some were several hundred pages in length. As a result of changes to the plan based on that input, as well as the December 2011 transfer to GOGA of a new site, Rancho Corral de Tierra, the NPS determined that a supplemental environmental impact statement would be required.
- GOGA, NPS EQD, and other senior NPS staff met in September 2011 to address public comments on the draft plan/DEIS. The majority of the areas addressed in the plan received minor or no changes to the preferred alternative. Changes were made in the preferred alternative for two areas, as well as overall changes described below.

Plan/SEIS Details

- The environmental impact statement developed for the draft dog management plan evaluates the impacts of six alternatives, including the preferred alternative, for dog management in 22 areas of GOGA. Four alternatives would allow voice-control dog walking in some areas of the park.

- The draft plan/SEIS includes the following:
  - An alternative that includes as much of the 1979 Pet Policy as possible while still meeting NPS conservation mandates and the plan's goals and objectives.
  - Site specific analysis of a range of alternatives for the recently acquired Rancho Corral de Tierra.
  - Additional law enforcement and visitor use information to supplement visitor experience, health and safety impact topics.
  - Response to ADA concerns across all alternatives.
  - Changing the compliance-based management strategy to a monitoring strategy; remove the automatic trigger that would change areas to a more restrictive status upon reaching a threshold.

- Expanded monitoring to include natural and cultural resources, providing basis for future management actions, although rulemaking would likely be required for any major or controversial future changes to dog walking access.

NEXT STEPS

- Supplemental DEIS released for public comment – September 6, 2013 to February 18, 2014
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking released for public comment – Fall 2014
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- Record of Decision published – Fall 2015
- Publish final special regulation – Winter 2015

ATTACHMENTS

- Maps of the preferred alternative for areas in Rep Speier's district are attached.

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BACKGROUND

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- The draft Plan/Supplemental EIS (draft plan/SEIS) was released on September 6, 2013 for review through February 18, 2014. This is the second draft; the first was issued in January 2011, and received over 8000 comments from 4700 people.
- In one major area of Rep Speier's district, Rancho Corral de Tierra, the preferred alternative does not include any areas for off leash use. This area was added to Golden Gate NRA in late 2010, and had experienced many years of illegal off leash dog use before the park assumed ownership.
- At Fort Funston, the park's most popular dog use area, the park proposes two large areas for off leash dog use, and added additional off leash areas as a result of comments on the first draft plan.
- In January 2011, an off leash dog owner was tased a Rancho Corral de Tierra by an NPS ranger after failing to obey an order to provide identification and attempting to leave the scene despite multiple orders not to do so. The ranger was exonerated, but the incident led to much community antagonism.
- Rep Speier has publicly expressed disappointment that the park has not accommodated the desires of the vocal dog advocates for more off leash areas, especially at Rancho Corral de Tierra.
- Rep Speier is proposing to host a public meeting in San Francisco in early February to air her concerns and invite the public to share their thoughts with the NPS. If the meeting takes place, NPS will attend and listen. The park has already held three public meeting on the supplemental draft plan; neither Rep Speier nor her staff attended any of these.

DISCUSSION

- The NPS-wide pet regulation (36 CFR §2.15) requires dogs to be restricted by cage or leash.
- Currently, dogs are permitted off leash under court order in many areas of the park. The park's plan has been controversial since its inception 13 years ago because it proposes substantially reducing the areas where dogs can be off leash.

- The areas of contention include most of the park's most highly prized visitor destinations – all users want to use the same space.
- While the off leash dog stakeholders are highly organized and vocal in their opposition to the plan, other stakeholders are supportive of the park's attempt to assure that a wide range of uses can occur. These stakeholders include those interested in protecting wildlife and plants, as well as advocates for children, seniors, and people with disabilities. These stakeholders represent an increasingly large percentage of those submitting comments on the draft dog mgt plan.

History of the Dog Mgt Plan

- In 1979, responding to public input, GOGA Citizen's Advisory Commission recommended a Pet Policy that recommended specific areas in Marin and San Francisco for off- leash dog walking – a policy the park followed for over 20 years.
- GOGA practices following the Citizen's Advisory Commission's Pet Policy, as well as an increase in the number of dog walkers using the park and changing expectations for use of the park, have resulted in confusion, controversy, and litigation over dog management and voice control dog walking.
- In January 2001, the GOGA Advisory Commission acknowledged publicly that their 1979 "voice control" policy was not in compliance with the NPS pet regulation (36 CFR§ 2.15) and was therefore null and void .
- In January 2002, an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) for dog management in GOGA was released asking for public comment on whether GOGA should enforce the existing NPS pet regulation requiring dogs on leash and on trail, or identify specific locations/ways to address off leash use within the park. 8,580 comments were received; the majority of comments were in favor of off leash use.
- In 2002, following the release of the ANPR, GOGA began to emphasize education and enforcement of the NPS pet regulation; however, the regulation was routinely ignored by many park visitors. Park staff were overextended attempting to enforce the NPS regulation, ensure visitor (and dog) safety, maintain areas heavily used by dogs, and monitor and prevent resource damage.
- A 2005 decision by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California affirmed a dismissal of three citations for violations of the NPS leash regulation. The decision noted that the 1979 dog walking policy had been in effect in the park for many years, and that prior to enforcing the NPS-wide leash regulation the park was required by 36 CFR §1.5(b) to conduct a formal public notice and comment rulemaking process.
- In 2004, GOGA initiated a dog management planning process by establishing a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee pursuant to the Negotiated Rulemaking Act and initiating work on an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.
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transfer to GOGA of a new site, Rancho Corral de Tierra, the NPS determined that a supplemental environmental impact statement would be required.

- GOGA, NPS EQD, and other senior NPS staff met in September 2011 to address public comments on the draft plan/DEIS. The majority of the areas addressed in the plan received minor or no changes to the preferred alternative. Major changes occurred in two areas, as well as overall changes described below.

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- The environmental impact statement developed for the draft dog management plan evaluates the impacts of six alternatives, including the preferred alternative, for dog management in 22 areas of GOGA. Four alternatives would allow voice-control dog walking in some areas of the park.

- The draft plan/SEIS includes the following:
    - An alternative that includes as much of the 1979 Pet Policy as possible while still meeting the plan goals and objectives.
    - Site specific analysis of a range of alternatives for the recently acquired Rancho Corral de Tierra.
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ATTACHMENTS

- Maps of the preferred alternative for areas in Rep Speier's district are attached.

Briefing Points for Secretary Jewell

Presidio Trust

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Golden Gate National Recreation Area

DOG MANAGEMENT
Draft Plan/ Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

Frequently Asked Questions
September 6, 2013

1. What are the goals of the draft Plan/SEIS?

- Provide a clear, enforceable policy to determine the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park
- Provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, and reduce user conflicts
- Promote the preservation and protection of natural and cultural resources and natural processes;
  Maintain park resources and values for future generations.

2. Where can I view the draft Plan/SEIS, and how can I submit comments?

Go to the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"] to review and comment online.

Copies of the plan are also available at libraries in San Francisco, Marin and San Mateo Counties, and the East Bay (full list at [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm"]).

The draft plan/SEIS is available for review and comment for 90 days – September 6 through midnight Mountain Time (11 p.m. Pacific Time) December 4, 2013.

Comments may be submitted:

- Online at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan; or
- By mailing/delivering comments to Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123-0022.
- By attending one of the public open-house meetings in early November (listed at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"] and at www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm)

Comments will not be accepted by fax, email, or in any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted.
Add caution on cant guarantee personal info; may be publicly available as part of comment

GGNRA132432_A

Add new Q/A on why personal info cant be protected.

3. Why has GOGA developed a second EIS for dog management?

The park received 4,713 individual pieces of correspondence on the first draft EIS (DEIS) for dog management that was released in January 2011. That correspondence contained 8,000 substantive comments. This draft Plan/SEIS is a second draft EIS that responds to the substantive comments on the DEIS and includes analysis of dog management for the newest area of the park, Rancho Corral de Tierra. Because of the amount of new information and analysis, the entire document has been reissued. There is a reading guide to help direct readers to the substantive changes to the DEIS.

Comment [WS1]: Where do they find that reading guide?

The current situation with dog management in the park is confusing and has led to controversy and conflicts. The park intends to develop a final plan for dog management that is understandable, enforceable, provides a variety of visitor experiences and protects resources.

In this second public comment phase of the dog management project, we need to hear from a broad range of users as to whether the preferred alternative in the SEIS adequately provides a range of visitor experiences while protecting park resources within this national park system unit.

4. What's in the draft Plan/SEIS?

The plan includes six management alternatives, one of which is the park's preferred alternative, for 22 areas of the park. These 22 areas include all the major areas where dog walking currently occurs and essentially lays out the future for where and how dog walking will occur parkwide.

Comment [WS2]: Know these are just for internal use, but I'd move up the Q&A #14 that epxplainas the preferred alt to come after this mention

5. What are the key changes between the 2011 version of the plan and this current SEIS?

The Supplemental EIS:

- Incorporates new data
- Considers additional research
- Makes some changes to the impacts analysis
- Changes the management strategy to accentuate monitoring and eliminate automatic triggers
- Evaluates fencing as a tool to manage dog impacts
- Makes changes to the preferred alternative at several sites, and includes site specific alternatives and analysis for Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County, which wasn't part of the park when the January 2011 draft plan came out.

6. Does the draft Plan/SEIS ban dogs from the park?

No. The dog management planning process dismissed alternatives banning dogs from the park as not meeting the purpose of the planning effort. The range of alternatives in the Plan/SEIS permits dog walking, both on leash and under voice control, in many areas of the park. The preferred alternative includes 7 areas, including beaches, where dogs may be walked off leash under voice control and 22 park sites with areas (beaches, trails and grassy areas) open to on-leash.

7. Are there any other national park areas that allow off leash dog walking?

No. The national NPS regulation on dogs states that where they are permitted in parks, they must be on leash.

In 2002, a panel of senior NPS officials concluded that because of the special circumstances at Golden Gate, it is appropriate for the park to consider a range of alternatives that includes off leash dog walking in areas that meet certain criteria.

8. Was there public input in the development of the plan?

Yes. The plan is informed by the input of thousands of people over a 12-year period. Public involvement took the form of numerous public meetings, written comments, stakeholder presentations and discussions, and a federal negotiated rulemaking process. Most recently, the draft Plan/DEIS was open for public comment for 5.5 months and the park received over 4700 pieces of correspondence. Additional input came from senior NPS management at the regional and national level, with specialized expertise in resources and park management.

ADD Q/A – Why has this taken 12 years?

ADD Q&A – How much has the NPS spent on this dog walking rule?

9. Will the NPS really give consideration to public comment on the draft Plan/SEIS?

Yes. Every substantive comment will be carefully considered in developing a final plan. Without exception, every draft EIS released by the park since it was established in 1972 was refined and improved as a result of public comment.

10. The draft Plan/SEIS is very long. Do I have to read the entire document?

No. We have prepared a Reader's Guide to reviewing the plan, which will direct you to the sections that have changed since the first draft EIS. There is also a short Executive Summary of the plan, which is in the first 28 pages of the document. If you're interested in a particular area, see the index listings for Chapter 2 for descriptions of the alternatives and then go to the listing of alternative maps to see the alternatives for each site(s).

11. Is the draft Plan/SEIS the final dog walking regulation for GGNRA?

No. The draft Plan/SEIS is an assessment of the environmental impacts of a range of management alternatives, including the NPS Preferred Alternative. After review of public comment on the draft Plan/SEIS and any resulting changes, a notice of proposed rulemaking, based on the preferred alternative of the draft Plan/SEIS and any changes resulting from public comment, will be published for additional public comment. After consideration of the relevant comments on the proposed rule, and after publication of the final Plan/EIS and Record of Decision, the NPS will publish a final rule, which is anticipated in late 2015.

Comment [WS3]: Do you need this phrase?

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND QUESTIONS

12. Does the draft Plan/SEIS address all lands within the boundary of GGNRA?

The draft Plan/SEIS addresses dog walking in 22 specific areas within the GOGA boundary that are managed by the park. Other GGNRA owned and managed lands within the park boundary that are not directly addressed in this draft Plan/SEIS will continue to be governed by the existing NPS regulation for dog walking, 36 CFR 2.15 which requires dogs to be kept on a leash where they are allowed.

The draft Plan/SEIS does not directly address lands within the park boundary managed by other agencies such as the Presidio Trust, Point Reyes National Seashore or the San Francisco Public Utility Commission.

13. How were those 22 specific areas chosen for inclusion in the draft Plan/SEIS?

Initially, 21 park areas were developed by the NPS as the parameters for discussion of dog management by the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management, an initial attempt to develop a new dog walking regulation for the park with direct input from stakeholder groups. The parameters set the limits for discussion, by identifying, up front, areas that would be open to consideration for on-leash dog walking, and areas open to consideration for dog walking under voice control, and areas that would not be open to consideration for dog walking. Development of the parameters was guided by a panel of senior NPS officials who, in 2002, recommended the following to the GOGA General Superintendent:

"The panel concludes that off-leash dog walking in GOGA may be appropriate in selected locations where resource impacts can be adequately mitigated and public safety incidents and public use conflicts can be appropriately managed. The panel further recommends that the park pursue both rulemaking and comprehensive planning for pet management to address suitable locations and proper management strategies."

An additional area, Rancho Corral de Tierra, was added in this draft Plan/SEIS. That site transferred to the park after the first draft Plan and EIS had already been completed. The SEIS provides the opportunity to address that new property.

14. What is a Preferred Alternative?

A preferred alternative is the alternative in an EIS which the NPS believes would best accomplish the purpose and need of the proposed action while fulfilling its statutory mission and responsibilities, giving consideration to economic, environmental, technical, and other factors. 43 CFR 46.4.20(d).

The preferred alternative in the draft Plan/SEIS includes the following key elements:

- On-leash and/or voice-control dog walking in certain, specific areas of the park where impacts on visitor experience and safety and sensitive resources were minimal,
- No dogs in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated,
- The commercial dog walking recommendation from the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee,
- A monitoring-management strategy to guide a range of park responses to non-compliance,
- Permits for private or commercial dog walkers who wish to walk more than three dogs, with a limit of 6, in seven specific areas of the park.

15. What are the current rules governing dog management at GOGA?

Currently, dog management at GOGA varies by area and is a combination of the following:

- NPS federal regulation (36 CFR 2.15) — requires that dogs be on leash wherever dog walking is permitted in an NPS area,
- GOGA Citizen Advisory Commission's 1979 Pet Policy — provisions for off-leash dog walking in certain areas of GOGA, which were never formalized as a federal regulation. This aspect of current park management is the result of the 2005 federal court decision *US v. Barley* (405 F. Supp.2d 1121 (N.D. CA 2005)),
- NPS special regulation for protection of western snowy plovers on Ocean Beach and the WPA at Crissy Field (36 CFR 7.97(d)), and
- GGNRA Compendium (compilation of park-specific rules).

Comment [WS4]: ADD a Q/A about how that was allowed to happen – since later Q21 -- it says the park adopted the policy for over 20 years

16. What is the 1979 Pet Policy?

The GGNRA Citizen's Advisory Commission's 1979 Pet Policy recommended to the park that certain, specific areas of GOGA be open to off-leash voice control dog walking. Although never formalized as a federal regulation by the NPS, this unofficial pet policy was in place within GOGA for more than 20 years.

17. Why doesn't GGNRA simply adopt the 1979 Pet Policy as its dog management regulation?

Conditions within the park have changed significantly since 1979; increased visitation, addition of park areas and increased knowledge of resources within the park must be taken into consideration in the development of any dog management regulation. An NPS rule must also be consistent with applicable statutory requirements, such as the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act; the 1979 Pet Policy was developed without any environmental analysis. In addition, the draft dog management plan/SEIS found that accepting the 1979 Pet Policy in its entirety would

not meet the purpose and need of the plan (stated previously); therefore, formalizing the Pet Policy as the dog management regulation was considered but dismissed.

18. What are the concerns about current off-leash dog walking in GGNRA?

Although the 1979 policy and current park information state that dogs off-leash in the park must be under control, the park has no legally-enforceable voice-control guidelines governing off-leash behavior, and currently many off-leash dogs are not well-controlled by their walkers. Uncontrolled, off-leash dogs create safety issues for park visitors and staff, other dogs, and are a source of conflict between dog walkers and other user groups.

Comment [WS5]: Right?

19. What is the definition of voice and sight control dog walking that would be required under a new GGNRA dog walking regulation?

As defined in the draft Plan/SEIS, voice and sight control means that dogs must be within direct eyesight of the dog walker, and that dog walkers must be able to immediately recall their dog(s) to their side so that a leash can be attached to the dog(s)'s collar, and shall demonstrate this ability when requested by Law Enforcement personnel. This definition is similar to other land management agencies that allow off-leash dog walking.

20. What are the concerns about off-leash dog walking in GGNRA?

The main concerns that the park has about off-leash dog walking relate to public and staff safety, compatibility with other user groups and potential resource impacts.

21. Why does the GGNRA draft Plan/SEIS treat dog walking differently than other areas of the National Park Service?

As described in the November 2002 Federal Panel Recommendation to the General Superintendent on Proposed Rulemaking for Pet Management at GGNRA, the park has a unique set of characteristics: sites which had historically been used for off-leash dog walking; the 1979 Citizen's Advisory Commission Pet Policy that recommended the continuation of those uses, and the park's adoption of that policy for over 20 years; management of a significant portion of the public recreational open space in San Francisco and San Mateo and Marin Counties, where residents rely on portions of that open space for exercise of their pets.

Because of these unique characteristics, the park considered a range of alternatives intended to provide a variety of experiences, including voice control dog walking, while protecting visitor experience and safety and park resources.

22. GGNRA is a national recreation area. Do national recreation areas have different management policies than national parks?

No. All units of the National Park System are guided by the same NPS Management Policies, regardless of the park's designation. Congress amended the 1916 NPS Organic Act in 1970 to make clear that the NPS must manage all units of the national park system to the same preservation standard.

23. What is "Negotiated Rulemaking," and why did GOGA use this form of rulemaking from 2006-2007 as a preliminary step in the dog management planning process?

Negotiated Rulemaking is one way that federal agencies can use to develop rules; this method requires the formal involvement of key stakeholders, along with the agency. Given the longstanding and passionate interest that various stakeholders have in this issue, and because GGNRA has a deep tradition of community engagement, the park saw value in working in partnership with stakeholders who have diverse values and views to try and develop a rule for dog management through consensus. The Committee was formed with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior to develop consensus recommendations for both voice-control and on-leash dog walking, as well as for use and limits of professional dog walking.

24. What was the outcome of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management and how will recommendations of the Committee be used by the NPS?

The Committee worked from March 2006 to the end of October 2007, but after many meetings and working sessions was unable to reach consensus on a proposed rule for all areas open for discussion. However, there was consensus on overarching guidelines for dog management and commercial dog walking as well as for a management option for one site – Oakwood Valley. All these areas of consensus have been included in two of the alternatives in the draft Plan/SEIS, and two are included in the NPS preferred alternative. Although the Committee was unable to reach consensus on a full rule, the many meetings of the Committee provided much information that aided the NPS in the development of the Plan/DEIS.

25. What should people consider when they comment on the draft Plan/SEIS?

The NPS is looking for substantive comments from the public after review of the range of alternatives, including the preferred alternative, and the impacts of those alternatives. Examples of substantive comments include providing additional factual information, noting issues or impacts NPS may have failed to consider, inconsistencies, and other comments of substance, as opposed to comments voicing like or dislike without an underlying rationale.

26. Once a final rule is issued, how will it be enforced?

The park will enforce the final rule as it does all other rules. The park will depend on the active involvement of user groups to support implementation of the rule by assisting in education and outreach to their members.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

DOG MANAGEMENT
Draft Plan/ Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

Frequently Asked Questions
September 6, 2013

1. **What are the goals of the draft Plan/SEIS?**

   - Provide a clear, enforceable policy to determine the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park
   - Provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, and reduce user conflicts
   - Promote the preservation and protection of natural and cultural resources and natural processes;
     Maintain park resources and values for future generations.

2. **Where can I view the draft Plan/SEIS, and how can I submit comments?**

   Go to the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"] to review and comment online.

   Copies of the plan are also available at libraries in San Francisco, Marin and San Mateo Counties, and the East Bay (full list at [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm"]).

   The draft plan/SEIS is available for review and comment for 90 days – September 6 through midnight Mountain Time (11 p.m. Pacific Time) December 4, 2013.

   Comments may be submitted:
   - Online at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan; or
   - By mailing comments to Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123-0022.
   - By attending one of the public open-house meetings in early November (listed at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"] and at www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm)

   Comments will not be accepted by fax, email, or in any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted.

3. **Why has GOGA developed a second EIS for dog management?**

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The park received 4,713 individual pieces of correspondence on the first draft EIS (DEIS) for dog management that was released in January 2011. That correspondence contained 8,000 substantive comments. This draft Plan/SEIS is a second draft EIS that responds to the substantive comments on the DEIS and includes analysis of dog management for the newest area of the park, Rancho Corral de Tierra. Because of the amount of new information and analysis, the entire document has been reissued. There is a reading guide to help direct readers to the substantive changes to the DEIS.

The current situation with dog management in the park is confusing and has led to controversy and conflicts. The park intends to develop a final plan for dog management that is understandable, enforceable, provides a variety of visitor experiences and protects resources.

In this second public comment phase of the dog management project, we need to hear from a broad range of users as to whether the preferred alternative in the SEIS adequately provides a range of visitor experiences while protecting park resources within this national park system unit.

4. What's in the draft Plan/SEIS?

The plan includes six management alternatives, one of which is the park's preferred alternative, for 22 areas of the park. These 22 areas include all the major areas where dog walking currently occurs and essentially lays out the future for where and how dog walking will occur parkwide.

5. What are the key changes between the 2011 version of the plan and this current SEIS?

The Supplemental EIS:

- Incorporates new data
- Considers additional research
- Makes some changes to the impacts analysis
- Changes the management strategy to accentuate monitoring and eliminate automatic triggers
- Evaluates fencing as a tool to manage dog impacts
- Makes changes to the preferred alternative at several sites, and includes site specific alternatives and analysis for Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County, which wasn't part of the park when the January 2011 draft plan came out.

6. Does the draft Plan/SEIS ban dogs from the park?

No. The dog management planning process dismissed alternatives banning dogs from the park as not meeting the purpose of the planning effort. The range of alternatives in the Plan/SEIS permits dog walking, both on leash and under voice control, in many areas of the park. The preferred alternative includes 7 areas, including beaches, where dogs may

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be walked off leash under voice control and 22 park sites with areas (beaches, trails and grassy areas) open to on-leash.

7. Are there any other national park areas that allow off leash dog walking?

No. The national NPS regulation on dogs states that where they are permitted in parks, they must be on leash.

In 2002, a panel of senior NPS officials concluded that because of the special circumstances at Golden Gate, it is appropriate for the park to consider a range of alternatives that includes off leash dog walking in areas that meet certain criteria.

8. Was there public input in the development of the plan?

Yes. The plan is informed by the input of thousands of people over a 12-year period. Public involvement took the form of numerous public meetings, written comments, stakeholder presentations and discussions, and a federal negotiated rulemaking process. Most recently, the draft Plan/DEIS was open for public comment for 5.5 months and the park received over 4700 pieces of correspondence. Additional input came from senior NPS management at the regional and national level, with specialized expertise in resources and park management.

9. Will the NPS really give consideration to public comment on the draft Plan/SEIS?

Yes. Every substantive comment will be carefully considered in developing a final plan. Without exception, every draft EIS released by the park since it was established in 1972 was refined and improved as a result of public comment.

10. The draft Plan/SEIS is very long. Do I have to read the entire document?

No. We have prepared a Reader's Guide to reviewing the plan, which will direct you to the sections that have changed since the first draft EIS. There is also a short Executive Summary of the plan, which is in the first 28 pages of the document. If you're interested in a particular area, see the index listings for Chapter 2 for descriptions of the alternatives and then go to the listing of alternative maps to see the alternatives for each site(s).

11. Is the draft Plan/SEIS the final dog walking regulation for GGNRA?

No. The draft Plan/SEIS is an assessment of the environmental impacts of a range of management alternatives, including the NPS Preferred Alternative. After review of public comment on the draft Plan/SEIS, a notice of proposed rulemaking, based on the preferred alternative of the draft Plan/SEIS and any changes resulting from public comment, will be published for additional public comment. After consideration of the relevant comments on the proposed rule, and after publication of the final Plan/EIS and Record of Decision, the NPS will publish a final rule, which is anticipated in late 2015.

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ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND QUESTIONS

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The draft Plan/SEIS addressed only lands that are owned and managed by GGNRA. It does not directly address lands within the park boundary managed by other agencies such as the Presidio Trust, Point Reyes National Seashore or the San Francisco Public Utility Commission.

The draft Plan/SEIS addresses dog walking in 22 specific areas of the approximately 20,000 acres within the GOGA boundary that are managed by the park. Other GGNRA owned and managed lands within the park boundary that are not directly addressed in this draft Plan/SEIS will continue to be governed by the existing NPS regulation for dog walking, 36 CFR 2.15 which requires dogs to be kept on a leash where they are allowed.

13. How were those 22 specific areas chosen for inclusion in the draft Plan/SEIS?

Initially, 21 park areas were developed by the NPS as the parameters for discussion of dog management by the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management, an initial attempt to develop a new dog walking regulation for the park with direct input from stakeholder groups. The parameters set the limits for discussion, by identifying, up front, areas that would be open to consideration for on-leash dog walking, and areas open to consideration for dog walking off-leash, under voice control, and areas that would not be open to consideration for dog walking. Development of the parameters was guided by a panel of senior NPS officials who, in 2002, recommended the following to the GOGA General Superintendent:

"The panel concludes that off-leash dog walking in GOGA may be appropriate in selected locations where resource impacts can be adequately mitigated and public safety incidents and public use conflicts can be appropriately managed. The panel further recommends that the park pursue both rulemaking and comprehensive planning for pet management to address suitable locations and proper management strategies."

An additional area, Rancho Corral de Tierra, was added in this draft Plan/SEIS. That site transferred to the park when the first draft Plan and EIS had already been completed. The SEIS provides the opportunity to address that new property.

14. What is a Preferred Alternative?

A preferred alternative is the alternative in an EIS which the NPS believes would best accomplish the purpose and need of the proposed action while fulfilling its statutory mission and responsibilities, giving consideration to economic, environmental, technical, and other factors. 43 CFR 46.4.20(d).

The preferred alternative in the draft Plan/SEIS includes the following key elements:

- On-leash and/or voice-control dog walking in certain, specific areas of the park where impacts on visitor experience and safety and sensitive resources were minimal,
- No dogs in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated,
- The commercial dog walking recommendation from the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee,
- A monitoring-management strategy to guide a range of park responses to non-compliance,
- Permits for private or commercial dog walkers who wish to walk more than three dogs, with a limit of 6, in seven specific areas of the park.

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- GOGA Citizen Advisory Commission's 1979 Pet Policy — provisions for off-leash dog walking in certain areas of GOGA, which were never formalized as a federal regulation, This aspect of current park management is the result of the 2005 federal court decision *US v. Barley* (405 F. Supp.2d 1121 (N.D. CA 2005)),
- NPS special regulation for protection of western snowy plovers on Ocean Beach and the WPA at Crissy Field (36 CFR 7.97(d)), and
- GGNRA Compendium (compilation of park-specific rules).

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17. Why doesn't GGNRA simply adopt the 1979 Pet Policy as its dog management regulation?

Conditions within the park have changed significantly since 1979; increased visitation, addition of park areas and increased knowledge of resources within the park must be taken into consideration in the development of any dog management regulation. An NPS rule must also be consistent with applicable statutory requirements, such as the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act; the 1979 Pet Policy was developed without any environmental analysis. In addition, the draft dog management plan/SEIS found that accepting the 1979 Pet Policy in its entirety would not meet the purpose and need of the plan (stated previously); therefore, formalizing the Pet Policy as the dog management regulation was considered but dismissed.

18. What are the concerns about current off-leash dog walking in GGNRA?

Although the 1979 policy and current park information state that dogs off-leash in the park must be under control, the park has no legally-enforceable voice-control guidelines governing off-leash behavior, and currently many off-leash dogs are not well-controlled by their walkers. Uncontrolled, off-leash dogs create safety issues for park visitors and staff, and are a source of conflict between dog walkers and other user groups.

19. What is the definition of voice and sight control dog walking that would be required under a new GGNRA dog walking regulation?

As defined in the draft Plan/SEIS, voice and sight control means that dogs must be within direct eyesight of the dog walker, and that dog walkers must be able to immediately recall their dog(s) to their side so that a leash can be attached to the dog(s)'s collar, and shall demonstrate this ability when requested by Law Enforcement personnel. This definition is similar to other land management agencies that allow off-leash dog walking.

Comment [SES1]: Addressed above.

20. Why does the GGNRA draft Plan/SEIS treat dog walking differently than other areas of the National Park Service?

As described in the November 2002 Federal Panel Recommendation to the General Superintendent on Proposed Rulemaking for Pet Management at GGNRA, the park has a unique set of characteristics: sites which had historically been used for off-leash dog walking; the 1979 Citizen's Advisory Commission Pet Policy that recommended the continuation of those uses, and the park's adoption of that policy for over 20 years; and management of a significant portion of the public recreational open space in San Francisco and San Mateo and Marin Counties, where residents rely on portions of that open space for exercise of their pets.

Because of these unique characteristics, the park considered a range of alternatives intended to provide a variety of experiences, including voice control dog walking, while protecting visitor experience and safety and park resources.

21. GGNRA is a national recreation area. Do national recreation areas have different management policies than national parks?

No. All units of the National Park System are guided by the same NPS Management Policies, regardless of the park's designation as a national park, national recreation area, national historic site, national lakeshore or other (there are 35 types of national park units). Congress amended the 1916 NPS Organic Act in 1970 to make clear that the NPS must manage all units of the national park system to the same preservation standard.

22. What is "Negotiated Rulemaking," and why did GOGA use this form of rulemaking from 2006-2007 as a preliminary step in the dog management planning process?

Negotiated Rulemaking is one way that federal agencies can develop rules; this method requires the formal involvement of key stakeholders, along with the agency. Given the longstanding and passionate interest that various stakeholders have in this issue, and because GGNRA has a deep tradition of community engagement, the park saw value in working in partnership with stakeholders who have diverse values and views to try and develop a rule for dog management through consensus. The Committee was formed with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior to develop consensus recommendations for both voice-control and on-leash dog walking, as well as for use and limits of professional dog walking.

23. What was the outcome of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management and how will recommendations of the Committee be used by the NPS?

The Committee worked from March 2006 to the end of October 2007 but, after many meetings and working sessions, was unable to reach consensus on a proposed rule for all areas open for discussion. However, there was consensus on overarching guidelines for dog management and commercial dog walking as well as for a management option for one site – Oakwood Valley. All these areas of consensus have been included in two of the alternatives in the draft Plan/SEIS, and two are included in the NPS preferred alternative. Although the Committee was unable to reach consensus on a full rule, the many meetings of the Committee provided much information that aided the NPS in the development of the Plan/DEIS.

24. What should people consider when they comment on the draft Plan/SEIS?

The NPS is looking for substantive comments from the public after review of the range of alternatives, including the preferred alternative, and the impacts of those alternatives. Examples of substantive comments include providing additional factual information, noting issues or impacts NPS may have failed to consider, inconsistencies, and other comments of substance, as opposed to comments voicing like or dislike without an underlying rationale.

25. Once a final rule is issued, how will it be enforced?

The park will enforce the final rule as it does all other rules. The park will depend on the active involvement of user groups to support implementation of the rule by assisting in education and outreach to their members.

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Howard Levitt, 415-561-4730/415-725-8589
Alexandra Picavet, 415 561-4732/415-786-8021

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental EIS available for public comment

On Friday, September 6, 2013, the National Park Service (NPS) released a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Dog Management Plan (draft Plan/SEIS) for Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The draft Plan/SEIS will be open for public comment for 90 days, until December 4, 2013.

The draft Plan/SEIS follows a previous draft Plan/EIS, released in January 2011, that generated 4700 comment letters. As a result of the evaluation of the public comments, NPS determined that a Supplemental EIS was warranted. The Supplemental EIS incorporates new data, considers additional research, makes some changes to the impacts analysis, changes the management strategy to accentuate monitoring and eliminate automatic triggers; evaluates fencing as a tool to manage dog impacts; makes changes to the preferred alternative at several sites, and includes site specific alternatives and analysis for Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County. This new site in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area was added to the park in December 2011, after the development and release of the draft Plan/EIS.

Exemption 5

The overall purpose of the dog management planning project at Golden Gate is to determine the manner and extent of dog walking in appropriate areas of the park, provide a clear, enforceable dog management policy, provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, reduce user conflicts and preserve and protect natural and cultural resources and natural processes.

The draft Plan/SEIS evaluates the impacts of six alternatives for dog management in 22 areas of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The preferred alternative includes:

- site-specific treatments that allow for a balanced range of visitor experiences, with areas that allow on-leash and off-leash voice-control dog walking, as well as areas that prohibit dogs;
- Off-leash voice control dog walking in seven specific areas of the park where impacts to visitor experience and safety and sensitive resources would be minimized;
- On-leash dog walking in many areas of the park;
- no dog walking in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated;
- a monitoring-based management strategy that would measure compliance with the dog walking regulation and impacts to resources. The resulting data would inform park management and law enforcement when, where, and how to prioritize responses to noncompliance .;

- Permits allowing both individual and commercial dog walkers to walk more than three dogs, with a limit of six dogs, in seven areas of the park, and;
- site-specific analysis of dog walking alternatives in Rancho Corral de Tierra, the newest park site in San Mateo County.

Public Comments Welcomed
The National Park Service will accept comments on the Plan/SEIS for 90 days, until December 4, 2013. All comments are welcome, but the NPS is most interested in comments on the changes between the draft

and supplemental EIS. Comments submitted on the earlier draft Plan/ EIS (DEIS) will continue to be considered and do not need to be resubmitted.

Copies of the draft Plan/SEIS will be available for public review at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"][]. A limited number of hard copies and compact discs will be available at Park Headquarters, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123, or on request. Copies of the draft Plan/SEIS will also be available at local libraries in San Mateo, San Francisco and Marin Counties, as well as in Berkeley and Oakland. A full list of libraries is at www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm

Public Meetings
The NPS will hold three open-house format public meetings during the comment period. The dates and locations for these meetings are:

Saturday, November 2, 2013, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM
Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D, Fleet Room
2 Marina Blvd
San Francisco, CA 94123

Monday, November 4, 2013, 4:30-8:30 PM
Farallone View Elementary School
1100 LeConte Avenue
Montara, CA 94037

Wednesday, November 6, 2013, 4:00-8:00 PM
Tamalpais High School
Ruby Scott Gym
700 Miller Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Rulemaking Process: The Plan/SEIS is one step in developing a final rule on dog walking in Golden Gate National Recreation Area. After comments on the Plan/SEIS have been received, evaluated, and addressed, a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be published and circulated for public comment. A final rule will be published after the Final Plan/FEIS has been published and a Record of Decision signed, in early 2015.

- [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/ggnra"] -

Additional Information on Commenting
NPS encourages commenting online through the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website for the project at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga"]. Note that the deadline for submitting comments online in PEPC is **midnight, Mountain Time (11pm Pacific Time)** on December 5, 2013.

Comment [EMB2]: Because the PEPC server is located in Denver, and only accepts dates in MT. So, if we say midnight Dec. 4 MT, there will be one hour it won't be available for public comment.

Written comments may be sent by U.S. Postal Service or other mail delivery service or hand-delivered to: Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123.

Comments will also be accepted during the three open house public meetings.

Comments will not be accepted by fax, e-mail, or in any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

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For Immediate Release

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Exemption 5

The overall purpose of the dog management planning project at Golden Gate is to determine the manner and extent of dog walking in appropriate areas of the park, provide a clear, enforceable dog management policy, provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, reduce user conflicts and preserve and protect natural and cultural resources and natural processes.

The draft Plan/SEIS evaluates the impacts of six alternatives for dog management in 22 areas of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The preferred alternative includes:

- site-specific treatments that allow for a balanced range of visitor experiences, with areas that allow on-leash and off-leash voice-control dog walking, as well as areas that prohibit dogs;
- Off-leash voice control dog walking in seven specific areas of the park where impacts to visitor experience and safety and sensitive resources would be minimized;
- On-leash dog walking in many areas of the park;
- no dog walking in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated;
- a monitoring-based management strategy that would measure compliance with the dog walking regulation and impacts to resources. The resulting data would inform park management and law enforcement when, where, and how to prioritize responses to noncompliance .;

- Permits allowing both individual and commercial dog walkers to walk more than three dogs, with a limit of six dogs, in seven areas of the park, and;
- site-specific analysis of dog walking alternatives in Rancho Corral de Tierra, the newest park site in San Mateo County.

Public Comments Welcomed
The National Park Service will accept comments on the Plan/SEIS for 90 days, until December 4, 2013. All comments are welcome, but the NPS is most interested in comments on the changes between the draft

and supplemental EIS. Comments submitted on the earlier draft Plan/ EIS (DEIS) will continue to be considered and do not need to be resubmitted.

Copies of the draft Plan/SEIS will be available for public review at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"][]. A limited number of hard copies and compact discs will be available at Park Headquarters, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123, or on request. Copies of the draft Plan/SEIS will also be available at local libraries in San Mateo, San Francisco and Marin Counties, as well as in Berkeley and Oakland. A full list of libraries is at www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm

Public Meetings
The NPS will hold three open-house format public meetings during the comment period. The dates and locations for these meetings are:

Saturday, November 2, 2013, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM
Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D, Fleet Room
2 Marina Blvd
San Francisco, CA 94123

Monday, November 4, 2013, 4:30-8:30 PM
Farallone View Elementary School
1100 LeConte Avenue
Montara, CA 94037

Wednesday, November 6, 2013, 4:00-8:00 PM
Tamalpais High School
Ruby Scott Gym
700 Miller Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Rulemaking Process: The draft Plan/SEIS is one step in developing a final rule on dog walking in Golden Gate National Recreation Area. After comments on the draft Plan/SEIS have been received, evaluated, and addressed, a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be published and circulated for public comment. A final rule will be published after the Final Plan/FEIS has been published and a Record of Decision signed, in late 2015.

- [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/ggnra"] -

Additional Information on Commenting
NPS encourages commenting online through the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website for the project at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/goga"].
Note that the deadline for submitting comments online in PEPC is **midnight, Mountain Time (11pm Pacific Time)** on December 5, 2013.

Comment [EMB2]: Because the PEPC server is located in Denver, and only accepts dates in MT. So, if we say midnight Dec. 4 MT, there will be one hour it won't be available for public comment.

Written comments may be sent by U.S. Postal Service or other mail delivery service or hand-delivered to: Frank Dean, General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, CA 94123.

Comments will also be accepted during the three open house public meetings.

Comments will not be accepted by fax, e-mail, or in any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT

For Immediate Release

Contact: Howard Levitt, 415-561-4730/415-725-8589
Alexandra Picavet, 415 561-4732/415-786-8021

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental EIS available for public comment

On Friday, September 6, 2013, the National Park Service (NPS) released a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Dog Management Plan (draft Plan/SEIS) for Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The draft Plan/SEIS will be open for public comment for 90 days, until December 4, 2013.

The draft Plan/SEIS follows a previous draft Plan/EIS, released in January 2011, that generated 4700 comment letters. As a result of the evaluation of the public comments, NPS determined that a Supplemental EIS was warranted. The Supplemental EIS incorporates new data, considers additional research, makes some changes to the impacts analysis, changes the management strategy to accentuate monitoring and eliminate automatic triggers; evaluates fencing as a tool to manage dog impacts; makes changes to the preferred alternative at several sites, and includes site specific alternatives and analysis for Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County. This new site in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area was added to the park in December 2011, after the development and release of the draft Plan/EIS.

Exemption 5

The overall purpose of the dog management planning project at Golden Gate is to determine the manner and extent of dog walking in appropriate areas of the park, provide a clear, enforceable dog management policy, provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, reduce user conflicts and preserve and protect natural and cultural resources and natural processes.

The draft Plan/SEIS evaluates the impacts of six alternatives for dog management in 22 areas of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The preferred alternative includes:

- site-specific treatments that allow for a balanced range of visitor experiences, with areas that allow on-leash and off-leash voice-control dog walking, as well as areas that prohibit dogs;
- Off-leash voice control dog walking in seven specific areas of the park where impacts to visitor experience and safety and sensitive resources would be minimized;
- On-leash dog walking in many areas of the park;
- no dog walking in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated;
- a monitoring-based management strategy that would measure compliance with the dog walking regulation and impacts to resources. The resulting data would inform park management and law enforcement when, where, and how to prioritize responses to noncompliance .;

- Permits allowing both individual and commercial dog walkers to walk more than three dogs, with a limit of six dogs, in seven areas of the park, and;
- site-specific analysis of dog walking alternatives in Rancho Corral de Tierra, the newest park site in San Mateo County.

Public Comments Welcomed
The National Park Service will accept comments on the Plan/SEIS for 90 days, until December 4, 2013. All comments are welcome, but the NPS is most interested in comments on the changes between the draft

and supplemental EIS. Comments submitted on the earlier draft Plan/ EIS (DEIS) will continue to be considered and do not need to be resubmitted.

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Rulemaking Process: The draft Plan/SEIS is one step in developing a final rule on dog walking in Golden Gate National Recreation Area. After comments on the draft Plan/SEIS have been received, evaluated, and addressed, a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be published and circulated for public comment. A final rule will be published after the Final Plan/FEIS has been published and a Record of Decision signed, in late 2015.

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SHARP PARK WORKING GROUP STATEMENT AND LIST OF FINDINGS

Sharp Park is a 417-acre multiple use facility owned and maintained by the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, located in the City of Pacifica, San Mateo County within the boundary of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. In the 1920's, a golf course was built on the western side of Sharp Park around the wetland complex, 54USC§100707-wild life protected species protection As late as the 1970's, the San Francisco Garter Snake and the California Red-legged Frog were abundant on the property. However, for the last 30 years, the population has been endangered and threatened, respectively. Multiple reports from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and San Francisco Recreation and Park Department have pointed to the short-term need to restore 54USC§100707-wild life protected species protection

After the conclusion of 2010's summer public process, the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department convened a working group of land managers with interest in the property:, Dave Holland (San Mateo County), Steve Rhodes (City of Pacifica), Dawn Kamalanathan (San Francisco Recreation and Park Department), and Amy Meyer (Facilitator). Staff of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area also participated in discussions of the working group.

The working group engaged in research, site visits, and guest speakers to determine the following:

According to the US Geological Survey, beach erosion dominates the coast in northern San Mateo County from Daly City to Pt. San Pedro, with over 98% of the shoreline eroding over the last several decades: the rate (0.6 m/yr) has increased by 50% over the long-term average (Dallas and Barnard, 2011). This erosion is linked, in part, to a sharp reduction in the sediment supply from San Francisco Bay over the last century. Looking ahead, by 2100 we can expect global sea level to rise by 0.6m to 2.0 m (Rahmstorf, 2007; Pfeffer et al., 2008; Jevrejeva et al., 2010). In addition, there is an observed increase in the size of the storm waves striking this region (Allan and Komar, 2006). Further sediment supply reductions, accelerated sea level rise and more powerful storm waves combined will put increasing stress on beaches and adjacent ecosystems, likely accelerating coastal erosion rates over the coming decades.

All working group members agree that the recovery of the San Francisco Garter Snake is a top priority. Thus, the working group agrees the next short term step is the restoration of 54USC§100707-wild life protected species protection Restoration of 54USC§100707-wild life protected species protection will provide three times the current habitat by removing built up sedimentation, creating critical but missing upland habitat, and forming a connecting channel to Mori Point by moving Hole 12. A positive identification of SFGS would mean success of the short term goal and a United States Fish and Wildlife Service goal over two decades in the making.

As a long term goal, the working group finds a naturally managed system is the most sustainable approach to manage the property's coastal acreage. To this end, the seawall should not be further armored or heightened. A technical study by the various land owners and regulators, taking into account sea level rise, is recommended to continue to explore feasible transitions into a naturally managed "barrier lagoon" without undue risk to the protected species, adjacent property, and human life. This longer term goal will minimize management costs while creating a more naturally sustainable system for the protected species.

Findings:

a) The most valuable habitat and breeding opportunities of San Francisco Garter Snake and California Red-legged Frog are concentrated around [redacted] and [redacted] Habitat for the California Red-legged Frog continues to rapidly degrade at [redacted] and [redacted] where cattails and tules are replacing the open water habitat the frog depends upon for breeding.

b) The San Francisco Garter Snake is endangered. The California Red-legged frog is threatened.

c) San Francisco Garter Snakes have been subject to human, hawk, dog, cat and other predation.

d) Annual flooding of fresh water from the hills is captured in the golf course. Historically, the water was discharged into the ocean.

e) Sharp Park is a managed environmental system which includes seasonal pumping of [redacted] to control peak winter flooding. The pumping system is located at [redacted]

f) In 2005, United States Fish and Wildlife Service sent a letter to Recreation and Park Department recording stranded California Red-legged Frog egg masses at [redacted] The Department instituted a new pumping protocol and has not received further notice of violation from United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

g) Maintaining the existence of the seawall will continue to accelerate beachfront erosion, changing the natural beach profile.

h) With consideration of the needs for sustainable species habitat and the more natural function of a barrier beach and lagoon system, the golf course could be redesigned to coexist with viable populations of sensitive species in the long term.

i) Winter flooding regularly occurs now in the residential area north of the golf course from a combination of water from the hills captured by the golf course and sea water. If the golf course is redesigned to support a more naturally functioning barrier beach and lagoon system, it must provide a solution to periodic flooding of the residential area.

j) If the decision is made to support a more naturally functioning barrier beach and lagoon system and golf remains a use on the property, design costs and future maintenance need to be addressed within a sustainable management plan.

k) The short term and long term management plans must be integrated and funded for a design that progressively moves from solving short-term problems to a long-term sustainable management program.

USGS quote courtesy of Patrick Barnard (USGS in Santa Cruz). Mr. Barnard's area of expertise is coastal resources.

Literature Cited:

Allan, J.C. and Komar, P.D., 2006. Climate controls on US West Coast erosion processes. Journal of Coastal Research, v. 22, no. 3, p. 511-529

Dallas, K.L., Barnard, P.L., Anthropogenic influences on shoreline and nearshore evolution in the San Francisco Bay coastal system, Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science (2011), doi:10.1016/j.ecss.2010.12.031

Jevrejeva, S., J. C. Moore, and A. Grinsted (2010), How will sea level respond to changes in natural and anthropogenic forcings by 2100?, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 37, L07703, doi:10.1029/2010GL042947.

Pfeffer, W.T., Harper, J.T. and O'Neel, S., 2008. Kinematic constraints on glacier contributions to 21st-century sea-level rise. Science, 331, p. 1340-1243

Rahmstorf, S., 2007. A semi-empirical approach to projecting future sea-level rise. Science. Volume 315, p. 368-370

Dear Howard,

Here is the draft summary of the SNPL management plan. Thanks again for the opportunity to complete such a challenging task.

A few notes:

*** As you know, the plan has 60 pages and over a hundred subheadings. I tried to pull out portions of the most important aspects, however the result is a series of paragraphs with no real closure, as opposed to an essay-like summary. Addition of subheadings may improve matters.**

*** In the interest of maintaining my relationship with Daphne, I would appreciate it if she saw a copy of this before it goes out.**

*** I have underlined parts you may want to read carefully, as they deal with the more controversial parts of the plan. I would like Daphne to check on these points as well, as I am extrapolating to some degree in the summarization of concepts.**

*** I included the "Qualifier" because the plan is quite thorough in its scope (as it should be), and though I believe a summary is useful, facts may be more easily taken out of context when the supporting facts are missing. The fact that opponents of leash restrictions can more easily take facts out of context may well be a good reason not to release a summary.**

*** I didn't notice this the first time around, but the low number for SNPLs on Ocean Beach is 15 in the intro and 20 in the description. I have used 15 for the summary.**

*** As always, I am open to your suggestions. And yes, the wording in the last heading is a joke.**

Thanks,

George

A Summary of the
Snowy Plover Management Plan
Ocean Beach, San Francisco
May, 1998

A Qualifier
This summary of the Snowy Plover Management Plan was written to provide a brief overview of plans to protect this species on Ocean Beach. The full plan explains in much greater detail the context and rationale for the actions both already undertaken and proposed. We encourage you to read the full plan for a broad understanding of the processes involved in protecting the plover.

Introduction
Ocean Beach has been a popular recreation area in San Francisco for more than a century. Ocean Beach is also home to a small, pale-colored shorebird, the snowy plover, whose numbers have been greatly reduced in recent years, primarily as a result of habitat loss. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) listed the snowy plover as a "threatened" species in 1993. In order to protect this vulnerable bird, some beach activities that have previously been taken for granted can no longer occur.

Between 15 and 85 non-breeding snowy plovers use Ocean Beach for 10 months of the year, where they are subject to intense recreational pressure, and may be impacted by Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) and City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) operations. The actions proposed in the management plan are in addition to those already implemented, such as enforcement of existing leash regulations and changes in operation of heavy equipment.

Why do we need to write a plan and what will it tell us?
Following broad directives in the National Park Service (NPS) mission and the narrower scope of the Endangered Species Act, the need for this plan is dictated by requirements that the GGNRA consider impacts on threatened and endangered species and their habitats in all park plans.

The objectives of the plan are to provide background on public use and government operations on Ocean Beach, recommend actions that will prevent and minimize disturbance to plovers and their habitat, protect GGNRA and CCSF resources and provide for public safety. While the plan addresses a myriad of issues, it is intended to be adaptive in nature and updated as necessary.

The Snowy Plover's History at Ocean Beach
Ocean Beach today looks significantly different than it did when CCSF first began manipulating the dune line more than 130 years ago. The city has moved the shoreline westward, mined sand and built three seawalls. Throughout this time, snowy plovers have used the beach, and while no records of nesting plovers exist, they probably nested there before this period of extensive development and shoreline alteration. Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO) and the GGNRA have surveyed the plover population since 1979, and has found that numbers of birds tend to vary with the width of the beach and plover habitat loss in the San Francisco Bay. Wintering Snowy Plovers currently can be found from stairwell 21 south to Sloat Blvd. Plovers do not currently nest on Ocean Beach, and attempts to nest would probably be unsuccessful because of intense recreational use.

GGNRA and USFWS staff began informal meetings regarding the snowy plover in 1994, when CCSF requested a permit to move sand on Ocean Beach to protect the Oceanside wastewater treatment facility. Continued CCSF sand movement requests led the USFWS to ask the NPS to expedite a draft of the required snowy plover management plan by the end of 1995. It is important to understand that CCSF sand movement has no relation to enactment of the plan, and only expedited its completion.

How do we know what threatens the Snowy Plover on Ocean Beach?

To develop an effective management plan, the park needed information on the various impacts that snowy plovers actually and might potentially face. The park's wildlife biologist and trained volunteers began monitoring the snowy plovers on Ocean Beach late in 1994. Monitoring has included population counts, spatial distribution of plovers, patterns of use by people and dogs, levels of disturbance from all sources, and documenting changes in disturbance levels following implementation of protection measures.

Visitor Activities

Visitor activities such as campfires, horseback riding, bicycling and kite flying were determined not to have significant impacts on plovers, as long as existing laws are enforced and levels of these activities do not dramatically increase. The study found that days of extremely high visitation may result in displacement of disturbance on plovers on a few days each year, but that such disturbance was so infrequent that it did not merit managing visitation.

Unleashed pets were also monitored and were found to represent the greatest recreational threat to snowy plovers and migratory shorebirds on Ocean Beach. As opposed to all other visitor activities, many dogs instinctively focus on and chase birds, and these disturbances can be prolonged and difficult to avoid. The management plan goes into much greater detail on this issue, and we encourage concerned pet owners to read the plan in its entirety.

Local and Federal Government Operations

Most GGNRA and CCSF operations, including beach cleanups, patrols, habitat restoration and interpretive programs were found not to significantly impact plovers on Ocean Beach. Heavy equipment operations, nighttime vehicle operation, shoreline manipulation and back-and-forth driving on Ocean Beach were found to have the potential to impact plovers and have already been curtailed within the snowy plover habitat area (except during emergencies). Sand movement and large debris removal will be allowed only during the annual, approximately six-week period when plovers are absent from Ocean Beach.

Predation

No predation of snowy plovers has been documented on Ocean Beach, and predation by either feral or native animals does not appear to be a significant problem for these plovers. Predation is much more common during breeding season, when predators target vulnerable chicks and eggs.

How will the park protect the Snowy Plover?

The park has already begun moving forward in efforts to protect the plovers:

Monitoring and Resource Management

The park's wildlife biologist, in coordination with PRBO, will continue to oversee several types of long-term plover monitoring, including monitoring disturbances, attempts at breeding, and the effects of oil and sewage spills. The park will continue to enhance plover habitat and restore native vegetation on Ocean Beach.

Management Zoning

The park will continue to manage Ocean Beach as a natural area, and will review all but routine, daily activities in the snowy plover management area (e.g. sand movement, dune restoration, special events, etc.) under the National Environmental Policy Act. (is this the correct extension of NEPA?).

Interpretation and Public Information

The GGNRA recognizes that the best way to protect the snowy plovers on Ocean Beach is to provide a wide spectrum of opportunities for visitors and park staff to learn about the plovers. In this spirit, park biologists have trained interpretive and law enforcement rangers as well as maintenance staff about the snowy plover management plan. Park visitors can read interpretive signs, explaining the status of the plover, along the snowy plover management area. Interpretive programs allowing visitors to see plovers in their native habitat have been ongoing since 1996. The park has also produced and distributed thousands of brochures on the "Plight of the Plover" and "Enjoying the Park with your Dog." The GGRNA Public Information office will issue press releases to alert the public of use restrictions and changes in management practices.

(Alt wording: Interpretive signs, brochures and programs designed to inform the public about the "Plight of the Plover" have been implemented over the past several years.)

Public Use Restrictions

Pets must be leashed in the snowy plover management area. No other public use restrictions are proposed, although disturbance monitoring will continue in order to determine if other uses of the beach begin to form threats to the plover. As in the past, dogs may continue to be off leash under voice control north of stairwell 21 and south of Sloat. Note that restrictions for GGNRA and CCSF operations are outlined above.

Will these protection measures allow Snowy Plovers to nest on Ocean Beach?

As noted above, there are no known records of plovers nesting on Ocean Beach, and the park does not intend to encourage breeding because reproductive success would likely be higher in quieter locations. However in the extremely unlikely event that plovers do nest on Ocean Beach, the park will allow only low impact activities such as walking, fishing, surfing and birding within 200 meters of nests.

(I'm thrilled/infuriated/befuddled.) How can I obtain a copy of the full (brilliant/oppressive/enlightening) plan? (I'm not exactly clear on this procedure)

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

Your letter of June 19, 2013 to Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has been forwarded to me for a response.

As you know, the issue of dog use at Rancho Corral de Tierra has been an extremely challenging one for us. We have been copied on the letters written to your office by Montara Dog Group, along with Crissy Field Dog Group that have expressed concern with signs that have been installed at Rancho that indicated that dogs were not permitted on large areas of the property. These groups felt that these signs came with no prior public notice or input. They also expressed concern that the upcoming Supplemental EIS/Dog Management Plan will describe the current No Action alternative as reflective of the current allowable areas of dog use at Rancho.

Regarding the permissible dog use at Rancho, as you know, the national regulation on dog use in areas managed by the National Park Service (36 CFR 2.15) requires that where they are permitted, dogs must be on a leash. Through discussions with interested stakeholder groups prior to acquisition, park staff worked to identify prime dog walking areas. Based on this information, and a desire to take a cautious approach regarding areas of resources sensitivity at Rancho, the Superintendent exercised his authority pursuant to the national regulation to limit dog walking to those prime areas and restrict dogs from other portions of the site though the park Compendium of rules.

At the time, we considered this a minor change to use, since the prime areas of dog use were still open to dogs. However, from letters received from Montara Dog Group and from discussion with others in the community, it is clear that for many people in the community surrounding Rancho this is viewed as a large change in use. Therefore, effective July 2, I have rescinded the Compendium entry that prohibited dogs on sections of Rancho. Therefore all of the property will be open to on-leash dog use under the provisions of 36 CFR 2.15. We will also change the map on our website, and modify the signs on site to reflect this.

We will contact Bill Bechtell and other interested stakeholders directly to get the word out on this change.

This decision will affect the No Action Alternative in the upcoming SEIS. In that plan, the No Action Alternative would permit dogs on leash throughout Rancho, per 36 CFR 2.15. We understand that Montara Dog Group would like the No Action alternative to reflect the unsanctioned and illegal off leash dog use that occurred prior to NPS ownership, but there is no legal basis for us to do that.

We will connect with your office prior to release of the upcoming SEIS, and seek your advice on how to get the word out as widely as possible. We will also hold a public meeting at Rancho midway during the public review process of the SEIS, and will again seek your advice and participation in that meeting.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

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Comment [CC1]: May want to indicate that there was extensive outreach conducted on this.

Regarding the permissible dog use at Rancho, as you know, the national regulation on dog use in areas managed by the National Park Service (36 CFR 2.15) requires that where they are permitted, dogs must be on a leash. Through discussions with interested stakeholder groups prior to acquisition, park staff worked to identify prime dog walking areas. Based on this information, and a desire to take a cautious approach regarding areas of resources sensitivity and balancing various user groups on the trails at Rancho, the Superintendent exercised his authority pursuant to the national regulation to limit dog walking to those prime areas and restrict dogs from other portions of the site though the park Compendium of rules.

At the time, we considered this a minor change to use, since the prime areas of dog use were still open to dogs. However, from letters received from Montara Dog Group and from discussion with others in the community, it is clear that for many people in the community surrounding Rancho this is viewed as a large change in use. Therefore, effective July 2, I have rescinded the Compendium entry that prohibited dogs on sections of Rancho. All of the property will be open to on-leash dog use under the provisions of 36 CFR 2.15. We will also revise the map on our website, and modify the signs in the field to reflect the regulations.

We will contact Bill Bechtell and other interested stakeholders directly to communicate this change.

This decision will affect the No Action Alternative in the upcoming SEIS. In that plan, the No Action Alternative will permit dogs on leash throughout Rancho, per 36 CFR 2.15. We understand that Montara Dog Group would like the No Action alternative to reflect the unsanctioned and illegal off leash dog use that occurred prior to NPS ownership, but there is no legal basis for us to do that.

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As you know, the issue of dog use at Rancho Corral de Tierra has been an extremely challenging one for us. We were copied on the letter written to your office by the Crissy Field Dog Group and Montara Dog Group that expressed concern with signs recently installed at Rancho that indicated that dogs must be on leash and that dog walking is not permitted beyond two areas of Rancho adjacent to neighborhoods. These groups felt that the signs and restrictions came with no prior public notice or input. They also expressed concern that the upcoming Supplemental EIS/Dog Management Plan would use this current status of dog walking area at Rancho as the No Action alternative, instead of the unrestricted, on and off-leash dog walking that had occurred in the years prior to National Park Service (NPS) ownership.

Regarding the permissible dog walking use at Rancho, the national regulation on dog walking in areas managed by the NPS (36 CFR 2.15) requires that where they are permitted, dogs must be on a leash; this is the applicable regulation for any new lands acquired by the NPS. In addition, through discussions with interested stakeholder groups prior to acquisition, park staff worked to identify prime dog walking areas. Based on this information, and a desire to take a cautious approach regarding areas of potential resource sensitivity and other visitor uses at Rancho, dog walking was limited to those prime areas identified by the community for the interim period prior to the completion of the dog management plan. A map showing this restriction was posted on the park's web site and distributed to members of the community shortly after Rancho transferred to the NPS.

At the time, we considered this a reasonable and minor change to use, since the prime areas of dog use were still open to dog walking and we received little negative feedback from the community. However, from the recent letters received from Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group, and from discussion with others in the community, it is clear that many people in the community surrounding Rancho, reminded of the status of dog walking by the new signs, view this as a large change in use, especially when compared to their use of the site prior to the NPS ownership. Therefore, effective July 2, I have rescinded the restriction that limited dog walking to certain areas of Rancho. This opens all of the property to on-leash dog walking. Our field staff have been fully briefed on this change, and we will update the map on our website and modify the signs on site to reflect this change. We will also contact Bill Bechtell and other interested stakeholders directly to ensure that the word gets out about this change.

This decision will also affect the No Action Alternative in the upcoming SEIS, which will be revised to reflect this changed management status. We understand that Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group believe the No Action alternative should reflect the unsanctioned off-leash dog use that occurred prior to NPS ownership, but that is a management status we could not legally continue under existing NPS regulations. These regulations will pertain at Rancho until new rules developed out of the Dog Management Plan are put in place.

We will connect with your office prior to release of the upcoming SEIS, which will now occur in early fall. We will also be holding public open house meetings during the SEIS public review and comment process; one of those meetings will be in San Mateo County, close to Rancho. We would welcome your participation in that meeting.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

Your letter of June 19, 2013 to Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has been forwarded to me for a response.

As you know, the issue of dog use at Rancho Corral de Tierra has been evolving since NPS management of the property began in December 2011. We were copied on the letter written to your office by the Crissy Field Dog Group and Montara Dog Group that expressed concern with recently installed signs that described our interim designation of where dog walking is permitted in Rancho. These groups felt that these designations signs came with no prior public notice or input. They also expressed concern that the upcoming Supplemental EIS/Dog Management Plan would use this current status of dog walking area at Rancho as the "No Action" alternative, instead of the unsanctioned but largely unrestricted dog walking that had occurred in the years prior to National Park Service (NPS) ownership.

Regarding the permissible dog walking use at Rancho, the national regulation on dog walking in areas managed by the NPS (36 CFR 2.15) requires that where they are permitted, dogs must be on a leash; this is the applicable regulation for any new lands acquired by the NPS. In addition, through discussions with interested stakeholder groups prior to acquisition, park staff worked to identify prime dog walking areas. Based on this information, and a desire to take a cautious approach regarding areas of potential resource sensitivity and other visitor uses at Rancho, dog walking was limited to those prime areas identified by the community for the interim period prior to the completion of the dog management plan. A map showing this restriction was posted on the park's web site and distributed to members of the community shortly after Rancho transferred to the NPS.

At the time, we considered this a reasonable and minor change to use, since the prime areas of dog use were still open to dog walking and we received little negative feedback from the community. However, from the recent letters received from Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group, and from discussion with others in the community, it is clear that many people in the community surrounding Rancho, reminded of the status of dog walking by the new signs, view this as a large change in use, especially when compared to their use of the site prior to the NPS ownership. Therefore, in view of these concerns, effective July 3, I have designated all of Rancho as open to on-leash dog walking. Our field staff has been fully briefed on this change, and we will update the map on our website and modify the signs on site to reflect this change. We will also contact Bill Bechtell and other interested stakeholders directly to ensure that the word gets out about this change.

This decision will also affect the No Action Alternative in the upcoming SEIS, which will be revised to reflect this changed management status. We understand that Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group believe the No Action alternative should reflect the unsanctioned off-leash dog use that occurred prior to NPS ownership, but that is a management status we could not legally continue under existing NPS regulations. These regulations will pertain at Rancho until new rules developed out of the Dog Management Plan are put in place.

We will connect with your office prior to release of the upcoming SEIS, which is now set to occur in early fall. We will also be holding public open house meetings during the SEIS public review and comment process; one of those meetings will be in San Mateo County, close to Rancho. We would welcome your participation in that meeting.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

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San Mateo, California 94402

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Regarding the permissible dog walking use at Rancho, the national regulation on dog walking in areas managed by the NPS (36 CFR 2.15) requires that where they are permitted, dogs must be on a leash; this is the applicable regulation for any new lands acquired by the NPS. In addition, through discussions with interested stakeholder groups prior to acquisition, park staff worked to identify prime dog walking areas. Based on this information, and a desire to take a cautious approach regarding areas of potential resource sensitivity and other visitor uses at Rancho, dog walking was limited to those prime areas identified by the community for the interim period prior to the completion of the dog management plan. A map showing this restriction was posted on the park's web site and distributed to members of the community shortly after Rancho transferred to the NPS.

At the time, we considered this a reasonable and minor change to use, since the prime areas of dog use were still open to dog walking and we received little negative feedback from the community. However, from the recent letters received from Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group, and from discussion with others in the community, it is clear that many people in the community surrounding Rancho, alerted to the status of dog walking by the new signs, view this as a large change in use, especially when compared to their use of the site prior to the NPS ownership. Therefore, effective July 2, I have rescinded the restriction of dog walking at Rancho, which opens all of the property available to on-leash dog walking. Our field staff have been fully briefed on this change, and we will update the map on our website and modify the signs on site to reflect this change. We will also contact Bill Bechtell and other interested stakeholders directly to ensure that the word gets out about this change.

Exemption 5

This decision will also affect the No Action Alternative in the upcoming SEIS, which will be revised to reflect this changed management status. We understand that Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group believe the No Action alternative should reflect the unsanctioned off-leash dog use that occurred prior to NPS ownership, but that is a management status we could not legally continue under NPS regulations. Thus it would not constitute the current, NPS management status which the No Action alternative should reflect.

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

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Regarding the permissible dog walking use at Rancho, the national regulation on dog walking in areas managed by the NPS (36 CFR 2.15) requires that where they are permitted, dogs must be on a leash; this is the applicable regulation for any new lands acquired by the NPS. In addition, through discussions with interested stakeholder groups prior to acquisition, park staff worked to identify prime dog walking areas. Based on this information, and a desire to take a cautious approach regarding areas of potential resource sensitivity and other visitor uses at Rancho, dog walking was limited to those prime areas identified by the community for the interim period prior to the completion of the dog management plan. A map showing this restriction was posted on the park's web site and distributed to members of the community shortly after Rancho transferred to the NPS.

At the time, we considered this a reasonable and minor change to use, since the prime areas of dog use were still open to dog walking and we received little negative feedback from the community. However, from the recent letters received from Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group, and from discussion with others in the community, it is clear that many people in the community surrounding Rancho, reminded of the status of dog walking by the new signs, view this as a large change in use, especially when compared to their use of the site prior to the NPS ownership. Therefore, effective July 2, I have rescinded the restriction of dog walking in certain areas of Rancho. This opens all of the property to on-leash dog walking. Our field staff have been fully briefed on this change, and we will update the map on our website and modify the signs on site to reflect this change. We will also contact Bill Bechtell and other interested stakeholders directly to ensure that the word gets out about this change.

This decision will also affect the No Action Alternative in the upcoming SEIS, which will be revised to reflect this changed management status. We understand that Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group believe the No Action alternative should reflect the unsanctioned off-leash dog use that occurred prior to NPS ownership, but that is a management status we could not legally continue under NPS regulations.
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155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
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As you know, the issue of dog use at Rancho Corral de Tierra has been an extremely challenging one for us. We have been copied on the letters written to your office by Montara Dog Group, along with Crissy Field Dog Group that have expressed concern with signs that have been installed at Rancho that indicated that dogs were not permitted on large areas of the property. These groups felt that these signs came with no prior public notice or input. They also expressed concern that the upcoming Supplemental EIS/Dog Management Plan will describe the current No Action alternative as reflective of the current allowable areas of dog use at Rancho.

Regarding the permissible dog use at Rancho, as you know, the national regulation on dog use in areas managed by the National Park Service (36 CFR 2.15) requires that where they are permitted, dogs must be on a leash. Through discussions with interested stakeholder groups prior to acquisition, park staff worked to identify prime dog walking areas. Based on this information, and a desire to take a cautious approach regarding areas of resources sensitivity at Rancho, the Superintendent exercised his authority pursuant to the national regulation to limit dog walking to those prime areas and restrict dogs from other portions of the site though the park Compendium of rules.

At the time, we considered this a minor change to use, since the prime areas of dog use were still open to dogs. However, from letters received from Montara Dog Group and from discussion with others in the community, it is clear that for many people in the community surrounding Rancho this is viewed as a large change in use. Therefore, effective July 2, I have rescinded the Compendium entry that prohibited dogs on sections of Rancho. Therefore, and all of the property will be open to on-leash dog use under the provisions of 36 CFR 2.15. We will also change the map on our website, and modify the signs on site to reflect this.

This decision will affect the No Action Alternative in the upcoming SEIS. In that plan, the No Action Alternative will permit dogs on leash throughout Rancho, per 36 CFR 2.15. We understand that Montara Dog Group would like the No Action alternative to reflect the unsanctioned and illegal off leash dog use that occurred prior to NPS ownership, but there is no legal basis for us to do that.

We will connect with your office prior to release of the upcoming SEIS, and seek your advice on how to get the word out as widely as possible. We will also hold a public meeting at Rancho midway during the public review process of the SEIS, and will again seek your advice and participation in that meeting.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
San Mateo, California 94402

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We will contact Bill Bechtell and other interested stakeholders directly to get the word out on this change.

Exemption 5

We will connect with your office prior to release of the upcoming SEIS, and seek your advice on how to get the word out as widely as possible. We will also hold a public meeting at Rancho midway during the public review process of the SEIS, and will again seek your advice and participation in that meeting.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

December 14, 2012

Memorandum

Re: Definitions of voice control

As GGNRA develops the Supplement EIS for dog management, we were requested by the park's Visitor and Resource Protection Division to develop a clearer, less subjective definition of voice control that could be more easily enforced. The background on this subject:

- The Draft EIS that went out for public comment in 2011 defined voice control (in Appendix E, ROLA Guidelines) as:

  > Each off leash dog must be under voice and sight control at all times, meaning that dog walkers must be able to recall their dog promptly, and shall demonstrate this ability when requested by law enforcement personnel.

- The 2012 GGNRA Compendium contains the following definition of voice control – there is currently a question as to whether this is enforceable:

  > VOICE CONTROL means dogs are within earshot and eyesight of the owner/handler and respond immediately to commands to return to leash when called.

- A review of other agencies and municipalities rules on voice control found that none are more specific that require a prompt or immediate response (see attached summary). The one agency who seemed to provide more specificity, Marin Parks and Open Space, when contacted noted that this was not their regulation, but rather how they verbally described voice control to the public.

  > Returns to handler immediately when called (two calls with a return limit of 15 seconds). Dogs are required to remain within 30 feet of the handler when on fire roads.

- For the dog EIS, we requested advice from Cindy Machedo, the Director of Animal Services of Marin Humane, who was a representative on the dog management Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. She has long experience overseeing the Basic and Advanced Animal Law Enforcement Academies at Marin Humane Society. She advises that we describe vc more broadly. Voice control should elicit a prompt response, but that response may be different for different dogs/owners - the most prompt response for some dogs may not be an immediate return to owner, but a down and stay response. Since the goal of voice contol in an incident is to have the dog stop what it's doing immediately, that response would be effective. Based on Cindy's input, here's a proposed revision:

  > Each off leash dog must be under direct voice and sight control at all times, meaning that dog walkers must be able to gain immediate control of their dogs by demonstrating that their dog can positively respond to commands with limited command attempts.

Overall, there are two outstanding questions:

1. How to define voice control for the dog management plan; is the proposed text sufficiently objective, specific and enforceable?
2. (Time permitting) Is a definition of voice control in the park compendium, prior to the completion of the dog plan/rule, enforceable?

Shirwin Smith_121412

Park Statement of 1/31/2012:

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Media Statement

Release Date: January 31, 2012
For Immediate Release
Contact: Howard Levitt, 415 561-4730

Law Enforcement Incident in Rancho Corral de Tierra

Golden Gate National Recreation Area shares the general public's concern over the unfortunate incident between a National Park Service law enforcement ranger and a man walking his dog off leash at Rancho Corral de Tierra, in San Mateo County, on Sunday, January 29, 2012. As is standard practice, the park has initiated a review of the incident, which will be concluded in the next two weeks. At that time, another statement will be released.

According to the information available to the park at this point, the incident began as a routine educational contact about the National Park Service rules on dog walking. The incident developed into a more serious law enforcement situation when the person being contacted provided false information to the ranger, and refused to heed repeated orders to remain at the scene while the ranger was in contact with the park dispatch center to confirm his identity.

In December 2011, Rancho Corral de Tierra came under the management of the National Park Service. Golden Gate National Recreation Area will continue to work hard to build close partnerships with the existing users of, and the communities that surround, Rancho Corral de Tierra.

-NPS-

Congresswoman Speier letter of 2/1/2012:

[EMBED Unknown]

Park Response to Rep Speier's 2/1/2012 letter:

United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
201 Fort Mason, San Francisco, California 94123

IN REPLY REFER TO:

A3815 (GOGA-CP)

February 3, 2012

The Honorable Jackie Speier
400 South El Camino Real, Suite 410
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Ms. Speier:

We share your concern about the incident at Rancho Corral de Tierra on January 29, 2012. We are dismayed that what should have been a routine visitor contact became something very different. From the information we have to date, the incident began as an informational contact,

Exemption 6

As you know, all aspects of the incident, including the use of an electronic control device, are currently being reviewed. The review is being conducted independently of the park, by the NPS Office of Professional Responsibility from Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. We expect the review to be completed within the next two weeks. We will provide that report to you once the review is complete. In the meantime, responses to the specific questions in your letter of February 1, 2012, are enclosed.

Somewhat lost this week in the furor over the January 29 incident is a bit of important news for the communities that adjoin Rancho Corral de Tierra. This week, as you know, the park announced that a Supplement DEIS and new draft Dog Management Plan would be prepared and released for public comment late this summer. This Supplemental will explore a full range of dog walking options at Rancho – with alternatives providing off leash under voice control, on

leash, as well as areas where dog walking would be prohibited. This means that Rancho will be planned for dog walking in the same way the other areas of the park were treated in the draft plan. The decision to consider a range of uses at Rancho came about because we listened to and heard this suggestion from the public during the draft plan review period.
I know that you share the late Congressman Tom Lantos' vision of this beautiful and important Coastside parcel as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Without your effort, the land would not have been protected forever for the use and enjoyment of this and future generations. We will do everything we can to get beyond this unfortunate incident, and build a positive relationship with the communities surrounding Rancho Corral de Tierra. We know we can count on your support in this trust-building process. Please call me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

/s/ Frank Dean

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Enclosure

Responses to the questions raised by Congresswoman Jackie Speier in her letter of February 1, 2012.

1. **Is it mandatory that a park ranger complete training in taser usage before he or she may carry and deploy a taser? If so, what is the extent of this training? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
    a. **What factors are park rangers instructed to take into account when deciding whether to utilize a taser?**
    b. **Are rangers informed about the risks inherent with taser usage including the fact that a taser can trigger a heart attack?**

    National Park Service (NPS) Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9/Chapter 32 *Electronic Control Device (ECD) Programs*, specifies that prior to carrying or utilizing an ECD, commissioned employees must complete the NPS ECD certification course approved by the Superintendent, NPS Law Enforcement Training Center. First time users must meet the basic Taser X26 ECD User requirements put forth by Taser International. Training also includes instruction and discussion of NPS ECD policy.

    An additional two hour training is required annually that includes: ECD fundamentals; ECD handling and use (e.g., equipment care and inspection, function testing, carry methods, deployment, subject target areas, etc.); ECD physiological effects (e.g., recognition of high risk groups, deployment scenarios, etc.); ECD post-deployment procedures (e.g., probe removal, medical treatment, evidence collection, etc.); ECD reporting requirements and ECD use policies,

and a review of use of force policy, court cases relevant to ECD use, and proficiency testing; qualification course and test. GGNRA most recently conducted the annual, two hour training in March, 2011 and again in April, 2011.

Exemption 5

Information on the potential risks of ECD use is included in both the initial Taser, Inc., training and the annual in-service instruction.

A DVD including NPS Director's Order 9 and the NPS Law Enforcement Reference Manual 9 will be sent to you under separate cover.

2. **If lawful, would you be open to the appointment of an independent investigator who would evaluate whether park regulations were violated and excessive force utilized during the course of this incident?**

   This incident is being reviewed independently of the park, under the auspices of the National Park Service Office of Professional Responsibility in Washington, D.C., with the concurrence of the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General. The review will determine if any park regulations were violated and whether excessive force was utilized in the incident.

3. **What steps were taken to educate the public about the dog policy change at Rancho Corral de Tierra which now only allows dogs to be walked on leash rather than off leash as the previous POST policy permitted? In addressing this question, please answer the following:**
   a. **Was there any signage on the newly acquired property indicating that dogs are only allowed on leash? If so, how many signs were posted and where?**
   b. **Was there a community informational meeting about the new leash policy after Rancho Corral de Tierra was acquired by the GGNRA in December?**

   As you know, when the Golden Gate National Recreation Area assumed management of Rancho Corral de Tierra, the national rule (36 CFR 2.15)on dog walking in national park areas came into effect, pending completion of the park's Dog Management Plan. This national rule states that where dogs are permitted, they must be on a leash. We know that this represents a change to the uses of Rancho prior to NPS management, and therefore we planned to provide a period of education about the new rules for visitors. This was the intent of the contact in the January 29 incident.

Regarding signage, on December 16, 2011, a week after we assumed management of Rancho, we published a map on our website highlighting areas where dogs would be permitted on leash. On December 21, 2011, we sent an email to both our general park list and our San Mateo list that announced the park's management of Rancho and pointed out the regulations that would be in effect under NPS management. During the week of January 9, 2012, we installed six signs at Rancho, all of them on the portion of Rancho closest to Ocean View Farms. Four of these signs - three in the community of Montara – include regulatory information in iconic form. One of those icons is the symbol for dogs on leash. Under separate cover, we will send you a map indicating the location and content of these signs.

There has not been a community informational meeting about the new leash policy since NPS assumed management of Rancho in December. However, prior to that, there were a number of public meetings at which the new rules and signage about those rules were displayed and discussed. In March, 2011, two months after the park released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Dog Management for Golden Gate, we held numerous public meetings, one of them in Pacifica, to seek comment and explain the proposed new rules under the draft plan. Those meetings, especially the meeting in Pacifica, included discussion of how the Rancho property would be managed immediately after transfer to the NPS. We also attended several community meetings in November and December of 2011 to describe the proposed plans for Rancho and the rules that would take effect when NPS assumed management of the site. In total, hundreds of people from the Coastside attended one or more of these meetings.

Congresswoman Speier's 2/8/2012 letter:

[EMBED Unknown]

Talking Points on dog access at GGNRA sites in San Francisco

- Proposed Rule for Dog Management at GGNRA relaxes the National Park systemwide pet regulations to permit off-leash dog walking in a national park unit. Under the proposed rule, GGNRA would remain the most dog-friendly national park site in the nation.
- From the beginning of the 14-year long process to develop a rule for dog walking in GGNRA, the park has examined every area where dog walking currently occurs with the goal of determining how this healthy activity can continue to occur under commonsense management. Of the nine sites in San Francisco, dog walking is permitted in substantial parts of each site.
- Five areas in San Francisco were identified for off-leash dog use: Fort Mason, Crissy Field (two areas); Ocean Beach; and Fort Funston (two areas).
- At Fort Funston, the most popular area in San Francisco for dog walking, over 40% of the usable space would remain open to off-leash dog walking, including the entire 1-mile beach front below the cliffs. In addition, the vast majority of the trails would be open to dogs on leash. Areas where dog would not be permitted would significantly improve safety for equestrians, hang gliders, the San Francisco school children who use the SFUSD environmental education center, and also allow those who currently avoid Fort Funston because they want a dog-free experience to return to the site.
- At Crissy Field, dogs will be permitted almost everywhere, including the airfield, the promenade, the picnic area at the east end, and nearly ¾ mile of beach. Off leash use would be permitted on approximately 30% of the airfield and 40% of the beach front mileage.
- What had been seen by the public as a draconian approach to responding to non-compliance in the original draft dog plan has been replaced by an approach to work with the public to keep sites open through actions such as outreach, education, additional fencing, increased buffer zones, and an off-leash certification program.
- NPS has indicated its desire to continue working with SFRPD to address the shared issue of dog management, which is a challenging issue for city parks as well as the GGNRA.

Talking Points

- The signing of the Record of Decision on the Golden Gate NRA General Management Plan (GMP)/EIS signals the end of a nearly decade-long process to develop a vision for the GGNRA and Muir Woods for the next 20 years. The GMP is the broad, conceptual **master plan** that guides planning and management of Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Muir Woods National Monument. All NPS units are required to have GMPs.

- Most of the goals in the previous GMP, approved in 1980, have been fulfilled. The NPS developed a new GMP to address changed conditions, including increases in **visitation and changing demographics**, greater **knowledge of resources and their significance**, and **expansion** of the park into San Mateo County.

- Planning for the GMP began with public scoping in 2005, and included public comment on a range of preliminary alternatives (Newsletter 4) in 2008. Since then the NPS planning team developed the NPS preferred alternative and released a draft plan in spring 2011. A Final plan, reflecting a thorough review of comments on the draft plan as well as input at numerous public meetings, was released in April 2014.

- The new GGNRA GMP reinforces the importance of both recreation and resource stewardship. It describes zones in which the public can experience the park in various ways. The plan identifies recreation as the first of the park's fundamental resources, meaning that providing recreation is core to achieving Congress's designated mission for the park. The GMP proposes ways to better achieve this mission.

- The GMP is a broad prescription of how the park will be managed. Specific management plans, such as the Dog Management Plan, address the details of where and how specific uses can occur. The guidance for dog walking in the Dog Management Plan will take precedence over the GMP.

- A Record of Decision is a document that summarizes a federal action, in this case implementation of the GMP, and provides a rationale for the selection of a final preferred alternative. The ROD provides full background and context to the decision, including describing the process by which the GMP was created.

- With the signing of the ROD, GGNRA is authorized to implement the proposals in the GMP.

FAQ

What is a General Management Plan?

A GMP is the broad, conceptual master plan that guides planning and management of a park for about 20 years. All NPS units have GMPs. **It defines the desired future condition of resources and describes the kinds of experiences that will be available to visitors.** It also describes potential major developments and how the park will manage user capacity.

Why did GGNRA need a new GMP?
Most of the goals in the 1980 GMP have been fulfilled. The new GMP continues that original vision, but addresses changed conditions, including increases in **visitation and demographics**, greater **knowledge of resources and their significance**, and **expansion** of the park into San Mateo County.

What park areas are NOT covered in the new GMP?
Presidio of San Francisco (including Crissy Field), Sutro Historic District, Fort Baker, and Fort Point NHS have recent land use and implementation plans.

How were public comments used to improve the GMP?
{Brian: …]

How was the NPS preferred alternative chosen?
[Brian… update]
The interdisciplinary NPS planning team evaluated each of the alternatives based upon why the park was established, fundamental resources and experiences *(Summary pp 6-8)*, environmental impacts, public input, and other criteria including broad costs implications. Based upon these evaluations, including how the park is managed today, the NPS combined elements of each alternative to create the preferred alternative. Long-time Superintendent Brian O'Neill (deceased 2009) and then Regional Director Jon Jarvis (now Director, NPS) were instrumental in shaping the preferred alternative.

What makes up an alternative?
NEED THIS?

Each alternative consist of 3 parts:

1. **An overall management concept** – that explains the overall approach and guides implementation if selected. I.e. "Connecting People with the Parks" and "Focusing on National Treasures" *(Poster and Summary Edition pages 20-23)*
2. **Management zones** – the lands and waters of the park are zoned differently for each alternative. The zones provide a set of desired conditions that the NPS would work to achieve over next 20 years. *(Poster and Summary Edition pages 14-19)*
3. **Written descriptions** – short narratives for the major areas of the park to help better explain the proposal.

What are the major elements common to all action alternatives?
NEED THIS??

(Summary Edition pages 12-13)

- Boundary adjustments (see maps)

- Climate change policy
- Facilities not directly related to the park mission
- Facilities for maintenance, safety and collection storage
- Native American engagement
- Ocean stewardship policy
- Park collections
- Partnerships
- Trails
- Transportation
- User capacity *(see Chapter 9, Volume III)*

What is the concept and major idea behind the NPS Preferred Alternative?

- *[BRIAN: Update]*

- For **Muir Woods and Alcatraz**: focus management on the resources and stories of highest significance *(Summary pp. 24 and 53)*
- For **Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo Counties**: connect the various areas of the park to people in the surrounding communities *(Summary pp. 29, 38, 45)*
- In both cases, this is a matter of emphasis. The preferred alternative incorporates elements of all three management concepts. *(See Summary pp. 20-23 and below.)*

What is the concept… Alternative 1 "Connecting People with the Parks"?

- Attract and welcome people to the park
- Reach out and engage the community and other potential visitors in enjoyment, understanding and stewardship of park resources
- Connect visitors with the park resources and promote understanding, enjoyment, preservation and health
- Provide visitor opportunities that are relevant to diverse populations now and in the future

NEED THIS ONE

?? What is the concept… Alternative 2 "Preserving and Enjoying Coastal Ecosystems"?

- Preserve, enhance, and promote dynamic and interconnected coastal ecosystems
- Recreational and educational opportunities allow visitors to learn about and enjoy the coastal and marine environment
- To help visitors gain an understanding of the region's international significance and history

What is the concept… Alternative 3 "Focusing on National Treasures"?

- Focus on the park's most significant natural and cultural resources and recreation opportunities
- Visitors are able to explore a wide variety of experiences that are associated with many different types of national parks – all in this park
- Other resources would be managed to complement the nationally significant resources and visitor experiences

Why are plans for Muir Woods and Alcatraz Island more detailed than plans for other areas?
A more detailed level of planning was required for both Muir Woods National Monument and Alcatraz Island due to:

1. high levels of visitation in concentrated areas
2. the finer scale and complexity of their natural and cultural resources
3. the national and international recognition they receive

What other park planning relates to the GMP?
DELETE??

The following plans are being coordinated with the GMP and will be incorporated as appropriate.

1. Headlands Institute Campus Improvement and Expansion Plan/EA
2. Marin Headlands and Fort Baker Transportation Infrastructure and Management Plan/EIS
3. Wetland and Creek Restoration at Big Lagoon/EIS
4. Marin Equestrian Stables Plan/EA
5. Extension of San Francisco Municipal Railway's Historic Streetcar/EIS
6. Dog Management Plan/EIS

What is the status of the Draft Dog Management Plan/EIS?
Decisions on where dog walking is permitted are being made through the Dog Management Plan process. That plan has undergone two drafts; comments are being reviewed and a draft rule, reflecting the final preferred alternative, will be issued for public comment late this spring, 2015. The guidance for dog walking in the park in the Final Dog Management Plan/EIS will take precedence over the GMP.

What about Costs? How will this be funded?
It is important to note that implementation of the approved plan, no matter which alternative, will depend on future NPS funding levels and servicewide priorities, as well as on partnership funds, time, and effort. The approval of a GMP does not guarantee that funding and staffing needed to fully implement the plan will be forthcoming. Full implementation of the plan could be many years in the future.

One-time capital costs to implement the preferred alternative would cost approximately $150 million. This is for the fullest vision of the plan over 20 years.

Approximately $96 million would be for projects that are essential, highest priority and require federal funding.

Approximately $54 million would be for projects that are desirable, lower priority and may be accomplished with nonfederal funds or in later phases.
BRIAN: CLARIFY??
*** *There is an omission in table 2, page 58 of the Summary Edition.*
Additional Staff (FTE) for the alternatives:

No Action = 0, 334 total staff
Alt 1 = 46, 380 total
Alt 2 = 35, 369 total
Alt 3 = 43, 377 total
Preferred = 46, 380 total staff

New Questions/As:

Why is so much of the park designated as a Natural Zone?
The areas designated as Natural Zones are generally those areas of the park where current visitation is moderate and is expected to remain so. These are places were infrastructure such as parking lots, trailhead facilities, and restrooms are generally located only at entrance points, so that a more natural experience is possible away from these entrance points. One of the unique features of GGNRA is that there is a remarkable abundance of natural areas despite the park's location in a densely populated urban area. The presence of these lands is the result of the agricultural and military legacy of the lands within GGNRA.

How will implementation occur?
Specific projects and programs will be implemented as priorities and funding permit. Since the NPS receives an annual appropriation from Congress, it is impossible to forecast an exact sequence of implementation. However, whenever a project in fulfillment of the GMP is proposed, it will undergo public engagement in accordance with park practice and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Will the plan limit recreation in the park?
No. The GMP proposes no blanket restriction on recreation. As a management plan, the plan describes desired visitor and resource conditions, and the park will exercise sound management to maintain those conditions. As new forms of recreation emerge over time, the park may consider regulation to assure that the quality of visitors' experiences and park resources are maintained and protected. An example of this is the way in which the NPS is addressing the advent of aerial drones.

Several concerns expressed in letters and petitions received after the Final GMP was released derive from a misunderstanding about the relationship of the GMP to other ongoing projects in the park, including the Dog Management Plan. The Dog Management Plan has its own, separate, detailed planning and public involvement process. Regarding dog management planning, the ROD contains a clarifying statement on pages 24-25 that reiterates language in Volume II of the GMP (p. 399) that "the GMP and dog management plan are separate and distinct planning efforts; if real or perceived inconsistencies are found, the final dog management plan would take precedence over the GMP for this particular use."

Why didn't more people comment on the Draft Plan?
Thousands of people participated in various workshops and community meetings about the GMP as it was being developed. At these various forums, the park received thousands of excellent ideas and suggestions that have shaped the plan. Alternatives were shared with a mailing list of several thousand people and organizations - as the alternatives were being developed - in a series

of 4 [Brian?] newsletters. The park received over 500 comments on the draft plan, on top of the thousands of comments that had been received during development of the plan. It is likely that most reviewers of the draft plan liked the plan and its preferred alternative, and felt no need to add additional comment.

Why didn't you issue another Draft in response to requests from several groups and some elected officials?

There is no compelling reason to prolong the process. After the final GMP was released, NPS received 16 letters and one petition. The letters and petition were thoroughly reviewed and considered by the NPS. Several letters and the petition reiterated concerns that had already been raised during the comment period on the Draft GMP. These concerns included a perceived change in management to diminish opportunities for recreation. In fact, the GMP is designed not only to preserve recreation opportunity in the park, but to enhance it. The petition, circulated on Change.org, contended that the NPS plans to "deny significant public use for longstanding activities like hiking, surfing, bike riding, and dog walking in popular places." This is incorrect, as all of these activities and many others will be enhanced when the GMP is implemented. Other concerns questioned the adequacy of analysis regarding Coho salmon in Redwood Creek, contending that park visitors negatively impact emergency response I the event of a catastrophe. These concerns, as well as the concerns about recreation opportunity, are addressed in Volume 2 of the GMP, on pages 391-448.

How can I learn about specific actions to implement the GMP in the future?

The best way is to sign up for the GGNRA electronic mailing list receive direct communication from NPS on future projects and programs. You can sign up by emailing your contact information to [email address to sign up?] You can also phone [Planning phone #] to sign up.

F

Talking Points for Director Jarvis's phone call with Rep Jackie Speier

Background:

- Rep Jackie Speier (D- CA 14th) represents the southwestern portion of San Francisco and all the San Mateo County portions of GOGA.
- Since 2011, she has been at odds with NPS on the issue of off-leash dog use in Rancho Corral de Tierra. The park acquired this 3500-acre parcel in Dec 2010.
- In January 2011, an NPS ranger used a taser to control an uncooperative off-leash dog walker in an incident that became a *cause celebre* for off-leash dog stakeholders throughout the park. The ranger was exonerated in an Office of Professional Responsibility review.
- San Mateo County and the US Atty both declined to pursue the criminal case against the off-leash dog walker. A civil suit by the dog walker is scheduled for trial starting August 11, 2014.
- Rep Speier was critical of the park in news stories over the taser incident, and called for a review/overhaul of NPS policies on electronic control devices. She also stated at that time that NPS needed to accommodate off-leash dog use in future planning for the site.
- In January 2014, near the end of the public comment period for the Supplemental Dog Mgt Plan/EIS, Rep Speier convened a public meeting, at which Superintendent Frank Dean was a presenter; she again reiterated her demand that NPS provide for off-leash dog walking at Rancho Corral de Tierra.
- At that meeting, she also endorsed the idea of NPS creating a "Recreation Roundtable," a panel consisting of a variety of recreation user groups, to serve as advisors to the park when it considers regulating recreation uses.
- In June 2014, Rep Speier participated in a news conference convened by SF Supervisor Scott Wiener and including the presidents of the boards of supervisors in the three counties in which the park is located (San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin). The purpose of this media event, which conflated the Dog Mgt Plan and the park's new GMP, was to release a letter to Superintendent Frank Dean demanding that he "save recreation" in the GGNRA.

Dog Mgt Plan Status:

- The park is preparing the draft Rule for dog walking, following review of over 7000 comments on the SEIS.
- The preferred alternative in the SEIS did not recommend an off-leash area at Rancho, due to the observed or likely presence of threatened/endangered species (red-legged frog; San Francisco garter snake).
- Instead, the plan recommended on-leash access on a number of the most popular trails in Rancho. This represents a large reduction in the areas currently available to on-leash dog walkers, since the entire property is now under the provisions of CFR 36, Sec 2.15 (dogs on leash).

San Mateo County Parks Position

- While Rep Speier is demanding that NPS accommodate off-leash dog use, San Mateo County Parks has strict rules in its 19 park units that prohibit dogs altogether.

- When the previous owner (Peninsula Open Space Trust – POST) was discussing transferring the land to NPS, the park asked San Mateo County if they would accept the northern end of Rancho for development as a county dog park. The County refused.
- The County recently obtained a property adjoining Rancho Corral de Tierra and is considering designating a small area for on-leash dog use. **Note: Rep Speier may not yet know this information.**

Recreation Roundtable proposal:

- The park does not support the idea of a multi-stakeholder panel to consider recreation uses for several reasons
  - The FACA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (2006-2008) convened to try for a consensus on a rule for dog management was a noble exercise, but was very costly, and consensus was as far away at the end as at the beginning of the process.
  - The park has no problem gaining the attention of stakeholders for any recreation proposal.
  - We believe the real motivation behind this proposal is to create pressure for the park to back off on its due diligence in protecting park resources and managing for the needs of the full spectrum of desired visitor experience

DRAFT 1/16/2014

Statement of Frank Dean at Rep Speier's Community Forum on the GGNRA Dog Management Plan
January 30, 2014
Stern Grove, Trocadero Clubhouse

- The issue of dog management at Golden Gate National Recreation Area has been around since the park was established in 1972, and inherited a number of areas which had seen off leash dog use prior to the establishment of the park.

- As is well known, the national regulation on dog use in national parks is very restrictive, and allows dogs only in limited areas of parks, and never off leash.

- As park visitation has grown over the years, and the number of dogs has increased substantially, conflicts have increasingly arisen between the desires of various user groups, all of whom prize the same key park destinations.

- At the same time, we have learned much more about the extent and significance of the park's natural and cultural resources. This park contains an extraordinary number and variety of plant and animal species, including more rare and threatened species than all but one other of the nation's national parks. **[fact check]** As you know, we are duty bound to assure the protection of these resources.

- In 2003, our park sought, and was given permission, to develop a regulation that would permit off leash dog walking in certain areas of the park where that use is appropriate. Permission to develop this park-specific rule, applicable only at Golden Gate, was given in recognition of the unique setting and circumstances of the park.

- Recreation is at the heart of the purposes of the park -always has been, and always will be. Golden Gate National Recreation Area has arguably the broadest variety of recreation activities of any park in the 401-unit National Park system. These uses include dog walking, bird watching, beach combing, hiking, walking jogging, swimming, cycling, horseback riding, hang gliding, and board sailing, to name a few. It also includes relatively new recreation activities such as orienteering and radio-operated model planes. Some of these activities conflict with others, and we are required to do what we can to reduce those conflicts.

- People love this park and are passionate about it. The challenge for us in developing a plan to manage the important activity of dog walking is to create a plan that acknowledges and fulfills the passionate and often conflicting desires of a broad variety of park users to the best of our ability, while fulfilling our obligation to protect resources for the future – all in a way that is understandable and manageable.

- We have been actively working to develop a dog management plan for 12 years, and the process has been among the most publically-engaged of any ever undertaken by the National Park Service. Immediately following this meeting, we will hold our fourth public open house meeting to receive comment on the Supplemental draft environmental impact statement for dog management. This is in addition to the 5 public open houses we held on the first draft plan in 2011. When today's meeting is over, we will have held nine public open houses on the two drafts plans, and provided cumulatively 9 months for public comment.

- Changes in the plan in Rep Speier's district resulting from the public and agency review of the first draft plan include new off leash areas added at Fort Funston and new on-leash areas added at Mori Point and Sweeney Ridge. In addition, two areas were recommended for on-leash use at Rancho Corral de Tierra.

- Thank you for your support of the park. We welcome your questions and comments at this meeting hosted by Congresswoman Speier, as well as your submission of comments on the draft plan, online, by mail, or at the meeting that follows this one.

Anticipated Q's and As

General:

Q: Everything is working fine in the park now – why did you do this plan?

A: Unfortunately, everything is not fine in the park as it relates to dog use. There is much confusion on what rule applies to what area, we have seen conflicts between dog owners and between dogs and visitors, and we have seen wildlife and plants in the park damaged by dog use. We have received phone and mail complaints who say they will not use one or another area because they are afraid of dogs or don't like dogs, and park visitors and employees have been bitten by dogs. At the same time, our planning process has proceeded from the position that dog walking is an appropriate use in the park, provided it is properly managed.

Q: How much have you spent on this planning effort? Where has the money come from?

A: Approximately $ [Michael?]

Q: *How much will it cost to implement the plan, and where will you get the funds?*

A: We estimate it will cost $2.1-2.7 million annually to implement the plan, depending he alternative selected. The low cost is for the alternative that is most restrictive of dog use; the high cost is for the alternative that is least restrictive of dog use. Resources to implement the plan will largely come from allocating existing staff to implementation of the plan. [Frank, Aaron, Michael?]

Q: Since the majority of the 8000 comments on the original draft plan called for more off leash dog walking in the park, why did you make such minimal changes in this supplemental draft?

A: Changes that met the goals of the plan were made, based on review of the comments. However, review of the comments against the plan's goals affirmed most of the recommendations in the original draft plan.

Q: Where is the science showing that dogs have a negative impact on birds or other users?

A: This management plan is rooted in accommodating the broadest array of park uses and reducing conflicts. Protection of wildlife is also central to the plan, and review of scientific research on the impacts of dogs on park resources is described in the plan. [Michael – help]

Rancho Questions:

Q: Why did you start with a designation of just two areas at Rancho for off-leash dog use, and then switch to the entire property as on-leash?

A: Knowing relatively little about the resource values of Rancho, we took a conservative approach at first to avoid resource damage, designating areas for on-leash use that were traditionally used by the two main communities adjoining Rancho – El Granada and Montara. Later, in acknowledgement that implementation of the final rule would be a few years in the future, we designated the entire parcel for on-leash use, in accordance with the national regulation (36CFR2.15). In the meantime, we have continued to learn more about Rancho resources and visitor use patterns.

Q: In a 3700 acre parcel, why couldn't you find even one area to recommend as a ROLA?

A: Rancho has several streams crossing it, and is home to several known endangered species (red-legged frog, and possibly the San Francisco garter snake, and the [name of plant]. There is not an area adjoining one of the neighboring residential communities where an off-leash area could be designated that would assure protection of these resources. [Daphne, Susie?]

Q: Why did you not acknowledge the pre-existing off leash dog use at Rancho as you did elsewhere in the park?

A: Off leash use at Rancho before the property was deeded to the park by POST was not legal under San Mateo County law. We could not consider this illegal use to be a legitimate preexisting use that would be reflected in the No-Action alternative in the plan. [Michael?]

Q: Your recommended alternative does not allow any long distance hiking opportunities with dogs – why?

A: The plan under review is a draft. We welcome comments on additional trails that might be made available for dog walking.

Effect on neighboring Jurisdictions:

Q: Your new draft gives only a cursory look at the displacement effect on neighboring agencies' lands – why didn't you do more rigorous analysis?

A: We undertook a survey to determine where users at some of the key areas of current high use might go if the park plan was implemented. The results of the survey were somewhat inconclusive because most respondents told us they didn't know what they would do. As our colleagues at SF Recreation and Parks Department know, forecasts of displacement are mostly speculative. However, we have not heard of any major increase in use of neighboring agencies' lands during the 16 day park closure last October.

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The purpose of the park dog management plan is to provide a clear, enforceable implementation plan for dog use in appropriate areas of the park, with a focus on safe and diverse visitor experiences, while protecting park resources.

Q: How much have you spent on this planning effort? Where has the money come from?

A: Approximately $ [Michael?]

Q: *How much will it cost to implement the plan, and where will you get the funds?*

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restrictive of dog use; the high end is for the alternative that is least restrictive of dog use. Resources to implement the plan will largely come from allocating existing staff to implementation of the plan. [Frank, Aaron, Michael?]

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July 18, 2014

Background and Talking Points for Chris Lehnertz and Frank Dean call with Martha Walters and Bill Bechtell - July 22, 2014

Background:

- **Martha Walters** is head of Crissy Field Dog Group, an off-leash dog advocacy group. She has been engaged in the dog walking planning process for many years.
- **Bill Bechtell** is head of Montara Dog Group, a group representing off-leash advocates in the northern section of Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County.
- CFDG, on behalf of other off-leash groups, has characterized the GOGA GMP as "pre-decisional" to the park Dog Management Plan/EIS, because she believes the zoning in the GMP precludes options in the Dog Management Plan, which is still pending completion.

GOGA GMP Talking Points:

- RD has considered the points made by CFDG and MDG and others on the GMP, and feels that the park has adequately addressed the concerns raised by these and other groups.

- The FEIS for the GMP includes a statement (Vol 1, p 399: "if real or perceived inconsistencies are found [between the Dog Mgt Plan and the GMP] the final dog management plan would take precedence over the GMP for this particular use." **We have included language in the ROD for the GMP that reiterates this point.**

- The GMP is an excellent document that presents a compelling vision for the park over the next 20 years.

- Recreation is, appropriately, a centerpiece of the GMP. All of the zones delineated in the plan would allow a variety of recreation experiences. While not mentioned specifically in all geographic areas of the park, dog walking is consistent with the range of uses that will be found in the park, including off-leash dog walking in specific areas (note: the Dog Mgt Plan preferred alt identifies 7 areas for off leash use).

- Because the NPS has proposed regulation of certain activities (i.e. dog walking), some users conflate a limitation in their preferred activity with a general bias against recreation by the park. NPS does not have the luxury of seeing the world through a single lens.

- The GMP involved more than 8 years of effort by NPS staff and consultants, numerous resource studies, countless public meetings and workshops, and five broadly distributed newsletters.

Dog Management Background:

- SEIS comment period ended on 2/18/2014. Around 9000 comments received.

- Park/PWRO/EQD team completed review of comments and considered changes to the preferred alternative in the SEIS. There are still no off-leash areas proposed for San Mateo County, which is a sore point for off-leash advocates and Rep Jackie Speier.

- Draft Rule is in development – depending on OMB review schedule, will be ready for public release in late fall 2014 or early winter 2015.

- Walters and Bechtell will probably bring up the idea of creating a standing "recreation roundtable" made up of a variety of recreation user group to advise the park in reaching decisions on appropriate uses. This idea was picked up by Rep Speier. For several reasons, the park does not favor this idea – decisions on rec uses are complicated and require NPS independence to assure resource protection; experience with the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee during the Dog Mgt Planning process, which failed to achieve any consensus; opportunity for politicization, etc.

- Recent Compendium change requiring permits and setting a limit on the number of dogs (6) that commercial dog walkers can walk at one time have been met with general support by the commercial dog walking community. There have been 145 permit applications submitted since June 2, with requests for badges for 210 professional dog walkers.

COMMERCIAL DOG WALKING INTERIM PERMIT PACKAGE
REMAINING STEPS PRIOR TO PUBLIC ROLL OUT
As of 1/10/14

The CDW interim permit package consists of 3 sections; below are each with status, and steps left to get to final:

- Summary document, in memo form (the public piece)
  - Complete – inc. review by SOL
  - Prior to release, see comment on pg 3 requiring an update on the # of permits issued to date in SF and Tiburon. Name and contact info with for each contact is in the comment
- SUP
  - Draft final for cover letter has been reviewed by Lee Dickinson in WASO, and Barbara Goodyear
  - Draft final SUP has been reviewed by Barbara Goodyear and Trust legal staff.
  - Need to review comments as to changes needed/accept Trust edits
    - For questions on either, contact Lee Dickinson re: her input, and Barbara Goodyear for Trust edits (296-3380 or email)
- CE package – approval form and ESF
  - Final draft completed by Steve Ortega, with input from Shirwin, John Pelka and Michael Edwards.
  - Sent to Barbara Goodyear 1/9/2014 for her review
  - Any changes requested by Barbara should be reviewed/incorporated by Steve O.
  - Prior to release, see comment on pg 2 requiring an update on the # of permits issued to date in SF and Tiburon. Name and contact info with for each contact is in the comment.
  - Compendium language will be part of the package; that has been finalized by Barbara and Chad Marin.

Timeline: the expectation is that we will notify the public asap after the comment period on the dog plan closes on Feb. 18. The summary document will be the piece put out to the public; the SUP and CE package should be complete and ready to send out to anyone who asks for them.

I've also drafted some language – based on discussion with Barbara and Steve - that could be used for press release, Constant Contact email blast and postcard mailing. Sent to Steve O. 1/10/14 for his input.

All final docs should be prepared (pdf'd) and sent to Alex Picavet for roll out. Final decision is who/how we should take any comments that may come in on this. Best would be for Alex to work with Barbara and Steve to tie that up.

***Draft* GOGA Comment Letter re: Presidio Trust's proposed rule to regulate commercial dog walking**

Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) has reviewed the Presidio Trust's proposed regulation for a public use limit on commercial dog walking in Area B of the Presidio. We understand that the Presidio Trust is taking this action in response to the ordinance passed last year by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, which will regulate commercial dog walking, requiring a permit for four to eight dogs, liability insurance and dog licensing/registration, and will take effect July 1 of this year. Without action, commercial dog walkers may relocate to Trust lands, where commercial dog walking is currently not regulated. This potential redistribution could impact the Presidio Trust's mandate to preserve and protect the park's resources, including recreational resources. Similarly, we are concerned about the possible effects of the city's action on GGNRA lands, users and resources, given that the park's Dog Management Plan, final EIS, and final rule, are not expected to be completed until 2015. In the interim, the now combined actions of the City and the Trust will likely cause a redistribution of commercial dog walkers to GGNRA lands unless GGNRA also implements an interim permit system for commercial dog walking.

GGNRA's Dog Management Plan includes a range of alternatives for managing commercial dog walking, including: a special use permit program for all dog walkers (including commercial dog walkers) to walk more than three dogs, with a maximum of six dogs per walker; a limit of three dogs per dog walker (including commercial dog walkers, with no permit required); and a prohibition of commercial dog walking.

The NPS has considered but dismissed allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers in the Dog Management Plan/SEIS, because it would not meet the purpose, need, and objectives for the plan. We received multiple public comments on the Plan/DEIS regarding the appropriate number of dogs allowed per dog walker. Some commenters expressed support for limiting the number at six dogs with strict guidelines. Other commenters, including some dog walkers, expressed concern that public health and safety would be adversely impacted by allowing more than three dogs per dog walker (commercial or private), with some noting that four or more dogs could be hard to control. Commercial dog walkers noted the potential economic impacts to their businesses of limiting the number of dogs to a maximum of six, while other commenters requested that commercial dog walking not be allowed at all.

In establishing a threshold number, we were concerned first and foremost with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, two key objectives of the Plan/EIS. We question whether a dog walker could consistently control more than six dogs under voice and sight control, particularly in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. We were unable to find literature supporting the idea that more than six dogs would not damage park resources or impact visitor experience and safety, or put another way, would provide both resource protection and visitor experience and safety. Based on public comment, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management, park staff observations and research, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety, and would not meet the purpose of and need for the Plan/EIS. Consequently, the preferred alternative requires dog walkers with more than three dogs to obtain a special use permit (see Appendix F of the Dog Management Plan/EIS for permit conditions and restrictions) which would allow a maximum of six dogs. Dog walking compliance in GGNRA, including compliance with special use permits and impacts to resources, would be monitored after

implementation through the monitoring-based management strategy. Where monitoring finds non-compliance with special use permit conditions, permit restrictions such as individual permit revocations, time of use restrictions or number of permits issued may be instituted as mitigation.

In determining a threshold number, NPS also sought consistency with adjacent jurisdictions, since a consistent number would be easier to understand and enforce, two additional Plan/EIS objectives. In evaluating what a reasonable number of dogs might be, we evaluated the management actions of local and other government entities that have addressed this issue. Two local government entities, Marin County Open Space District and the East Bay Regional Park District, limit numbers to six dogs per dog walker. Multiple entities outside the San Francisco Bay Area have also limited the number of dogs for both commercial and private dog walkers to no more than six, including Boulder County Open Space, Colorado, which addressed dog walking in a comprehensive management plan. Jurisdictions with a primary resource protection and recreation mandate settled on six as the appropriate number. The City of San Francisco appears to be one of the only local jurisdictions with an ordinance allowing up to eight dogs per commercial dog walker in its own parks.

The NPS received public comments on the Plan/DEIS urging the park to prohibit commercial dog walking altogether instead of limiting the number of dogs allowed. These comments noted that commercial uses of parks are highly regulated, and typically exist to provide a service supporting some aspect of visitor experience, which commercial dog walking does not. We agree that commercial park uses, particularly those that do not provide a visitor service, deserve greater scrutiny than commercial services for visitors, and cannot trump the use of the park by the general public. However, one objective of the Plan/EIS is to evaluate commercial dog walking, and if allowed, create and implement an enforceable policy. Therefore, the Plan/EIS range of alternatives evaluates allowing and prohibiting commercial dog walking, and in alternatives where allowed, limiting dog walkers to three dogs per dog walker with no permit system, or four to six dogs with a permit system. If the preferred alternative, or other alternative allowing commercial dog walking, is ultimately selected, GGRNA would regulate commercial dog walking through a special regulation pursuant to 36 CFR 5.3, subject to the strict permitting protocol described above if more than three dogs are allowed, and with compliance evaluated through the monitoring-based management strategy (see the Dog Management Plan/EIS for additional details).

In summary, GGNRA supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, but urges adoption of a lower initial permit limit, given their presence within the boundaries of a national park unit and our contiguous properties. Additionally, in response to the potential of the combined effect of the city's ordinance and the Trust's proposed rule, GGNRA is now considering enacting an interim commercial dog walking permit system that would be in place only until the Dog Management Plan/EIS is finalized, and a final rule promulgated. We encourage the Trust to consider adopting the GGNRA permit system on either an interim basis or as part of their final rule, understanding that a more comprehensive dog management planning effort would likely need to be initiated by the Presidio Trust once the GGNRA Dog Management Plan/EIS and final rule are completed. A combined approach to commercial dog walking during the interim period prior to completion of GGNRA's final rule would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection mandates.

***Draft* GOGA Comment Letter re: Presidio Trust's proposed rule to regulate commercial dog walking**

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The NPS received public comments on the Plan/DEIS urging the park to prohibit commercial dog walking altogether instead of limiting the number of dogs allowed. These comments noted that commercial uses of parks are highly regulated, and typically exist to provide a service supporting some aspect of visitor experience, which commercial dog walking does not. We agree that commercial park uses, particularly those that do not provide a visitor service, deserve greater scrutiny than commercial services for visitors, and cannot trump the use of the park by the general public. However, one objective of the Plan/EIS is to evaluate commercial dog walking, and if allowed, create and implement an enforceable policy. Therefore, the Plan/EIS range of alternatives evaluates allowing and prohibiting commercial dog walking, and in alternatives where allowed, limiting dog walkers to three dogs per dog walker with no permit system, or four to six dogs with a permit system. If the preferred alternative, or other alternative allowing commercial dog walking, is ultimately selected, GGRNA would regulate commercial dog walking through a special regulation pursuant to 36 CFR 5.3, subject to the strict permitting protocol described above if more than three dogs are allowed, and with compliance evaluated through the monitoring-based management strategy (see the Dog Management Plan/EIS for additional details).

In summary, GGNRA supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, but urges adoption of a lower initial permit limit, given their presence within the boundaries of a national park unit and our contiguous properties. Additionally, in response to the potential of the combined effect of the city's ordinance and the Trust's proposed rule, GGNRA is now considering enacting an interim commercial dog walking permit system that would be in place only until the Dog Management Plan/EIS is finalized, and a final rule promulgated. We encourage the Trust to consider adopting the GGNRA permit system on either an interim basis or as part of their final rule, understanding that a more comprehensive dog management planning effort would likely need to be initiated by the Presidio Trust once the GGNRA Dog Management Plan/EIS and final rule are completed. A combined approach to commercial dog walking during the interim period prior to completion of GGNRA's final rule would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection mandates.

***Draft* GOGA Comment Letter re: Presidio Trust's proposed rule to regulate commercial dog walking**

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GGNRA supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use. But the fact that the Presidio is a within a national park area, we urges adoption of a maximum limit of six dogs per dog walker, consistent the limits specified in the alternatives that permit commercial dog walking in our draft Dog Management Plan.

As you know, the park has spent nine years of intensive work in developing a Draft Dog Management Plan. The park's Dog Management Plan includes a range of alternatives for managing commercial dog walking - from setting a limit of three dogs, to a limit of six dogs, to prohibiting commercial dog walking altogether. During development of the Dog Management Plan/EIS, NPS carefully considered allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers, but dismissed this notion because it did not comport with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, key objectives of the Plan/EIS.

We received many public comments on the Draft Plan/DEIS regarding the appropriate number of dogs allowed per dog walker. Some commenters expressed support for limiting the number at six dogs with strict guidelines. Other commenters, including some dog walkers, expressed concern that public health and safety would be adversely impacted by allowing more than three dogs per dog walker (commercial or private). Some noted that four or more dogs could be hard to control. Some commercial dog walkers noted the potential economic impacts to their businesses of limiting the number of dogs to a maximum of six. A number of commenters requested that commercial dog walking not be allowed at all.

While controlling any multiple number of dogs may be problematic, we are very concerned that dog walkers could consistently control more than six dogs under voice and sight control, particularly in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. Based on public comment on our draft plan, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management convened by the park in 2005/06, park staff observations, and research of the policies of other park agencies, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety

In determining a threshold number, NPS also sought consistency with adjacent jurisdictions, since a consistent number would be easier to understand and enforce, two additional Plan/EIS objectives. We evaluated the management actions of local and other government entities that have addressed this

issue. Two local government entities, Marin County Open Space District and the East Bay Regional Park District, limit numbers to six dogs per dog walker. Nearly all of the agencies outside the San Francisco Bay Area that we surveyed also limit the number of dogs for both commercial and private dog walkers to no more than six. These agencies include Boulder County Open Space, Colorado, an agency that pioneered comprehensive dog management planning. Jurisdictions with a primary resource protection and recreation mandate universally settled on six as the appropriate number. The City of San Francisco, with an ordinance allowing up to eight dogs per commercial dog walker in its parks, appears to be an outlier among Bay Area jurisdictions..

Along with Presidio Trust, we are similarly concerned about the possible effects of the city's action on park lands, users and resources, given that the park's Dog Management Plan, final EIS, and final rule, are not expected to be completed until 2015. In the interim, the combined actions of the City and the Trust, should it adopt a regulation with a six dog limit, will likely cause a redistribution of commercial dog walkers to pard lands unless we, too, implement an interim permit system for commercial dog walking. As a result, the park is now considering enacting an interim commercial dog walking permit system that would be in place only until the Dog Management Plan/EIS is finalized, and a final rule promulgated. This would reflect the current limit of six dogs outlined in our Draft Dog Management Plan. In anticipation of this, we would encourage Presidio Trust adopt a six-dog limit in their proposed regulation. A combined approach to commercial dog walking during the interim period prior to completion of GGNRA's final rule would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection mandates.

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However, while we support the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, because we share a boundary with the lands managed by the Presidio Trust, we urge the Trust to adopt of a maximum limit of six dogs per dog walker, consistent with the limits specified in the alternatives that permit commercial dog walking in our draft Dog Management Plan/DEIS.

Exemption 5

As you know, the park has spent nine years of intensive work in developing a Draft Dog Management Plan. The park's Dog Management Plan includes a range of alternatives for managing commercial dog walking - from setting a limit of three dogs, to a limit of six dogs, to prohibiting commercial dog walking altogether. During development of the Dog Management Plan/EIS, NPS carefully considered allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers, but dismissed this as a reasonable alternative because it did not comport with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, key objectives of the Plan/EIS.

We received many public comments on the Draft Plan/DEIS regarding the appropriate number of dogs allowed per dog walker. Some commentors expressed support for limiting the number at six dogs with strict guidelines. Other commenters, including some dog walkers, expressed concern that public health and safety would be adversely impacted by allowing more than three dogs per dog walker (commercial or private). Some noted that four or more dogs could be hard to control. Some commercial dog walkers noted the potential economic impacts to their businesses of limiting the number of dogs to a maximum of six. A number of commenters requested that commercial dog walking not be allowed at all.

While controlling any multiple number of dogs may be problematic, we are very concerned that dog walkers could not consistently control more than six dogs under voice and sight control, particularly in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. Based on public comment on our draft plan, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management convened by the park in 2005/06, park staff observations, and research of the policies of other park agencies, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety

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pioneered comprehensive dog management planning. Jurisdictions with a primary resource protection and recreation mandate universally settled on six as the appropriate number. The City of San Francisco, with an ordinance allowing up to eight dogs per commercial dog walker in its parks, is an outlier among Bay Area jurisdictions.

Along with Presidio Trust, we are similarly concerned about the possible effects of the city's action on park lands, users and resources. Given that the park's Dog Management Plan, final EIS, and final rule, are not expected to be completed until 2015, the combined actions of the City and the Trust, should it adopt a regulation with a six dog limit, will likely cause a redistribution of commercial dog walkers to the park's lands. As a result, the park is now considering enacting an interim commercial dog walking permit system that would be in place only until the Dog Management Plan/EIS is finalized, and a final rule promulgated. anticipation of this, we would encourage Presidio Trust to adopt a six-dog limit in their proposed regulation. A combined Presidio Trust-NPS approach to commercial dog walking during the interim period prior to completion of the park's final rule would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection and visitor experience mandates.

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Comment [SES1]: Licensing/registration not required in the ordinance

However, while we support the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, because we share a boundary with the lands managed by the Presidio Trust, we urge the Trust to adopt of a maximum limit of six dogs per dog walker, consistent with the limits specified in the alternatives that permit commercial dog walking in our draft Dog Management Plan/EIS.

As you know, the park has spent nine years of intensive work developing the draft Dog Management Plan/EIS (draft Plan/EIS). That document includes a range of alternatives that address commercial dog walking - from setting a limit of three dogs, to a limit of six dogs with a permit required, to prohibiting commercial dog walking altogether. During development of the draft Plan/EIS, NPS carefully considered allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers, but dismissed this as a reasonable alternative because it did not comport with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, key objectives of the Plan/EIS.

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In summary, GGNRA supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, but urges adoption of a lower initial permit limit in their proposed regulation, given their presence within the boundaries of a national park unit and our contiguous properties. We would further encourage the Trust to consider adopting the GGNRA interim permit system on either an interim basis or as part of their final rule, understanding that a more comprehensive dog management planning effort would likely need to be initiated by the Presidio Trust once the GGNRA Dog Management Plan/EIS and final rule are completed. During the interim period prior to completion of that final rule, a combined Presidio Trust-NPS approach to commercial dog walking would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection and visitor experience mandates.

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As you know, the park is intensively developing a draft Dog Management Plan/EIS (Plan/EIS). That document includes a range of alternatives that address commercial dog walking - from setting a limit of three dogs, to a limit of six dogs with a permit required, to prohibiting commercial dog walking altogether. During development of the draft Plan/EIS, NPS carefully considered allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers, but dismissed this as a reasonable alternative because it did not comport with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, key objectives of the Plan/EIS.

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In summary, Golden Gate National Recreation Area supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, but urges adoption of a lower initial permit limit in their proposed regulation, given the Presidio's presence within the boundaries of a national park unit.. We would further encourage the Trust to consider adopting the park's interim permit system, should it be implemented, on either an interim basis or as part of the Trust's final rule, understanding that a more comprehensive dog management planning effort would likely need to be initiated by the Presidio Trust for Trust-managed lands once the park Dog Management Plan/EIS and final rule are completed.

During the period prior to completion of that final rule, a combined Presidio Trust-NPS approach to commercial dog walking would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection and visitor experience mandates.

***Draft* GOGA Comment Letter re: Presidio Trust's proposed rule to regulate commercial dog walking**

Golden Gate National Recreation Area has reviewed the Presidio Trust's proposed regulation on commercial dog walking in Area B of the Presidio. We understand that the Presidio Trust is taking this action in response to San Francisco's commercial dog walking ordinance, passed last year by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, which will require a permit for four to eight dogs, liability insurance and training. We share the Trust's concern that without protective action by the Presidio Trust, commercial dog walkers may relocate to Trust lands where commercial dog walking is currently not regulated. This potential redistribution could impact the Presidio Trust's mandate to preserve and protect the park's resources.

However, while we support the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, because we share a boundary with the lands managed by the Presidio Trust, we urge the Trust to adopt a maximum limit of six dogs per dog walker, consistent with the limits specified in the alternatives that permit commercial dog walking in our draft Dog Management Plan/EIS.

As you know, the park is intensively developing a draft Dog Management Plan/EIS (Plan/EIS). That document includes a range of alternatives that address commercial dog walking - from setting a limit of three dogs, to a limit of six dogs with a permit required, to prohibiting commercial dog walking altogether. During development of the draft Plan/EIS, NPS carefully considered allowing more than six dogs for commercial and private dog walkers, but dismissed this as a reasonable alternative because it did not comport with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, key objectives of the Plan/EIS.

In determining a threshold number, NPS also sought consistency with adjacent jurisdictions, since a consistent number would be easier to understand and enforce, two additional draft Plan/EIS objectives. We evaluated the management actions of local and other government entities that have addressed this issue. Two local entities, Marin County Open Space District and the East Bay Regional Park District, limit numbers to six dogs per dog walker. The majority of agencies outside the San Francisco Bay Area that we surveyed also limit the number of dogs for commercial walkers to no more than six. These agencies include the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks, a Colorado agency that pioneered comprehensive dog management planning. Jurisdictions with a primary resource protection and recreation mandate universally settled on six as the appropriate number. The City of San Francisco, with an ordinance allowing up to eight dogs per commercial dog walker in its parks, is an outlier among Bay Area jurisdictions.

We received many public comments on the draft Plan/DEIS regarding the appropriate number of dogs allowed per dog walker. Some commenters expressed support for limiting the number at six dogs with strict guidelines. Other commenters, including some dog walkers, expressed concern that public health and safety would be adversely impacted by allowing more than three dogs per dog walker (commercial or private). Some noted that four or more dogs could be hard to control. Some commercial dog walkers noted the potential economic impacts to their businesses of limiting the number of dogs to a maximum of six. A number of commenters requested that commercial dog walking not be allowed at all.

We are very concerned that dog walkers could not consistently control more than six dogs under voice and sight control, particularly in an NPS area where there is a primary mandate of resource protection and a secondary mandate of visitor (not commercial) experience. We were unable to find literature supporting the idea that more than six dogs would not damage park resources or impact visitor

experience and safety, or put another way, would provide both resource protection and visitor experience and safety. Based on public comment, feedback from the discussions of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management, park staff observations and research, and law enforcement experience, we believe that allowing more than three dogs without a permit system, or more than six dogs total under a permit system could severely impact visitor experience and safety, and would not meet the purpose of and need for the Plan/EIS

Along with Presidio Trust, we are similarly concerned about the possible effects of the city's action on park lands, users and resources. Given that the park's Dog Management Plan, final EIS, and final rule, are not expected to be completed until 2015, the combined actions of the City and the Trust, should it adopt the city's regulation, will likely cause a redistribution of commercial dog walkers to the park's lands. As a result, the park is now considering enacting an interim commercial dog walking permit system that would be in place only until the Dog Management Plan/EIS is finalized, and a final rule promulgated. The interim permit would include a limit of six dogs per dog walker, based on information gained in development of the draft Plan/EIS.

In summary, GGNRA supports the Presidio Trust's effort to manage this special use, but urges adoption of a lower initial permit limit in their proposed regulation, given their presence within the boundaries of a national park unit and our contiguous properties. We would further encourage the Trust to consider adopting the GGNRA interim permit system on either an interim basis or as part of their final rule, understanding that a more comprehensive dog management planning effort would likely need to be initiated by the Presidio Trust for Trust-managed lands once the GGNRA Dog Management Plan/EIS and final rule are completed.

During the interim period prior to completion of that final rule, a combined Presidio Trust-NPS approach to commercial dog walking would provide a consistent approach on federal park lands by sister agencies, and equally important, be more likely to fulfill our joint resource protection and visitor experience mandates.

A72 (GOGA-CP)

Martha Walters, Crissy Field Dog Group
Bill Bechtell, Montara Dog Group
P.O. Box 475372
San Francisco, California 94147

Dear Martha and Bill:

This is in response to your July 23, 2013 letter in which you again expressed your concern over the No Action alternative that will appear in the upcoming Supplemental EIS for the Dog Management Plan at Golden Gate.

As you know, we disagree with the premise of your argument on what constitutes the No Action alternative, as we have described in our previous response of XX, XX, 2013. However, the historic use of Rancho Corral de Tierra for dog walking prior to acquisition by Golden Gate does factor into the impacts analysis through cumulative impacts, which include past actions.

We will be publishing the Supplemental EIS soon, and encourage your thorough review and comment on this issue and any others at that time, which we will respond to in the Final EIS.

Comment [SS1]: I like this letter, but am thinking that telling them they'll see our response in the FEIS may not be sufficient. What intermediation steps can we take to inform them, and their cc list, of our response once we've reviewed comments?

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Message

From: King, John SFC [JKing@sfchronicle.com]
Sent: 6/7/2013 12:04:23 AM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: RE: The topic you fear the most

Say, a Peter Fimrite piece from last year says 2,700 pages, for what it is worth...
-----Original Message-----
From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2013 4:43 PM
To: King, John SFC
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most
John, the 1979 Pet Policy in online on the Dog Mgt website. It's 3 pages long. Still getting the actual page count on the Draft Dog Mgt Plan/EIS, but I believe it's 2400 pages, including all appendices. HL
On Thu, Jun 6, 2013 at 2:41 PM, King, John SFC <JKing@sfchronicle.com> wrote:
Wow, that's a first. I'll call in 5 minutes.
-----Original Message-----
From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2013 2:20 PM
To: King, John SFC
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most
John, give me a call anytime - this is my favorite topic. HL

On Thu, Jun 6, 2013 at 1:51 PM, King, John SFC <JKing@sfchronicle.com> wrote:
Thanks!
-----Original Message-----
From: Alexandra Picavet [mailto:alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2013 1:49 PM
To: King, John SFC
Cc: Howard Levitt
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most
I am happy to help, but I am out today. I will pass this on to Howard. He is in the office today. 415-561-4730.

Thanks for contacting us. Let me know if there is anything else.

Sent from iPhone, please excuse typos and made up words my phone inserted.
Alexandra Picavet
Public Affairs Specialist
415-786-8021

On Jun 6, 2013, at 1:40 PM, "King, John SFC" <JKing@sfchronicle.com> wrote:

Alexandra:

I'm doing a piece on dogs in San Francisco (part of my Hills of SF series) and want to refer to the never-ending debate over dogs. Is there someone you, or the specialist I could talk to generally about the proposed dog policy, the number of comments to the EIR, the ongoing negotiations etc?

Thanks,

John King
Urban Design Critic
San Francisco Chronicle

415-777-8925
@johnkingsfchron

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Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

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Message

From: King, John SFC [JKing@sfchronicle.com]
Sent: 6/6/2013 9:41:10 PM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: RE: The topic you fear the most

Wow, that's a first. I'll call in 5 minutes.

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From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2013 2:20 PM
To: King, John SFC
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most

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From: Alexandra Picavet [mailto:alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2013 1:49 PM
To: King, John SFC
Cc: Howard Levitt
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most

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Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/6/2013 9:19:33 PM
To: King, John SFC [JKing@sfchronicle.com]
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most

John, give me a call anytime - this is my favorite topic. HL

On Thu, Jun 6, 2013 at 1:51 PM, King, John SFC <JKing@sfchronicle.com> wrote:
Thanks!
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From: Alexandra Picavet [mailto:alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2013 1:49 PM
To: King, John SFC
Cc: Howard Levitt
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most
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Alexandra Picavet
Public Affairs Specialist
Exemption 6

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Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/7/2013 2:16:21 AM
To: King, John SFC [JKing@sfchronicle.com]
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most

Peter may be right - but at a certain point, it's like the number of hamburgers McDonald's serves ..."billions and billions." Don't quote me. HL

On Thu, Jun 6, 2013 at 5:04 PM, King, John SFC <JKing@sfchronicle.com> wrote:

Say, a Peter Fimrite piece from last year says 2,700 pages, for what it is worth...

-----Original Message-----
From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2013 4:43 PM
To: King, John SFC
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most

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From: Alexandra Picavet [mailto:alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2013 1:49 PM
To: King, John SFC
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Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most

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Howard Levitt
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Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
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Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/6/2013 11:43:28 PM
To: King, John SFC [JKing@sfchronicle.com]
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most

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To: King, John SFC
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most

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Sent: Thursday, June 06, 2013 1:49 PM
To: King, John SFC
Cc: Howard Levitt
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most

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Public Affairs Specialist
415-786-8021

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Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

Message

From: Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/6/2013 8:49:26 PM
To: King, John SFC [JKing@sfchronicle.com]
CC: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: The topic you fear the most

I am happy to help, but I am out today. I will pass this on to Howard. He is in the office today. 415-561-4730.

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Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/6/2013 7:24:41 PM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: FOFU Dog Incident- Dog run over by Maintenance Truck

HI Shirwin: Yes, we need a formal report on this, and yes, I think we should contact Linda, explain what happened, and ask for her advice on taking it any further with the dog walking community. HL

On Thu, Jun 6, 2013 at 7:24 AM, Smith, Shirwin <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
Talked with Mike about this end of the day yesterday. Pushed to make sure this goes into an incident report and am weighing if/when to call Linda McKay about it.

SES

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Coffey, Mike** <michael_coffey@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jun 5, 2013 at 4:45 PM
Subject: FOFU Dog Incident- Dog run over by Maintenance Truck
To: Shirwin Smith <Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov>, Dan Collman <Dan_Collman@nps.gov>, Matt Wallat <Matt_Wallat@nps.gov>
Cc: Tom Bueno <Tom_Bueno@nps.gov>

Everyone-
Today:

Tom Bueno was driving our large Chevy pickup in the parking lot in front of our shop attempting to turn into where our dumpster is located. He had stopped for a large group of dogs (off leash, not in voice control, from a commercial dog walker) that were in the parking lot.

After they had passed, he proceeded into his right hand (less than 5 mph) turn when alerted by the dog walker to stop immediately. He did so and exited the vehicle to find a small Yorkshire Terrier type of dog underneath his truck. The dog walker claimed the dog had run under the truck from behind and the side and had been run over.

Tom asked the dog walker to stop and wait and he would call dispatch for a Ranger to take a report. The walker declined waiting saying it was her fault and she wanted to go to the veterinarian immediately. Tom stayed in the area and offered assistance.

The dog walker picked up the dog and claimed it was injured. She herded the other dogs into her vehicle and immediately left the Park.

Description of the walker:
Driving a brown or copper Honda Element
5'5" medium build, white, brunette hair with a cap on.
Jeans, t-shirt.

Tom- if there is anything I've left out, please fill in. Thanks.

Please document as needed. Feel free to call with questions or guidance on appropriate reporting.

Thanks,
Mike C.

--
Michael Coffey
NPS/GOGA/Maintenance/Ocean District
Cell- 510.205.5568

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/6/2013 2:24:11 PM
To: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Fwd: FOFU Dog Incident- Dog run over by Maintenance Truck

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SES

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

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To: Shirwin Smith <Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov>, Dan Collman <Dan_Collman@nps.gov>, Matt Wallat <Matt_Wallat@nps.gov>
Cc: Tom Bueno <Tom_Bueno@nps.gov>

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Mike C.

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Michael Coffey
NPS/GOGA/Maintenance/Ocean District
Cell- 510.205.5568

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 5/31/2013 5:25:30 PM
To: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Summary of call with Paul Ringgold

- POST adopts regulations of area (county/city etc) wherein land they purchase lies.
- Public asked to contact POST before coming onto their property
- Never "allowed dog walking" at Rancho

Pls edit or add to the above, and was there any feedback on conversations or relationship with Montara Dog Group?

SES

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

Message

From: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/17/2013 3:52:54 PM
To: Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov
CC: Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov; Howard_Levitt@nps.gov; Patrick_Walsh@nps.gov
Subject: Re: Assistance with Dog Plan Federal Register Notice

Okay Michael, I will call him.

Frank

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

From: Edwards, Michael [mailto:michael_b_edwards@nps.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2013 08:39 AM
To: Frank Dean <Frank_Dean@nps.gov>
Cc: Shirwin Smith <Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov>; Howard Levitt <Howard_Levitt@nps.gov>; Patrick Walsh <Patrick_Walsh@nps.gov>
Subject: Assistance with Dog Plan Federal Register Notice

Hi Frank,

The dog plan/SEIS federal register notice packet has almost completed the surnaming process, with one final hurdle at the Deputy Ass't Secretary's office (Michael Bean) - see message below. Although we've briefed the Ass't Secretary and received an OK to move forward, we still need a signature. Based on Stefan's message, I don't believe Michael Bean is requesting a briefing, but at this level, it might be best if you reach out to him directly, with supporting technical staff (park, EQD, region) as needed.

As far as timeline, we need to obtain the Ass't Sec. signature this week to release by the end of June.

Thanks, and please let me know if you'd prefer a different approach, or how we can help.

Michael

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Nofield, Stephan** <stephan_nofield@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jun 14, 2013 at 11:42 AM
Subject: Federal Register Notice
To: michael_b_edwards@nps.gov

Hi Michael

The surnaming packet is sitting on the desk of Michael Bean, Dep Asst Sec for Fish/Wildlide/Parks. Michael and Rachel have been away all week so nothing has moved in that office. Michael's administrative assistant mentioned that he did have questions. He returns to the office on Monday and I suggest that you give him a phone call at 202.208.7400. Mr. Bean is a really good guy, excellent to work with, and is our country's foremost expert in dealing with endangered species.

Let me know if you have any problems connecting and/or moving forward. Have a pleasant weekend. Best, Stephan

michael_bean@ios.doi.gov

--
Stephan Nofield, Program Manager
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
1201 Eye Street NW, 9th Floor, Org Code 2220
Washington, DC 20005

Office: 202.354.6922

--
Michael B. Edwards
Project Manager
Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Quality Division, Planning & Compliance Branch
WASO-NRSS
303.969.2694 (work)
303.638.1928 (cell)
303.987.6782 (fax)

Message

From: Edwards, Michael [michael_b_edwards@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/17/2013 3:39:10 PM
To: Frank Dean [Frank_Dean@nps.gov]
CC: Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Patrick Walsh [Patrick_Walsh@nps.gov]
Subject: Assistance with Dog Plan Federal Register Notice

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Thanks, and please let me know if you'd prefer a different approach, or how we can help.

Michael

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Nofield, Stephan** <stephan_nofield@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jun 14, 2013 at 11:42 AM
Subject: Federal Register Notice
To: michael_b_edwards@nps.gov

Hi Michael

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Let me know if you have any problems connecting and/or moving forward. Have a pleasant weekend. Best, Stephan

michael_bean@ios.doi.gov

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Stephan Nofield, Program Manager
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
1201 Eye Street NW, 9th Floor, Org Code 2220

Washington, DC 20005

Office: 202.354.6922

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Michael B. Edwards
Project Manager
Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Quality Division, Planning & Compliance Branch
WASO-NRSS
303.969.2694 (work)
303.638.1928 (cell)
303.987.6782 (fax)

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/18/2013 4:08:17 PM
To: Kevin Cochary [kevin_cochary@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Steve Ortega [Steve_Ortega@nps.gov]
CC: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; Michael B Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Comm dog?

All - I just discussed this with Frank. Status is: first draft of cover memo, CatEx and comp. amendment completed late May - reviewed by Barbara Goodyear early this month. Second draft, incorporating BG input completed June 11 and sent to Michael Edwards (NEPA project manager for dog man. project) and Steve Ortega to review. Once they have provided input, will redraft as needed and send out further as needed. Also, have discussed with John Pelka at the Trust having a meeting at that point, to determine best way forward for both agencies; John agreed.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Tue, Jun 18, 2013 at 7:12 AM, Francis Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi,

Just checking on the status of our commercial dog walking compendium change. Are we moving ahead? Hopefully THE dog plan draft is not going to be held up in DC again, but we have to deliver on this other piece locally. Please let me know if I can help.

Thanks,

Frank

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

Message

From: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/19/2013 6:35:02 PM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: GGNRA Dog Management contact list

Thanks, Shirwin.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 19, 2013, at 11:13 AM, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

> Hello Mr. Hill, your name and address were forwarded to me to add to the email contact list for the dog management planning project here at Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). This confirms that you have been been added to that list. The next step in the planning process is the release of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for our draft dog management plan. We estimate it will be released for public comment in the near future, and all on our contact list will be notified of the document's release and how to review/submit comments.
>
> Meanwhile, for background information about the dog management plan, you can go to http://www.nps.gov/goga/parkmgmt/dog-management.htm
>
> At that site you'll also see a link to current dog walking regulations in the park.
>
> Shirwin Smith
> Management Assistant
> Golden Gate National Recreation Area
> Ft. Mason, Building 201
> San Francisco, CA 94123
> 415-561-4947 (o)
> 415-716-9999 (c)

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/19/2013 4:46:47 PM
To: David Shaw [DShaw@parksconservancy.org]
CC: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]; Frank Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; Michael Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]; Greg Moore [GMoore@parksconservancy.org]
Subject: Re: John King article re dogs - tomorrow

Anyone have an SFChron on line account? Here's the story, but since I don't have an account, I can't access it. We should read it...

http://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/place/article/Holly-Park-symbolizes-S-F-dog-situation-4608693.php

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
Exemption 6

On Tue, Jun 18, 2013 at 4:11 PM, David Shaw <DShaw@parksconservancy.org> wrote:

I spoke with John King last night, too, at the public meeting for the Commissary site, and he said he is still just gathering information about the three finalist concept proposals and did not know yet when an article might come be published about that topic.

David

David W. Shaw

Vice President, Communications & Marketing

Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

415.561.3064

www.parksconservancy.org

Parks For All Forever

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2013 4:08 PM
To: Frank Dean; Stephanie Burkhart; Shirwin Smith; Michael Edwards; David Shaw; Alexandra Picavet; Greg Moore
Subject: John King article re dogs - tomorrow

Frank, et al: Just spoke with John King about an article he's writing for tomorrow's Chron. He has a feature called "Hills of SF," and I think he's going to feature Fort Funston. I had spoken with him about the history of our dog mgt issue, including the planning process. Couldn't tell where he's coming from, but we'll see tomorrow. HL

--

Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

Message

From: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/19/2013 5:55:50 PM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
CC: David Shaw [DShaw@parksconservancy.org]; Frank Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; Michael Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]; Greg Moore [GMoore@parksconservancy.org]
Subject: Re: John King article re dogs - tomorrow

I read it at home- will bring in tomorrow. Pretty innocuous related to the park. Included a very short encapsulation of the dog planning process. Mostly focused on city parks. HL

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 19, 2013, at 9:47 AM, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

Anyone have an SFChron on line account? Here's the story, but since I don't have an account, I can't access it. We should read it...

http://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/place/article/Holly-Park-symbolizes-S-F-dog-situation-4608693.php

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
Exemption 6

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I spoke with John King last night, too, at the public meeting for the Commissary site, and he said he is still just gathering information about the three finalist concept proposals and did not know yet when an article might come be published about that topic.

David

David W. Shaw

Vice President, Communications & Marketing

Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

415.561.3064

www.parksconservancy.org

Parks For All Forever

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2013 4:08 PM
To: Frank Dean; Stephanie Burkhart; Shirwin Smith; Michael Edwards; David Shaw; Alexandra Picavet; Greg Moore
Subject: John King article re dogs - tomorrow

Frank, et al: Just spoke with John King about an article he's writing for tomorrow's Chron. He has a feature called "Hills of SF," and I think he's going to feature Fort Funston. I had spoken with him about the history of our dog mgt issue, including the planning process. Couldn't tell where he's coming from, but we'll see tomorrow. HL

--

Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/20/2013 4:21:15 PM
To: Constance Leonard [Constance_Leonard@nps.gov]; Kevin Cochary [Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov]
CC: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Fwd: GGNRA Dog Management contact list

See below - we've heard similar "not enough enforcement" complaints before, but there's a specific complaint about officers included here. So, just fyi.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Steven Hill** <shill@igc.org>
Date: Wed, Jun 19, 2013 at 11:43 AM
Subject: Re: GGNRA Dog Management contact list
To: "Smith,Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>

Thank you Shirwin. But as I already said to Howard Leavitt, the GGNRA already has a dog plan, and you don't even follow it or enforce it. On any given day, I can walk down to Ocean Beach (which is four blocks from my house) and see dozens of people who are walking their dogs off leash in an on-leash area, causing damage to the habitat, threatening birds and causing aggravation to people (and when you try and inform the dog owners that they are breaking the law, the situation can become quite volatile and even threatening in a flash). So you guys are not doing your job as it is. I have personally gone up to two of your officers who were sitting in their vehicle, and told them "On the other side of that sand dune there are six dogs that are off leash in an on-leash area." They sat there and did nothing, and in fact became rude.

So trying to draft a new plan looks to me like just shuffling the deck chairs. Is it too much to ask that the GGNRA enforce the dog laws you already have while you are drafting a new plan? I understand that your are stretched for resources, but I really think the GGNRA has the wrong priorities. Dog enforcement should be near the top of the list, in my view, instead of at the bottom where it is currently.

Please feel free to pass on my e-mailto Howard and anyone else there at the GGNRA.

Sincerely,

Steven Hill

-----Original Message-----
From: "Smith, Shirwin"
Sent: Jun 19, 2013 11:13 AM
To: shill@igc.org
Subject: GGNRA Dog Management contact list

Hello Mr. Hill, your name and address were forwarded to me to add to the email contact list for the dog management planning project here at Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). This confirms that you have been been added to that list. The next step in the planning process is the release of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for our draft dog management plan. We estimate it will be released for public comment in the near future, and all on our contact list will be notified of the document's release and how to review/submit comments.

Meanwhile, for background information about the dog management plan, you can go to http://www.nps.gov/goga/parkmgmt/dog-management.htm
At that site you'll also see a link to current dog walking regulations in the park.

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/19/2013 6:44:22 PM
To: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Fwd: GGNRA Dog Management contact list

Just got the back story...

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Steven Hill** <shill@igc.org>
Date: Wed, Jun 19, 2013 at 11:43 AM
Subject: Re: GGNRA Dog Management contact list
To: "Smith,Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>

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Sincerely,

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Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

Message

From: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/29/2013 2:11:07 AM
To: daphne_hatch@nps.gov; bill_merkle@nps.gov
CC: Howard_Levitt@nps.gov; Aaron_Roth@nps.gov
Subject: Fw: [SFBirds] Fort Funston/Mt. Davidson 6/19/13

Daphne and Bill,

Howard is preparing a response and wasn't sure you were in the loop yet. He has some good points.

Frank

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

From: Dan Murphy [mailto:murphsf@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2013 05:32 PM
To: Frank Dean <Frank_Dean@nps.gov>
Subject: Fw: [SFBirds] Fort Funston/Mt. Davidson 6/19/13

Mr. Dean,
I was asked by a few people to forward the following e-mail string to you regarding impacts by off leash dogs on birds and mammals at Fort Funston. The absolute neglect of NPS in lifting a finger to preserve this once valuable natural resource is pretty well illustrated and as I post more data on Fort Funston it will be even better documented. You might want to have your staff to research Fort Funston on eBird from time to time if you want to get an idea of what used to be there in terms of birds. It will probably take me a few years to get all my data posted since it goes back to the early 1970s. Actually I hold no hope NPS cares enough about the natural resources in GGNRA to think this will make any difference. But let's put a happy face on this, GGNRA does make the finest dog park in the entire National Park System.

Dan Murphy
San Francisco

----- Forwarded Message -----
From: Dan Murphy <murphsf@yahoo.com>
To: Dominik Mosur <polskatata@yahoo.com>; SFBirds <sfbirds@yahoogroups.com>
Cc: Audubon Society Conservation <ggasconservation@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 11:14 AM
Subject: Re: [SFBirds] Fort Funston/Mt. Davidson 6/19/13

I've been entering data from notebooks for the late 70s and early 80s when I birded Fort Funston quite a lot. It used to be a must bird spot during the fall and spring. I just entered records for a few rare birds last night. I noticed you apparently didn't bird the Skyline Grove. It's pretty isolated and there is seldom a leashed dog there. It's incredible how it's changed since it's been stolen from the public by nature hating dog owners. The

jackrabbits, brush rabbits, California Quail and other ground nesting critters are all extirpated now. My notes touch on the wildflowers I used to see out there, but they've been trampled into oblivion. There was an incredible coffeeberry right behind the Y-Grove that used to feed up to 30 or so Western Tanagers and more than 50 sparrows each September. It was trampled into dust before I quit birding out there. Well, let's face it, even ice plant is in danger of extirpation out there. Just
looking out the back window I can see the high dune just north of the beach access north of Battery Davis. It's flattened now and is virtually devoid of vegetation. It's hard to believe the National Park Service so neglected this incredible resource that its major use now is a repository for dog excrement.

Dan Murphy

From: Dominik Mosur <polskatata@yahoo.com>
To: SFBirds <sfbirds@yahoogroups.com>
Cc: Audubon Society Conservation <ggasconservation@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2013 3:23 PM
Subject: [SFBirds] Fort Funston/Mt. Davidson 6/19/13

Did an early morning walk around Fort Funston, checking the trees around Battery Davis (uphill from the junction of Skyline and west end of John Muir Drive) and Skyline Grove to the north. No migrants, but good to see several BEWICK'S WRENS around, the highest density for this species anywhere in the City. Also lots of great looks at BANK SWALLOWS foraging low, with single scan counts of 20+ throughout the morning. Be aware that despite being a part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and supposedly under the same resource protections as other parcels in this park system, Fort Funston has been a de facto dog playground for decades. Don't bother coming here if you get frustrated/angry at occasionally being barked at/jumped on/licked by canines or stepping in their feces. That said, early morning birding is still possible south of Battery Davis.

At lunch I checked on Mt. Davidson. A ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK was singing away in the "Bowl" on the north side of the hill, presumably one of the two birds first found on 6/6. Singing Western Wood-pewee, Olive-sided Flycatcher and Wilson's Warbler were the other neotropical migrants noted0. All three have nested here in past years, although only the warbler has been confirmed so far in 2013. Also observed a lone BAND-TAILED PIGEON fly out of stand of fruiting Red Elderberry and perch high in a cypress. A disturbing "Funston" like trend is emerging on Mt. Davidson unfortunately. Whereas this has been a spot for local residents to walk their dogs for years, the past year or so I have noted increased use of the area by COMMERCIAL DOG WALKERS who ignore the posted "dog-on-leash" signs. It will be truly a shame if one of the most botanically diverse parks in the City which also boasts one of the highest numbers of nesting bird species per acre is also
transformed into a playground for commercial dog walking interests.

Dominik Mosur
San Francisco
http://www.flickr.com/photos/dominikmosur/

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

Reply via web post	Reply to sender	Reply to group	Start a New Topic	Messages in this topic (3)

RECENT ACTIVITY:

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Visit Your Group

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http://www.yahoogroups.com/

Switch to: Text-Only, Daily Digest • Unsubscribe • Terms of Use • Send us Feedback

Message

From: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/29/2013 2:07:40 AM
To: Howard_Levitt@nps.gov
Subject: Re: Got your note re Funston Birds

Howard,

Thanks for picking this up. He has some good points.

Frank

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2013 05:02 PM
To: murphsf@yahoo.com <murphsf@yahoo.com>
Cc: Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>; Shirwin Smith <Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov>
Subject: Got your note re Funston Birds

HI Dan:

Frank asked me to get back to you on your 6/24 note about birding at Fort Funston. Thanks for reaching out to us. We will be very interested in your research on the data on bird prevalence at Funston going back to the earliest days of the park.

While it's clear you hold NPS in low esteem, I wanted to nevertheless confirm that you want to remain on our email list to receive the upcoming SEIS/Dog Mgt Plan, which covers Funston and all other major visitor destinations in the park. Do you want to receive the plan? This plan is an opportunity to express your thoughts on the alternatives we will present for where dogs will be permitted, where they will not be permitted, etc. Please let us know.

Howard

--

Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/29/2013 12:02:17 AM
To: murphsf@yahoo.com
CC: Frank Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]
Subject: Got your note re Funston Birds

HI Dan:

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Howard

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Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 6/29/2013 12:23:06 AM
To: Janet Takashiro [janet_takashiro@nps.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Got your note re Funston Birds

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Levitt, Howard** <howard_levitt@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jun 28, 2013 at 5:02 PM
Subject: Got your note re Funston Birds
To: murphsf@yahoo.com
Cc: Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>, Shirwin Smith <Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov>

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Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2013 3:22:25 AM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Got your note re Funston Birds

Just fyi, we'll be printing very few hard copies, and some CDs. Expect most all people to go online. So just need to be careful about an offer - seemingly - of a hard copy. Instead just want them to be alerted to docs presence on the web.

SES

p.s. would like to hear more about this...thx

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Fri, Jun 28, 2013 at 5:02 PM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
HI Dan:

Frank asked me to get back to you on your 6/24 note about birding at Fort Funston. Thanks for reaching out to us. We will be very interested in your research on the data on bird prevalence at Funston going back to the earliest days of the park.

While it's clear you hold NPS in low esteem, I wanted to nevertheless confirm that you want to remain on our email list to receive the upcoming SEIS/Dog Mgt Plan, which covers Funston and all other major visitor destinations in the park. Do you want to receive the plan? This plan is an opportunity to express your thoughts on the alternatives we will present for where dogs will be permitted, where they will not be permitted, etc. Please let us know.

Howard

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2013 10:58:27 PM
To: Hatch, Daphne [daphne_hatch@nps.gov]
CC: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; bill_merkle@nps.gov; Aaron_Roth@nps.gov; Shirwin_Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Fw: [SFBirds] Fort Funston/Mt. Davidson 6/19/13

Hi Daphne, et al: I have already responded to Dan's note. I think he mostly wanted to point out what he believes is our failure to protect birds and other wildlife in the park because of our position on dog mgt. I'll forward it to all of you again. HL

On Mon, Jul 1, 2013 at 1:21 PM, Hatch, Daphne <daphne_hatch@nps.gov> wrote:
Funny, I subscribe to SFBirds but I missed these. He has many good points. Not sure what Howard plans to respond, and not sure what I can contribute but please keep Bill and I, and Shirwin, in the loop.
Daphne

On Friday, June 28, 2013, Francis Dean wrote:
Daphne and Bill,

Howard is preparing a response and wasn't sure you were in the loop yet. He has some good points.

Frank

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

From: Dan Murphy [mailto:murphsf@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2013 05:32 PM
To: Frank Dean <Frank_Dean@nps.gov>
Subject: Fw: [SFBirds] Fort Funston/Mt. Davidson 6/19/13

Mr. Dean,
I was asked by a few people to forward the following e-mail string to you regarding impacts by off leash dogs on birds and mammals at Fort Funston. The absolute neglect of NPS in lifting a finger to preserve this once valuable natural resource is pretty well illustrated and as I post more data on Fort Funston it will be even better documented. You might want to have your staff to research Fort Funston on eBird from time to time if you want to get an idea of what used to be there in terms of birds. It will probably take me a few years to get all my data posted since it goes back to the early 1970s. Actually I hold no hope NPS cares enough about the natural resources in GGNRA to think this will make any difference. But let's put a happy face on this, GGNRA does make the finest dog park in the entire National Park System.

Dan Murphy
San Francisco

----- Forwarded Message -----
From: Dan Murphy <murphsf@yahoo.com>
To: Dominik Mosur <polskatata@yahoo.com>; SFBirds <sfbirds@yahoogroups.com>
Cc: Audubon Society Conservation <ggasconservation@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2013 11:14 AM
Subject: Re: [SFBirds] Fort Funston/Mt. Davidson 6/19/13

I've been entering data from notebooks for the late 70s and early 80s when I birded Fort Funston quite a lot. It used to be a must bird spot during the fall and spring. I just entered records for a few rare birds last night. I noticed you apparently didn't bird the Skyline Grove. It's pretty isolated and there is seldom a leashed dog there. It's incredible how it's changed since it's been stolen from the public by nature hating dog owners. The jackrabbits, brush rabbits, California Quail and other ground nesting critters are all extirpated now. My notes touch on the wildflowers I used to see out there, but they've been trampled into oblivion. There was an incredible coffeeberry right behind the Y-Grove that used to feed up to 30 or so Western Tanagers and more than 50 sparrows each September. It was trampled into dust before I quit birding out there. Well, let's face it, even ice plant is in danger of extirpation out there. Just
looking out the back window I can see the high dune just north of the beach access north of Battery Davis. It's flattened now and is virtually devoid of vegetation. It's hard to believe the National Park Service so neglected this incredible resource that its major use now is a repository for dog excrement.

Dan Murphy

From: Dominik Mosur <polskatata@yahoo.com>
To: SFBirds <sfbirds@yahoogroups.com>
Cc: Audubon Society Conservation <ggasconservation@yahoogroups.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2013 3:23 PM
Subject: [SFBirds] Fort Funston/Mt. Davidson 6/19/13

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At lunch I checked on Mt. Davidson. A ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK was singing away in the "Bowl" on the north side of the hill, presumably one of the two birds first found on 6/6. Singing Western Wood-pewee, Olive-sided Flycatcher and Wilson's Warbler were the other neotropical migrants noted0. All three have nested here in past years, although only the warbler has been confirmed so far in 2013. Also observed a lone BAND-TAILED PIGEON fly out of stand of fruiting Red Elderberry and perch high in a cypress. A disturbing "Funston" like trend is emerging on Mt. Davidson unfortunately. Whereas this has been a spot for local residents to walk their dogs for years, the past year or so I have noted increased use of the area by COMMERCIAL DOG WALKERS who ignore the posted "dog-on-leash" signs. It will be truly a shame if one of the most botanically diverse parks in the City which also boasts one of the highest numbers of nesting bird

species per acre is also
transformed into a playground for commercial dog walking interests.

Dominik Mosur
San Francisco
http://www.flickr.com/photos/dominikmosur/

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

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RECENT ACTIVITY:

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--
Chief of Natural Resource Management & Science
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 289-1840 office
(415) 331-0851 fax
daphne_hatch@nps.gov

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 5/31/2013 5:43:25 PM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Summary of call with Paul Ringgold

This is all correct - didn't ask Paul specifically about Montara Dog. Will call and clarify. HL
On Fri, May 31, 2013 at 10:25 AM, Smith, Shirwin <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

- POST adopts regulations of area (county/city etc) wherein land they purchase lies.
- Public asked to contact POST before coming onto their property
- Never "allowed dog walking" at Rancho

Pls edit or add to the above, and was there any feedback on conversations or relationship with Montara Dog Group?

SES

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
Exemption 6

--

Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2013 11:00:41 PM
To: Daphne Hatch [Daphne_Hatch@nps.gov]; William Merkle [bill_merkle@nps.gov]; Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]; Aaron Roth [Aaron_Roth@nps.gov]; Frank Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Got your note re Funston Birds

Everyone: This is what I sent to Dan. If anyone feels we need a more substantive response, feel free to provide it. I didn't feel that he was really seeking a deep reply - just venting. HL
---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Levitt, Howard** <howard_levitt@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jun 28, 2013 at 5:02 PM
Subject: Got your note re Funston Birds
To: Exemption 6 @yahoo.com
Cc: Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>, Shirwin Smith <Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov>

HI Dan:

Frank asked me to get back to you on your 6/24 note about birding at Fort Funston. Thanks for reaching out to us. We will be very interested in your research on the data on bird prevalence at Funston going back to the earliest days of the park.

While it's clear you hold NPS in low esteem, I wanted to nevertheless confirm that you want to remain on our email list to receive the upcoming SEIS/Dog Mgt Plan, which covers Funston and all other major visitor destinations in the park. Do you want to receive the plan? This plan is an opportunity to express your thoughts on the alternatives we will present for where dogs will be permitted, where they will not be permitted, etc. Please let us know.

Howard

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

Message

From: Christine Lehnertz [chris_lehnertz@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2013 1:09:53 PM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
CC: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; Michael B Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Barbara Goodyear [barbara.goodyear@sol.doi.gov]; Cicely_Muldoon@nps.gov
Subject: Re: GOGA Dogs

(Frank, you may have already sent your email to Bert. I just found this in my draft folder from last week. I think an email at this time is appropriate. thanks---)

Hi All,

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Thanks much.

Chris Lehnertz, Regional Director
National Park Service
Pacific West Region

(w) 415-623-2101
(m) 415-652-8811

On Jun 27, 2013, at 9:40 AM, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Thu, Jun 27, 2013 at 6:54 AM, Francis Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov> wrote:
Hey,

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Frank

Draft

Bert,

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area

San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

From: Frost, Herbert [mailto:bert_frost@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2013 05:20 AM
To: Peggy O'Dell <peggy_o'dell@nps.gov>; Maureen Foster <Maureen_Foster@nps.gov>; Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>
Subject: GOGA Dogs

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Bert

...

Herbert C. Frost, Ph.D.
Associate Director, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science
National Park Service
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-3884

Message

From: Edwards, Michael [michael_b_edwards@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2013 6:59:47 PM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Letter to Speier; steps to implementation

Howard - I can dial in if needed, up to you. How about I'll be on stand by and you can call me if needed?

On Mon, Jul 1, 2013 at 12:58 PM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Frank:

Thanks to another great team effort, we've prepared the attached letter in response to the Speier-Jewell letter re RCDT dog restrictions. Pending a decision on who is the signatory to the letter - you, or Chris L - we consider it ready to go.

I've invited Shirwin to join Alex and my 1:00 PM meeting with you to brief you on where this stands and the immediate steps we need to take to implement the Compendium revision, correct our websites, and get the word out - all in way that puts us, not Speier's office, in the driver's seat.

See you soon.

HL

Michael, would you like to dial in on this discussion at 1:00 PM PDT? HL

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--
Michael B. Edwards
Project Manager
Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Quality Division, Planning & Compliance Branch
WASO-NRSS
303.969.2694 (work)
303.638.1928 (cell)
303.987.6782 (fax)

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2013 10:20:01 PM
To: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]
CC: Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: 2012 and 2013 LE info

2012 - 2 contacts at Rancho re pets (one an off-leash warning, other, a pet leash complaint with no report taken)

2013 - only 1 contact (dog bite report, taken by CA state park ranger)

SES

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

Message

From: Frank Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2013 3:28:48 PM
To: Christine Lehnertz [chris_lehnertz@nps.gov]
CC: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]; Michael B Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Barbara Goodyear [barbara.goodyear@sol.doi.gov]; Cicely_Muldoon@nps.gov
Subject: Re: GOGA Dogs

Chris,

Thanks- these are great points. I will get back to Bert this week to address these and secure a schedule. We had another wrinkle on Friday, so a little more time is actually welcome now. Will catch you up after your trip.

Frank

On Jul 1, 2013, at 6:10 AM, Christine Lehnertz <chris_lehnertz@nps.gov> wrote:
(Frank, you may have already sent your email to Bert. I just found this in my draft folder from last week. I think an email at this time is appropriate. thanks---)

Hi All,

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Thanks much.

Chris Lehnertz, Regional Director
National Park Service

Pacific West Region

(w) 415-623-2101
(m) 415-652-8811

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REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
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Frank

Draft

Bert,

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REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

From: Frost, Herbert [mailto:bert_frost@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2013 05:20 AM
To: Peggy O'Dell <peggy_o'dell@nps.gov>; Maureen Foster <Maureen_Foster@nps.gov>; Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>
Subject: GOGA Dogs

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Bert

--

Herbert C. Frost, Ph.D.
Associate Director, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science
National Park Service
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-3884

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2013 7:02:50 PM
To: Edwards, Michael [michael_b_edwards@nps.gov]
CC: Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Letter to Speier; steps to implementation

Sounds good, Michael. FYI, I'll be on vacation from tomorrow thru 7/15,so Shirwin and Alex will be bringing this home. Be well and happy 4th. HL
On Mon, Jul 1, 2013 at 11:59 AM, Edwards, Michael <michael_b_edwards@nps.gov> wrote:
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See you soon.

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Michael, would you like to dial in on this discussion at 1:00 PM PDT? HL

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Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

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Michael B. Edwards
Project Manager

Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Quality Division, Planning & Compliance Branch
WASO-NRSS
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303.987.6782 (fax)

--

Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2013 8:59:36 PM
To: daphne_hatch [daphne_hatch@nps.gov]; Bill Merkle [Bill_Merkle@nps.gov]
CC: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Got your note re Funston Birds

FYI - Howard's response to Dan M.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Levitt, Howard** <howard_levitt@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jun 28, 2013 at 5:02 PM
Subject: Got your note re Funston Birds
To: murphsf@yahoo.com
Cc: Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>, Shirwin Smith <Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov>

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Howard Levitt
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howard_levitt@nps.gov
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CC: bill_merkle@nps.gov; Howard_Levitt@nps.gov; Aaron_Roth@nps.gov; Shirwin_Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]
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General Superintendent
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(415) 561-4720

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Dan Murphy
San Francisco

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To: Dominik Mosur <polskatata@yahoo.com>; SFBirds <sfbirds@yahoogroups.com>
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Dan Murphy

From: Dominik Mosur <polskatata@yahoo.com>
To: SFBirds <sfbirds@yahoogroups.com>
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transformed into a playground for commercial dog walking interests.

Dominik Mosur
San Francisco
http://www.flickr.com/photos/dominikmosur/

[Non-text portions of this message have been removed]

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RECENT ACTIVITY:

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--

Chief of Natural Resource Management & Science
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 289-1840 office
(415) 331-0851 fax
daphne_hatch@nps.gov

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/1/2013 7:54:12 PM
To: Edwards, Michael [michael_b_edwards@nps.gov]
CC: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: FOIA Backlog Request / Response Due: July 8, 2013

More related to the Taser incident, so prob not EIS/Dog Mgt related per se. HL

On Mon, Jul 1, 2013 at 12:23 PM, Edwards, Michael <michael_b_edwards@nps.gov> wrote:
Howard - is this a dog mgmt plan / EIS related FOIA?

On Mon, Jul 1, 2013 at 1:20 PM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
We never completed Mark Villasenor's FOIA NPS- 2012- 00336. LE never provided needed data, and we let it drop. Haven't heard from Villasenor since. HL

On Mon, Jul 1, 2013 at 12:00 PM, Smith, Shirwin <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
No current FOIAs re: dogs here. Right, Howard?

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Mon, Jul 1, 2013 at 11:54 AM, Edwards, Michael <michael_b_edwards@nps.gov> wrote:
Shirwin - are there any outstanding FOIA requests related to the dog mgmt plan?

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Peacock, Bruce** <bruce_peacock@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jul 1, 2013 at 12:44 PM
Subject: Fwd: FOIA Backlog Request / Response Due: July 8, 2013
To: Bret Meldrum <bret_meldrum@nps.gov>, James Haas <James_Haas@nps.gov>, Patrick Walsh <Patrick_Walsh@nps.gov>, Thomas Flanagan <Thomas_Flanagan@nps.gov>, Briana Collier <briana_w_collier@nps.gov>, Michael Edwards <michael_b_edwards@nps.gov>, David Jacob <david_jacob@nps.gov>

All - please see below and let me know if you have any FOIA requests currently in play. If we do, I need to respond up the chain by next Monday.

Thanks.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Frost, Herbert** <bert_frost@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jun 28, 2013 at 3:25 PM
Subject: Fwd: FOIA Backlog Request / Response Due: July 8, 2013
To: Alan Ellsworth <Alan_Ellsworth@nps.gov>, Bruce Bingham <Bruce_Bingham@nps.gov>, Bruce Peacock <Bruce_Peacock@nps.gov>, Carol McCoy <Carol_McCoy@nps.gov>, Dave Steensen <Dave_Steensen@nps.gov>, Ed Harvey <Forrest_Harvey@nps.gov>, Elaine Leslie <Elaine_Leslie@nps.gov>, "Fancy, Steve" <steven_fancy@nps.gov>, Gary Mason <Gary_Mason@nps.gov>, George Dickison <George_Dickison@nps.gov>, Jennifer Lee <Jennifer_Lee@nps.gov>, John Dennis <John_Dennis@nps.gov>, Karen Trevino <Karen_Trevino@nps.gov>, Leigh Welling <Leigh_Welling@nps.gov>, Margi Brooks <Margi_Brooks@nps.gov>

I don't think we have any outstanding FOIAs but please check your records.

Bert

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **O'Dell, Margaret** <peggy_o'dell@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jun 27, 2013 at 11:57 AM
Subject: FOIA Backlog Request / Response Due: July 8, 2013
To: NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, Teresa Chambers <Teresa_Chambers@nps.gov>, Bruce Sheaffer <Bruce_Sheaffer@nps.gov>, Sue Masica <sue_masica@nps.gov>, John Wessels <John_Wessels@nps.gov>, Michael Reynolds <Michael_Reynolds@nps.gov>, Steve Whitesell <Steve_Whitesell@nps.gov>, Dennis Reidenbach <Dennis_Reidenbach@nps.gov>, Chris Lehnertz <Chris_Lehnertz@nps.gov>, Gordon Wissinger <Gordon_Wissinger@nps.gov>
Cc: NPS Associate and Assistant Directors Assistants <nps_associate_and_assistant_directors_assistants@nps.gov>, Maureen Foster <Maureen_Foster@nps.gov>, Suzy Wooliver <suzy_wooliver@nps.gov>, Sharon Swihart <sharon_swihart@nps.gov>, Ramona Turner <Ramona_Turner@nps.gov>, Judy Bowman <Judy_Bowman@nps.gov>, Annette Sasso <annette_sasso@nps.gov>, Karen Washington <karen_washington@nps.gov>, Erika Blevins <erika_blevins@nps.gov>

Good morning,

Please see the attached memo concerning completing the Freedom of Information Act backlog requests by July 8, 2013. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

--
Herbert C. Frost, Ph.D.
Associate Director, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science
National Park Service

1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-208-3884

--

Bruce Peacock, Chief
Environmental Quality Division
National Park Service
970-267-2106

--

Michael B. Edwards
Project Manager
Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Quality Division, Planning & Compliance Branch
WASO-NRSS
303.969.2694 (work)
303.638.1928 (cell)
303.987.6782 (fax)

--

Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--

Michael B. Edwards
Project Manager
Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Quality Division, Planning & Compliance Branch
WASO-NRSS
303.969.2694 (work)
303.638.1928 (cell)
303.987.6782 (fax)

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/3/2013 10:10:12 PM
To: Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
CC: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Michael Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]; Frank Dean [Frank_Dean@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Letter re: Rancho

Exactly that. Better inside the tent.... And better done as an "after the fact" sort of fyi.

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Wed, Jul 3, 2013 at 3:07 PM, Alexandra Picavet <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov> wrote:
Too bad. I thought we did not feel this was needed since in truth this is like the Prop 8 people trying to sue on behalf of the state- not her legal role. Oh well, I guess it is good relations.
Alex

Sent from iPhone, please excuse typos and made up words my phone inserted.
Alexandra Picavet
Public Affairs Specialist
415-786-8021

On Jul 3, 2013, at 2:40 PM, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

> Hi Martha - I know you were concerned about the status of dog regulations at Rancho, so wanted you to see the letter we sent to Congresswoman Speier today.
>
> Shirwin
>
> Shirwin Smith
> Management Assistant
> Golden Gate National Recreation Area
> Ft. Mason, Building 201
> San Francisco, CA 94123
> 415-561-4947 (o)
> 415-716-9999 (c)
> <GOGA resp to Speier ltr_070313.pdf>

Congresswoman Jackie Speier
155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
San Mateo, California 94402

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

Your letter of June 19, 2013 to Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has been forwarded to me for a response.

As you know, the issue of dog use at Rancho Corral de Tierra has been evolving since NPS management of the property began in December 2011. We were copied on the letter written to your office by the Crissy Field Dog Group and Montara Dog Group that expressed concern with recently installed signs that described our interim designation of where dog walking is permitted in Rancho. These groups felt that these designations signs came with no prior public notice or input. They also expressed concern that the upcoming Supplemental EIS/Dog Management Plan would use this current status of dog walking area at Rancho as the "No Action" alternative, instead of the unsanctioned but largely unrestricted dog walking that had occurred in the years prior to National Park Service (NPS) ownership.

Regarding the permissible dog walking use at Rancho, the national regulation on dog walking in areas managed by the NPS (36 CFR 2.15) requires that where they are permitted, dogs must be on a leash; this is the applicable regulation for any new lands acquired by the NPS. In addition, through discussions with interested stakeholder groups prior to acquisition, park staff worked to identify prime dog walking areas. Based on this information, and a desire to take a cautious approach regarding areas of potential resource sensitivity and other visitor uses at Rancho, dog walking was limited to those prime areas identified by the community for the interim period prior to the completion of the dog management plan. A map showing this restriction was posted on the park's web site and distributed to members of the community shortly after Rancho transferred to the NPS.

At the time, we considered this a reasonable and minor change to use, since the prime areas of dog use were still open to dog walking and we received little negative feedback from the community. However, from the recent letters received from Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group, and from discussion with others in the community, it is clear that many people in the community surrounding Rancho, reminded of the status of dog walking by the new signs, view this as a large change in use, especially when compared to their use of the site prior to the NPS ownership. Therefore, in view of these concerns, effective July 3, I have designated all of Rancho as open to on-leash dog walking. These regulations will pertain at Rancho until new rules developed out of the Dog Management Plan are put in place . Our field staff has been fully briefed on this change, and we will update the map on our website and modify the signs on site to reflect this change. We will also contact Bill Bechtell and other interested stakeholders directly to ensure that the word gets out about this change.

This decision will also affect the No Action Alternative in the upcoming SEIS, which will be revised to reflect this changed management status. We understand that Montara Dog Group and Crissy Field Dog Group believe the No Action alternative should reflect the unsanctioned off-leash dog use that occurred prior to NPS ownership, but that is a management status we could not legally continue under existing NPS regulations..

We will connect with your office prior to release of the upcoming SEIS, which is now set to occur in early fall. We will also be holding public open house meetings during the SEIS public review and comment process; one of those meetings will be in San Mateo County, close to Rancho. We would welcome your participation in that meeting.

Sincerely,

Frank Dean
General Superintendent

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/3/2013 8:18:54 PM
To: Mike Coffey [michael_coffey@nps.gov]; Susie Bennett [Susie_Bennett@nps.gov]; George Durgerian [George_Durgerian@nps.gov]; Rachel Lewis [rachel_lewis@nps.gov]; Matthew Wallat [matt_wallat@nps.gov]
CC: Dan_Collman [Dan_Collman@nps.gov]; Daphne Hatch [daphne_hatch@nps.gov]; Bill Merkle [Bill_Merkle@nps.gov]; Don Mannel [Don_Mannel@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Michele Gee [michele_gee@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Christine Carey [christine_carey@partner.nps.gov]
Subject: Rancho dog walking regulations

Hi all - as of today, the dog walking regs for Rancho are revised to be just 36 CFR 2.15 - i.e. dogs on leash are allowed throughout the site. Wanted you all to get a heads up asap, since Christine has alerted the community through her email contact list and Facebook site today. Updated dog walking status for Rancho has been posted on our web site; the pad map is being revised and will go up on the web site asap. Site regulatory signage will be updated Monday.

Any questions, give me a call.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/2/2013 4:29:15 PM
To: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
CC: Michael B Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Aaron Roth [Aaron_Roth@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Comm Dog

Drafts of the necessary Cat Ex and memo of determination were completed in May and Exemption 5 Exemption 5 Revisions completed and sent to Steve Ortega last month. Per his input, a revision of those docs into a proposal to go out for public comment was drafted and sent to him last week. Once that is OK by Steve, we'll meet with Trust folks and determine how to fold them in, or whether they will prepare their own docs. We're still on a path to complete by end of Aug/early Sept.

Altho SF reg went into effect 7/1, there is a 120 day grace period for those who can't meet all the required conditions and enforcement is by complaint only...

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Tue, Jul 2, 2013 at 9:16 AM, Francis Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi,

I understand we now have to tweak one of the plan alts, but don't want to lose track of the commercial dog walking compendium fix and any determination or notice steps to get this I'm place for the fall. City reg went into effect yesterday. Who has the lead on this and can I help?

Thanks!

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

Message

From: Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/3/2013 10:07:39 PM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]
CC: Michael Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]; Frank Dean [Frank_Dean@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Letter re: Rancho

Too bad. I thought we did not feel this was needed since in truth this is like the Prop 8 people trying to sue on behalf of the state- not her legal role. Oh well, I guess it is good relations.
Alex

Sent from iPhone, please excuse typos and made up words my phone inserted.
Alexandra Picavet
Public Affairs Specialist
415-786-8021

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Hi Martha - I know you were concerned about the status of dog regulations at Rancho, so wanted you to see the letter we sent to Congresswoman Speier today.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)
<GOGA resp to Speier ltr_070313.pdf>

Message

From: Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/4/2013 2:34:10 AM
To: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
CC: cbcarey@nps.gov; shirwin_smith@nps.gov; Howard_Levitt@nps.gov; Aaron_Roth@nps.gov
Subject: Re: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release

I don't know if Howard is, but I did not get this. I will work on that.

Sent from iPhone, please excuse typos and made up words my phone inserted.
Alexandra Picavet
Public Affairs Specialist
415-786-8021

On Jul 3, 2013, at 7:27 PM, Francis Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks Christine.

Alex- are we on her mailing list?

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

From: Christine B. Carey [mailto:cbcarey@nps.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 03, 2013 07:22 PM
To: Shirwin Smith <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>; Howard Levitt <howard_levitt@nps.gov>; Alexandra Picavet <Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov>; Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>; Aaron Roth <Aaron_Roth@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release

In case you haven't seen Speier's response...
-Christine

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Chris Thollaug**
Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2013
Subject: Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
To: Christine Carey <christine_carey@partner.nps.gov>
Christine,
Nice statement from Jackie Speier.
Chris

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **bechtell** <bechtell@comcast.net>
Date: Wed, Jul 3, 2013 at 5:25 PM

Subject: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
To:

For Immediate Release
July 3, 2013

Contact:
CA - Katrina Rill (650) 342-0300 / (650) 208-7441
Katrina.Rill@mail.house.gov

DC – Greg Roth (202) 225-3531 / (202) 957-4340 cell
greg.roth@mail.house.gov

Congresswoman Speier Pleased With Increased Dog-Friendly Areas in GGNRA

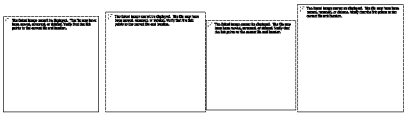
SAN MATEO, CA - Congresswoman Jackie Speier (D-San Francisco/San Mateo) released the following statement today on the Golden Gate National Recreation Area's announcement in a letter to her to designate all of Rancho Corral de Tierra as open to on-leash dog walking until a final Dog Management Plan goes into effect.

"This is a victory not only for dog owners but everyone who uses Golden Gate National Recreation Area land because it demonstrates flexibility on the part of GGNRA management. I am pleased that Superintendent Dean listened to the people who consider Rancho Corral de Tierra to be a part of their backyards and increased access to dog walkers. Today, as a result of this policy change, dog walkers can access all of Rancho as long as their dogs are on leash, rather than the mere 20% that they were restricted to since GGNRA acquired the land in 2011. As we look forward to the release of the supplemental dog management plan later this year, I reiterate my strong belief that Rancho must have areas available for off leash dog walking, which is important to the health of dogs. Today's decision increases my confidence in the process and gives me hope that we can arrive at a final Dog Management Plan that will respect the needs of all park users."

The letter from Superintendent Frank Dean came in response to a letter Congresswoman Speier had sent to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell on June 19, 2013.

###

Katrina Rill
District Press Secretary
Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier (CA-14)
U.S. House of Representatives
155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
San Mateo, CA 94402
(T) 650-342-0300
(M) 650-208-7441
speier.house.gov
Save paper. Think before you print.



--

Christine Carey, PE, AICP
National Park Service
Community Planner - San Mateo County

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123

(415) 561-4745
cbcarey@nps.gov

Message

From: Powell, Christine [chris_powell@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/3/2013 6:31:52 PM
To: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Special Update on Dog Walking at Rancho Corral de Tierra

Howard,

I just got this in my email as I was walking out the door. We didn't respond to Robert Edmondson in Pelosi's office yet. Can we talk on Monday morning when you get in...

Chris

Christine Powell
Senior Congressional Affairs Specialist
National Park Service
Main Interior Building, Room 3322
Washington, DC 20240
(O) 202-208-3636
(C) 202-591-0660

On Wed, Jul 3, 2013 at 2:19 PM, Christine Carey, Rancho Corral de Tierra <ccarey@parksconservancy.org> wrote:



Dear Chris,

As you may know, when the National Park Service (NPS) acquired Rancho Corral de Tierra (Rancho) in 2011, NPS national regulations took effect, including the regulation for dog walking which requires that where dogs are permitted, they must be on leash. Through discussions with stakeholder groups and staff site visits, areas of Rancho that were determined to have potential resource sensitivity or visitor use conflicts were restricted for dog walking.

NPS is currently developing a Dog Management Plan for Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), which will address where and how dog walking can occur

throughout GGNRA, including at Rancho. The current dog walking restrictions at Rancho were intended to be temporary until the Dog Management Plan is complete. We have recently heard from many neighbors and stakeholders that this restriction represents an unexpected and significant change in dog walking use, particularly compared to dog walking use prior to NPS management. We understand that you, the community surrounding Rancho, are concerned that you have not had the opportunity to provide input on dog walking regulations at Rancho.

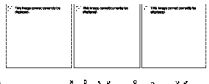
Therefore, in view of these concerns, effective today, the Superintendent of GGNRA has designated **all of Rancho as open to on-leash dog walking**. Our maps on the website and signage in the field will be updated to reflect this change. This regulation will remain in effect until a new special regulation for dog walking in GGNRA, developed out of the Dog Management Plan (which has two more opportunities for public comment) is put into place.

We look forward to working with you and hope that you will participate in the dog management planning process to provide your input on the future of dog walking at Rancho. For more information, please visit our website.

Have a safe and fun holiday weekend!

The GGNRA San Mateo Team

You are receiving this email because you have expressed interest in news about the newest addition to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Rancho Corral de Tierra. You can unsubscribe or update your preferences at any time using the links below.



Donate | Volunteer | Forward | Update Your Profile | Unsubscribe
©2013 Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
Building 201 Fort Mason, San Francisco CA 94123 (415) 561-3000
www.parksconservancy.org



nonprofit software

Message

From: Christine B. Carey [cbcarey@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/4/2013 2:22:12 AM
To: Shirwin Smith [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Frank Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; Aaron Roth [Aaron_Roth@nps.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release

In case you haven't seen Speier's response...
-Christine

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Chris Thollaug**
Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2013
Subject: Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
To: Christine Carey <christine_carey@partner.nps.gov>

Christine,

Nice statement from Jackie Speier.

Chris

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **bechtell** <bechtell@comcast.net>
Date: Wed, Jul 3, 2013 at 5:25 PM
Subject: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
To:

For Immediate Release
July 3, 2013

Contact:
CA - Katrina Rill (650) 342-0300 / (650) 208-7441
Katrina.Rill@mail.house.gov

DC – Greg Roth (202) 225-3531 / (202) 957-4340 cell
greg.roth@mail.house.gov

Congresswoman Speier Pleased With Increased Dog-Friendly Areas in GGNRA

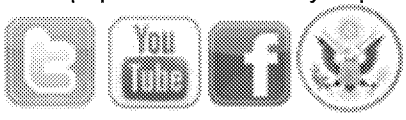
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Katrina Rill
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Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier (CA-14)
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Save paper. Think before you print.



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Christine Carey, PE, AICP
National Park Service
Community Planner - San Mateo County

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123

(415) 561-4745
cbcarey@nps.gov

Message

From: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/4/2013 3:48:12 AM
To: Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]; Chris Powell [chris_powell@nps.gov]
CC: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; cbcarey@nps.gov; shirwin_smith@nps.gov; Aaron_Roth@nps.gov
Subject: Re: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release

No - we don't receive these. HL

Hi Chris: FYI. HL

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 3, 2013, at 7:34 PM, Alexandra Picavet <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov> wrote:

> I don't know if Howard is, but I did not get this. I will work on that.
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> Alexandra Picavet
> Public Affairs Specialist
> 415-786-8021
>
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> > Thanks Christine.
> >
> > Alex- are we on her mailing list?
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> > Frank Dean
> > General Superintendent
> > Golden Gate
> > National Recreation Area
> > San Francisco, CA 94123
> > (415) 561-4720
> >
> > ---
> >
> > **From:** Christine B. Carey [mailto:cbcarey@nps.gov]
> > **Sent:** Wednesday, July 03, 2013 07:22 PM
> > **To:** Shirwin Smith <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>; Howard Levitt <howard_levitt@nps.gov>; Alexandra Picavet <Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov>; Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>; Aaron Roth <Aaron_Roth@nps.gov>
> > **Subject:** Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
> >
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> > -Christine
> >
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> > From: **Chris Thollaug**
> > Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2013
> > Subject: Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
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Chris

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Congresswoman Speier Pleased With Increased Dog-Friendly Areas in GGNRA

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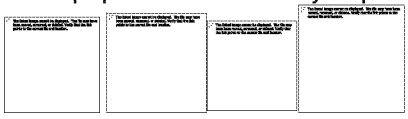
"This is a victory not only for dog owners but everyone who uses Golden Gate National Recreation Area land because it demonstrates flexibility on the part of GGNRA management. I am pleased that Superintendent Dean listened to the people who consider Rancho Corral de Tierra to be a part of their backyards and increased access to dog walkers. Today, as a result of this policy change, dog walkers can access all of Rancho as long as their dogs are on leash, rather than the mere 20% that they were restricted to since GGNRA acquired the land in 2011. As we look forward to the release of the supplemental dog management plan later this year, I reiterate my strong belief that Rancho must have areas available for off leash dog walking, which is important to the health of dogs. Today's decision increases my confidence in the

process and gives me hope that we can arrive at a final Dog Management Plan that will respect the needs of all park users."

The letter from Superintendent Frank Dean came in response to a letter Congresswoman Speier had sent to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell on June 19, 2013.

###

Katrina Rill
District Press Secretary
Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier (CA-14)
U.S. House of Representatives
155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
San Mateo, CA 94402
(T) 650-342-0300
(M) 650-208-7441
speier.house.gov
Save paper. Think before you print.



--

Christine Carey, PE, AICP
National Park Service
Community Planner - San Mateo County

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123

(415) 561-4745
cbcarey@nps.gov

Message

From: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/4/2013 2:27:45 AM
To: cbcarey@nps.gov; shirwin_smith@nps.gov; Howard_Levitt@nps.gov; Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov; Aaron_Roth@nps.gov
Subject: Re: Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release

Thanks Christine.

Alex- are we on her mailing list?

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

From: Christine B. Carey [mailto:cbcarey@nps.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 03, 2013 07:22 PM
To: Shirwin Smith <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>; Howard Levitt <howard_levitt@nps.gov>; Alexandra Picavet <Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov>; Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>; Aaron Roth <Aaron_Roth@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release

In case you haven't seen Speier's response...
-Christine

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Chris Thollaug**
Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2013
Subject: Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
To: Christine Carey <christine_carey@partner.nps.gov>

Christine,

Nice statement from Jackie Speier.

Chris

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **bechtell** <bechtell@comcast.net>
Date: Wed, Jul 3, 2013 at 5:25 PM
Subject: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
To:

For Immediate Release

July 3, 2013

Contact:
CA - Katrina Rill (650) 342-0300 / (650) 208-7441
Katrina.Rill@mail.house.gov

DC – Greg Roth (202) 225-3531 / (202) 957-4340 cell
greg.roth@mail.house.gov

Congresswoman Speier Pleased With Increased Dog-Friendly Areas in GGNRA

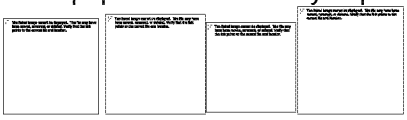
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National Park Service
Community Planner - San Mateo County

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123

(415) 561-4745
cbcarey@nps.gov

Message

From: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/4/2013 12:49:12 AM
To: Powell, Christine [chris_powell@nps.gov]
CC: Frank Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]; Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Special Update on Dog Walking at Rancho Corral de Tierra

Hi Chris: I'll be on the Rogue River Mon. Things moved fast in getting a response to Speier in response to her letter to Sec Jewell. Sorry I didn't have a chance to touch base with you so we could call Robert. Suggest you check w Frank on Mon to close that loop. As you can see, we've designated all of Rancho under 2.15, without restriction on on-leash dog walking. Frank and Shirwin can explain the rationale. The reason we got the word out so quickly on this change is to assure stakeholders heard it first from us.

Happy 4th-enjoy these dog days. I'll be back on 7/16.

HL

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 3, 2013, at 11:31 AM, "Powell, Christine" <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

> Howard,
>
> I just got this in my email as I was walking out the door. We didn't respond to Robert Edmondson in Pelosi's office yet. Can we talk on Monday morning when you get in...
>
> Chris
>
> Christine Powell
> Senior Congressional Affairs Specialist
> National Park Service
> Main Interior Building, Room 3322
> Washington, DC 20240
> (O) 202-208-3636
> (C) 202-591-0660
>
> On Wed, Jul 3, 2013 at 2:19 PM, Christine Carey, Rancho Corral de Tierra <ccarey@parksconservancy.org> wrote:



Dear Chris,

As you may know, when the National Park Service (NPS) acquired Rancho Corral de Tierra (Rancho) in 2011, NPS national regulations took effect, including the regulation for dog walking which requires that where dogs are permitted, they must be on leash. Through discussions with stakeholder groups and staff site visits, areas of Rancho that were determined to have potential resource sensitivity or visitor use conflicts were restricted for dog walking.

NPS is currently developing a Dog Management Plan for Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), which will address where and how dog walking can occur throughout GGNRA, including at Rancho. The current dog walking restrictions at Rancho were intended to be temporary until the Dog Management Plan is complete. We have recently heard from many neighbors and stakeholders that this restriction represents an unexpected and significant change in dog walking use, particularly compared to dog walking use prior to NPS management. We understand that you, the community surrounding Rancho, are concerned that you have not had the opportunity to provide input on dog walking regulations at Rancho.

Therefore, in view of these concerns, effective today, the Superintendent of GGNRA has designated **all of Rancho as open to on-leash dog walking**. Our maps on the website and signage in the field will be updated to reflect this change. This regulation will remain in effect until a new special regulation for dog walking in GGNRA, developed out of the Dog Management Plan (which has two more opportunities for public comment) is put into place.

We look forward to working with you and hope that you will participate in the dog management planning process to provide your input on the future of dog walking at Rancho. For more information, please visit our website.

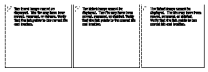
Have a safe and fun holiday weekend!

The GGNRA San Mateo Team

You are receiving this email because you have expressed interest in news about the newest addition to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Rancho Corral de Tierra. You can unsubscribe or update your preferences at any

time using the links below.

.



Donate | Volunteer | Forward | Update Your Profile | Unsubscribe

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Building 201 Fort Mason, San Francisco CA 94123 (415) 561-3000

www.parksconservancy.org



nonprofit software

Message

From: Christine Powell [chris_powell@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/4/2013 12:28:19 PM
To: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
CC: Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]; Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; cbcarey@nps.gov; shirwin_smith@nps.gov; Aaron_Roth@nps.gov
Subject: Re: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release

I was/ am on the mailing list for all the delegation. Nice way to find out what is happening.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 3, 2013, at 11:48 PM, Howard Levitt <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:

> No - we don't receive these. HL
>
> Hi Chris: FYI. HL
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Jul 3, 2013, at 7:34 PM, Alexandra Picavet <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov> wrote:
>
> > I don't know if Howard is, but I did not get this. I will work on that.
> >
> > Sent from iPhone, please excuse typos and made up words my phone inserted.
> > Alexandra Picavet
> > Public Affairs Specialist
> > 415-786-8021
> >
> > On Jul 3, 2013, at 7:27 PM, Francis Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov> wrote:
> >
> > > Thanks Christine.
> > >
> > > Alex- are we on her mailing list?
> > >
> > > Frank Dean
> > > General Superintendent
> > > Golden Gate
> > > National Recreation Area
> > > San Francisco, CA 94123
> > > (415) 561-4720
> > >
> > > ---
> > > **From:** Christine B. Carey [mailto:cbcarey@nps.gov]
> > > **Sent:** Wednesday, July 03, 2013 07:22 PM
> > > **To:** Shirwin Smith <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>; Howard Levitt <howard_levitt@nps.gov>; Alexandra Picavet <Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov>; Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>; Aaron Roth <Aaron_Roth@nps.gov>
> > > **Subject:** Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
> > >
> > > In case you haven't seen Speier's response...

-Christine

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Chris Thollaug**
Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2013
Subject: Fwd: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
To: Christine Carey <christine_carey@partner.nps.gov>

Christine,

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---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **bechtell** <bechtell@comcast.net>
Date: Wed, Jul 3, 2013 at 5:25 PM
Subject: Montara Dog Group: Jackie Speier's press release
To:

For Immediate Release
July 3, 2013

Contact:
CA - Katrina Rill (650) 342-0300 / (650) 208-7441
Katrina.Rill@mail.house.gov

DC – Greg Roth (202) 225-3531 / (202) 957-4340 cell
greg.roth@mail.house.gov

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Christine Carey, PE, AICP
National Park Service
Community Planner - San Mateo County

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123

(415) 561-4745
cbcarey@nps.gov

Message

From: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/11/2013 8:12:12 PM
To: Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov; shirwin_smith@nps.gov; Howard_Levitt@nps.gov; Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov
Subject: Fw: GOGA Release of SEIS Dog Management Plan

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

From: Margaret O'Dell [mailto:peggy_o'dell@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2013 01:10 PM
To: Francis Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: GOGA Release of SEIS Dog Management Plan

Exemption 5

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 11, 2013, at 3:29 PM, Francis Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Peggy,

I meant to ask you about this the other day. Any news?

Thanks,

Frank

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

From: O'Dell, Margaret [mailto:peggy_o'dell@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 02, 2013 01:09 PM
To: Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>
Cc: Herbert Frost <bert_frost@nps.gov>; Maureen Foster <maureen_foster@nps.gov>; Christine Lehnertz <chris_lehnertz@nps.gov>; Martha Lee <martha_lee@nps.gov>

Subject: Re: GOGA Release of SEIS Dog Management Plan

Jon and I plan on talking to Laura to try to break it free. Stand by....

On Tue, Jul 2, 2013 at 3:59 PM, Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Bert,

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Thanks,

Frank

Message

From: Powell, Christine [chris_powell@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/12/2013 6:21:28 PM
To: Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
CC: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]; Michael Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]; Kevin Cochary [Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov]; Christine Carey [christine_carey@partner.nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Pasted story from Halfmoon.

Thanks Alex. This story made the DOI News Brief this morning. It appears to be a well-balanced story.

Chris

Christine Powell
Senior Congressional Affairs Specialist
National Park Service
Main Interior Building, Room 3322
Washington, DC 20240
(O) 202-208-3636
(C) 202-591-0660

On Fri, Jul 12, 2013 at 2:00 PM, Alexandra Picavet <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov> wrote:

GGNRA opens Rancho to dog-walkers

BOUNDARIES LIFTED IN ADVANCE OF DRAFT PLAN

By Mark Noack [mark@hmbreview.com] | Posted: Thursday, July 11, 2013 10:26 am

In a major victory for local canine lovers, National Park officials signaled last week that all of the Rancho Corral de Tierra property near Montara would be open for dog-walking — for now, at least.

Since taking over the property in 2011, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area has posted signs limiting dog-walkers to a section of trails near the neighborhoods of Montara. The boundaries were not heavily enforced by rangers and often ignored by dog-walkers, but the issue gained significance for all involved in light of a looming, comprehensive, dog management plan.

Interested parties, particularly the 400-member Montara Dog Group, say people have been walking their pets at the park without limits for years. They feared the GGNRA boundaries would be locked into place permanently under the new plan. Working with hired legal staff, they pressed U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier to advocate on their behalf.

"It's highly significant. They were planning to use their no-dog policy as the base condition," said Bill Bechtel, organizer for the dog-friendly group. "We felt it was important to challenge this before they issued the (dog management plan)."

Speier wrote a letter to U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell in June summarizing her concerns that dogs were prohibited on "80 percent" of the Rancho property. Two weeks later, GGNRA Superintendent Frank Dean announced the dog-walking boundaries would be lifted.

Parks rangers on Monday began placing dog-walking stickers to update the signs with the new rules throughout the Rancho property. Speaking last week, GGNRA spokeswoman Alexandra Picavet said the dog boundaries were put in place to limit damage while biologists surveyed for threatened species. That survey work would continue, she said.

"We still believe it's important to assess the land we've been charged with taking care of," she said. "But we'll work with the community to do that while they're still able to walk their dogs on-leash."
Off-leash dog walking will still be prohibited, she added, pointing out that park rangers had focused on educating visitors for more than a year and now may write citations for violators.
Rules for dog-walking at the park may change under the upcoming dog-management plan. GGNRA was originally scheduled to publicize its dog-management draft plan last month, but the plans were delayed due to federal budget cuts. The plan should be released later this month, Picavet said.
###

Sent from iPhone, please excuse typos and made up words my phone inserted.
Alexandra Picavet
Public Affairs Specialist
415-786-8021

Message

From: Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/12/2013 6:00:10 PM
To: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]; Michael Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]; Kevin Cochary [Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov]; Chris Powell [Chris_Powell@nps.gov]; Christine Carey [christine_carey@partner.nps.gov]
Subject: Pasted story from Halfmoon.

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Sent from iPhone, please excuse typos and made up words my phone inserted.
Alexandra Picavet
Public Affairs Specialist
415-786-8021

Message

From: Frank Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/5/2013 9:02:41 PM
To: Michael Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]; Shirwin Smith [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Fwd: GOGA Release of SEIS Dog Management Plan

Just saw this

Begin forwarded message:
From: "O'Dell, Margaret" <peggy_o'dell@nps.gov>
Date: July 2, 2013 1:09:59 PM PDT
To: Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>
Cc: Herbert Frost <bert_frost@nps.gov>, Maureen Foster <maureen_foster@nps.gov>, Christine Lehnertz <chris_lehnertz@nps.gov>, Martha Lee <martha_lee@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: GOGA Release of SEIS Dog Management Plan
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Hi Bert,

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REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Thanks,

Frank

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 7/16/2013 4:35:33 PM
To: Frank Dean [Frank_Dean@nps.gov]; Aaron Roth [Aaron_Roth@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Barbara Goodyear [Barbara.Goodyear@sol.doi.gov]; Steve Ortega [Steve_Ortega@nps.gov]; Michael B Edwards [Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov]
Subject: Tiburon CDW restrictions start Friday

http://www.marinij.com/tiburonbelvedere/ci_23666258/new-dog-walking-rules-tiburon-start-friday

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

Message

From: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/4/2013 5:40:05 PM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
CC: Frank Dean [Frank_Dean@nps.gov]; Daphne Hatch [daphne_hatch@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: FYI GGNRA and pro dog

And the point is ...?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 4, 2013, at 10:14 AM, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

> I asked Linda McKay where the into - supposedly from Audubon - came from that said NPS was going to put out an interim CDW. Linda sent me the source -
> M
> att Zlatunich. See below.
>
> SES
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ----------
> From: **Linda McKay** <lmckay@pobox.com>
> Date: Wed, Sep 4, 2013 at 10:10 AM
> Subject: Fwd: FYI GGNRA and pro dog
> To: Shirwin Smith <Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov>
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> Begin forwarded message:
>
> > **From:** Khu <brainz_ca@yahoo.com>
> > **Date:** August 31, 2013, 7:08:58 PM PDT
> > **To:** linda mckay <lmckay@pobox.com>, "sally.stephens.sf@gmail.com" <sally.stephens.sf@gmail.com>
> > **Subject: FYI GGNRA and pro dog**
> >
> > FYI
> > Message from Audubon
> >
> > Karin
> >
> > Sent from my iBrain
> >
> > Begin forwarded message:

From: ggasconservation@yahoogroups.com
Date: August 30, 2013, 5:17:39 AM PDT
To: ggasconservation@yahoogroups.com
Subject: [GGASConservation] Digest Number 493
Reply-To: "No Reply"<notify-dg-ggasconservation@yahoogroups.com>

There is 1 message in this issue.

Topics in this digest:

1. GGNRA Commercial Dog Walking (CDW) Update
   From: matt_zlatunich

Message

---

1. GGNRA Commercial Dog Walking (CDW) Update
   Posted by: mbzlat@yahoo.com
matt_zlatunich
   Date: Thu Aug 29, 2013 4:45 pm ((PDT))

The NPS is considering putting in place an interim CDW permit program in advance of a final dog walking rule for GGNRA in 2015. The Presidio Trust would cooperate with the NPS in this interim action. In response to the San Francisco action, and a subsequent CDW permit program enacted by the City of Tiburon, the NPS expects to release a proposal for an interim CDW permit program for GGNRA sites in San Francisco and Marin for a 30-day public comment period in late August or early September 2013.   GGNRA expects that the Supplemental Draft EIS for the GGNRA Dog Management Plan will be released for public comment this fall, with a final rule anticipated in 2015.

Messages in this topic (1)

Yahoo! Groups Links

<*> To visit your group on the web, go to:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ggasconservation/

<*> Your email settings:

Digest Email | Traditional

<*> To change settings online go to:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ggasconservation/join
(Yahoo! ID required)

<*> To change settings via email:
ggasconservation-normal@yahoogroups.com
ggasconservation-fullfeatured@yahoogroups.com

<*> To unsubscribe from this group, send an email to:
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Golden Gate National Recreation Area

DOG MANAGEMENT
Draft Plan/ Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

Frequently Asked Questions
September 6, 2013

1. **What are the goals of the draft Plan/SEIS?**

   - Provide a clear, enforceable policy to determine the manner and extent of dog use in appropriate areas of the park
   - Provide a variety of visitor experiences, improve visitor and employee safety, and reduce user conflicts
   - Promote the preservation and protection of natural and cultural resources and natural processes;
     Maintain park resources and values for future generations.

2. **Where can I view the draft Plan/SEIS, and how can I submit comments?**

   Go to the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"] to review and comment online.

   Copies of the plan are also available at libraries in San Francisco, Marin and San Mateo Counties, and the East Bay (full list at [HYPERLINK "http://www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm"]).

   The draft plan/SEIS is available for review and comment for 90 days; September 6 until midnight Mountain Time (**11 p.m. Pacific Time**), December 4, 2013.

   Comments may be submitted:
   - Online at http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan; or
   - By mail to General Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123, Attn: Dog Management SEIS
   - By attending one of the public open-house meetings in early November (listed at [HYPERLINK "http://parkplanning.nps.gov/dogplan"] and at www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm)

   Comments will not be accepted by fax, email, or in any other way than those specified above. Bulk comments in any format (hard copy or electronic) submitted on behalf of others will not be accepted.

3. **Why has GOGA developed a second EIS for dog management?**

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The park received 4,713 individual pieces of correspondence on the first draft EIS (DEIS) for dog management that was released in January 2011. That correspondence contained 8,000 substantive comments. This draft Plan/SEIS is a second draft EIS that responds to the substantive comments on the DEIS and includes analysis of dog management for the newest area of the park, Rancho Corral de Tierra. Because of the amount of new information and analysis, the entire document has been reissued. There is a reading guide to help direct readers to the substantive changes to the DEIS.

The current situation with dog management in the park is confusing and has led to controversy and conflicts. The park intends to develop a final plan for dog management that is understandable, enforceable, provides a variety of visitor experiences and protects resources.

In this second public comment phase of the dog management project, we need to hear from a broad range of users as to whether the preferred alternative in the SEIS adequately provides a range of visitor experiences while protecting park resources within this national park system unit.

4. What's in the draft Plan/SEIS?

The plan includes six management alternatives, one of which is the park's preferred alternative, for 22 areas of the park. These 22 areas include all the major areas where dog walking currently occurs and essentially lays out the future for where and how dog walking will occur parkwide.

5. What are the key changes between the 2011 version of the plan and this current SEIS?

The Supplemental EIS:

- Incorporates new data
- Considers additional research
- Makes some changes to the impacts analysis
- Changes the management strategy to accentuate monitoring and eliminate automatic triggers
- Evaluates fencing as a tool to manage dog impacts
- Makes changes to the preferred alternative at several sites, and includes site specific alternatives and analysis for Rancho Corral de Tierra in San Mateo County, which wasn't part of the park when the January 2011 draft plan came out.

6. Does the draft Plan/SEIS ban dogs from the park?

No. The dog management planning process dismissed alternatives banning dogs from the park as not meeting the purpose of the planning effort. The range of alternatives in the Plan/SEIS permits dog walking, both on leash and under voice control, in many areas of the park. The preferred alternative includes 7 areas, including beaches, where dogs may

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be walked off leash under voice control and 22 park sites with areas (beaches, trails and grassy areas) open to on-leash.

7. Are there any other national park areas that allow off leash dog walking?

No. The national NPS regulation on dogs states that where they are permitted in parks, they must be on leash.

In 2002, a panel of senior NPS officials concluded that because of the special circumstances at Golden Gate, it is appropriate for the park to consider a range of alternatives that includes off leash dog walking in areas that meet certain criteria.

8. Was there public input in the development of the plan?

Yes. The plan is informed by the input of thousands of people over a 12-year period. Public involvement took the form of numerous public meetings, written comments, stakeholder presentations and discussions, and a federal negotiated rulemaking process. Most recently, the draft Plan/DEIS was open for public comment for 5.5 months and the park received over 4700 pieces of correspondence. Additional input came from senior NPS management at the regional and national level, with specialized expertise in resources and park management.

9. Will the NPS really give consideration to public comment on the draft Plan/SEIS?

Yes. Every substantive comment will be carefully considered in developing a final plan. Without exception, every draft EIS released by the park since it was established in 1972 was refined and improved as a result of public comment.

10. The draft Plan/SEIS is very long. Do I have to read the entire document?

No. We have prepared a Reader's Guide to reviewing the plan, which will direct you to the sections that have changed since the first draft EIS. There is also a short Executive Summary of the plan, which is in the first 28 pages of the document. If you're interested in a particular area, see the index listings for Chapter 2 for descriptions of the alternatives and then go to the listing of alternative maps to see the alternatives for each site(s).

11. Is the draft Plan/SEIS the final dog walking regulation for GGNRA?

No. The draft Plan/SEIS is an assessment of the environmental impacts of a range of management alternatives, including the NPS Preferred Alternative. After review of public comment on the draft Plan/SEIS, a notice of proposed rulemaking, based on the preferred alternative of the draft Plan/SEIS and any changes resulting from public comment, will be published for additional public comment. After consideration of the relevant comments on the proposed rule, and after publication of the final Plan/EIS and Record of Decision, the NPS will publish a final rule, which is anticipated in late 2015.

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ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND QUESTIONS

12. Does the draft Plan/SEIS address all lands within the boundary of GGNRA?

The draft Plan/SEIS addressed only lands that are owned and managed by GGNRA. It does not directly address lands within the park boundary managed by other agencies such as the Presidio Trust, Point Reyes National Seashore or the San Francisco Public Utility Commission.

The draft Plan/SEIS addresses dog walking in 22 specific areas of the approximately 20,000 acres within the GOGA boundary that are managed by the park. Other GGNRA owned and managed lands within the park boundary that are not directly addressed in this draft Plan/SEIS will continue to be governed by the existing NPS regulation for dog walking, 36 CFR 2.15 which requires dogs to be kept on a leash where they are allowed.

13. How were those 22 specific areas chosen for inclusion in the draft Plan/SEIS?

Initially, 21 park areas were developed by the NPS as the parameters for discussion of dog management by the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management, an initial attempt to develop a new dog walking regulation for the park with direct input from stakeholder groups. The parameters set the limits for discussion, by identifying, up front, areas that would be open to consideration for on-leash dog walking, and areas open to consideration for dog walking off-leash, under voice control, and areas that would not be open to consideration for dog walking. Development of the parameters was guided by a panel of senior NPS officials who, in 2002, recommended the following to the GOGA General Superintendent:

"The panel concludes that off-leash dog walking in GOGA may be appropriate in selected locations where resource impacts can be adequately mitigated and public safety incidents and public use conflicts can be appropriately managed. The panel further recommends that the park pursue both rulemaking and comprehensive planning for pet management to address suitable locations and proper management strategies."

An additional area, Rancho Corral de Tierra, was added in this draft Plan/SEIS. That site transferred to the park when the first draft Plan and EIS had already been completed. The SEIS provides the opportunity to address that new property.

14. What is a Preferred Alternative?

A preferred alternative is the alternative in an EIS which the NPS believes would best accomplish the purpose and need of the proposed action while fulfilling its statutory mission and responsibilities, giving consideration to economic, environmental, technical, and other factors. 43 CFR 46.4.20(d).

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The preferred alternative in the draft Plan/SEIS includes the following key elements:

- On-leash and/or voice-control dog walking in certain, specific areas of the park where impacts on visitor experience and safety and sensitive resources were minimal,
- No dogs in areas of the park where impacts were unacceptable and could not be mitigated,
- The commercial dog walking recommendation from the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee,
- A monitoring-management strategy to guide a range of park responses to non-compliance,
- Permits for private or commercial dog walkers who wish to walk more than three dogs, with a limit of 6, in seven specific areas of the park.

15. What are the current rules governing dog management at GOGA?

Currently, dog management at GOGA varies by area and is a combination of the following:

- NPS federal regulation (36 CFR 2.15) — requires that dogs be on leash wherever dog walking is permitted in an NPS area,
- GOGA Citizen Advisory Commission's 1979 Pet Policy — provisions for off-leash dog walking in certain areas of GOGA, which were never formalized as a federal regulation, This aspect of current park management is the result of the 2005 federal court decision *US v. Barley* (405 F. Supp.2d 1121 (N.D. CA 2005)),
- NPS special regulation for protection of western snowy plovers on Ocean Beach and the WPA at Crissy Field (36 CFR 7.97(d)), and
- GGNRA Compendium (compilation of park-specific rules).

16. What is the 1979 Pet Policy?

The GGNRA Citizen's Advisory Commission's 1979 Pet Policy recommended to the park that certain, specific areas of GOGA be open to off-leash voice control dog walking. Although never formalized as a federal regulation by the NPS, this unofficial pet policy was in place within GOGA for more than 20 years.

17. Why doesn't GGNRA simply adopt the 1979 Pet Policy as its dog management regulation?

Conditions within the park have changed significantly since 1979; increased visitation, addition of park areas and increased knowledge of resources within the park must be taken into consideration in the development of any dog management regulation. An NPS rule must also be consistent with applicable statutory requirements, such as the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act; the 1979 Pet Policy was developed without any environmental analysis. In addition, the draft dog management plan/SEIS found that accepting the 1979 Pet Policy in its entirety would not meet the purpose and need of the plan (stated previously); therefore, formalizing the Pet Policy as the dog management regulation was considered but dismissed.

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18. What are the concerns about current off-leash dog walking in GGNRA?

Although the 1979 policy and current park information state that dogs off-leash in the park must be under control, the park has no legally-enforceable voice-control guidelines governing off-leash behavior, and currently many off-leash dogs are not well-controlled by their walkers. Uncontrolled, off-leash dogs create safety issues for park visitors and staff, and are a source of conflict between dog walkers and other user groups.

19. What is the definition of voice and sight control dog walking that would be required under a new GGNRA dog walking regulation?

As defined in the draft Plan/SEIS, voice and sight control means that dogs must be within direct eyesight of the dog walker, and that dog walkers must be able to immediately recall their dog(s) to their side so that a leash can be attached to the dog(s)'s collar, and shall demonstrate this ability when requested by Law Enforcement personnel. This definition is similar to other land management agencies that allow off-leash dog walking.

~~**20. What are the concerns about off-leash dog walking in GGNRA?**~~

~~The main concerns that the park has about off-leash dog walking relate to public and staff safety, compatibility with other user groups and potential resource impacts.~~

Comment [SES1]: Addressed above

~~21.~~20. **Why does the GGNRA draft Plan/SEIS treat dog walking differently than other areas of the National Park Service?**

As described in the November 2002 Federal Panel Recommendation to the General Superintendent on Proposed Rulemaking for Pet Management at GGNRA, the park has a unique set of characteristics: sites which had historically been used for off-leash dog walking; the 1979 Citizen's Advisory Commission Pet Policy that recommended the continuation of those uses, and the park's adoption of that policy for over 20 years; and management of a significant portion of the public recreational open space in San Francisco and San Mateo and Marin Counties, where residents rely on portions of that open space for exercise of their pets.

Because of these unique characteristics, the park considered a range of alternatives intended to provide a variety of experiences, including voice control dog walking, while protecting visitor experience and safety and park resources.

~~22.~~21. **GGNRA is a national recreation area. Do national recreation areas have different management policies than national parks?**

No. All units of the National Park System are guided by the same NPS Management Policies, regardless of the park's designation as a national park, national recreation area, national historic site, national lakeshore or other (there are 35 types of national park

units). Congress amended the 1916 NPS Organic Act in 1970 to make clear that the NPS must manage all units of the national park system to the same preservation standard.

~~23.~~22. **What is "Negotiated Rulemaking," and why did GOGA use this form of rulemaking from 2006-2007 as a preliminary step in the dog management planning process?**

Negotiated Rulemaking is one way that federal agencies can ~~use to~~ develop rules; this method requires the formal involvement of key stakeholders, along with the agency. Given the longstanding and passionate interest that various stakeholders have in this issue, and because GGNRA has a deep tradition of community engagement, the park saw value in working in partnership with stakeholders who have diverse values and views to try and develop a rule for dog management through consensus. The Committee was formed with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior to develop consensus recommendations for both voice-control and on-leash dog walking, as well as for use and limits of professional dog walking.

~~24.~~23. **What was the outcome of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Dog Management and how will recommendations of the Committee be used by the NPS?**

The Committee worked from March 2006 to the end of October 2007 but, after many meetings and working sessions, was unable to reach consensus on a proposed rule for all areas open for discussion. However, there was consensus on overarching guidelines for dog management and commercial dog walking as well as for a management option for one site – Oakwood Valley. All these areas of consensus have been included in two of the alternatives in the draft Plan/SEIS, and two are included in the NPS preferred alternative. Although the Committee was unable to reach consensus on a full rule, the many meetings of the Committee provided much information that aided the NPS in the development of the Plan/DEIS.

~~25.~~24. **What should people consider when they comment on the draft Plan/SEIS?**

The NPS is looking for substantive comments from the public after review of the range of alternatives, including the preferred alternative, and the impacts of those alternatives. Examples of substantive comments include providing additional factual information, noting issues or impacts NPS may have failed to consider, inconsistencies, and other comments of substance, as opposed to comments voicing like or dislike without an underlying rationale.

~~26.~~25. **Once a final rule is issued, how will it be enforced?**

The park will enforce the final rule as it does all other rules. The park will depend on the active involvement of user groups to support implementation of the rule by assisting in education and outreach to their members.

Message

From: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/7/2013 3:17:36 AM
To: Roxas, Samantha [Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov]
CC: Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]; Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Great meeting you over the phone, too. I'll check the calendar on Mon and see if those days and times work. Meanwhile, stay cool this weekend! Best. Howard

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 6, 2013, at 5:33 PM, "Roxas, Samantha" <Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov> wrote:
Howard—

It was a pleasure speaking with you and the group yesterday. Thank you for being so accommodating and for offering to give me a tour the park. I'm free to take the tour any of the following days:

Thursday, September 12th
Wednesday, September 18th
Thursday, September 19th

Please let me know if any of these days work.

Have a great weekend,
Samantha

Samantha Roxas
Field Representative
Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier
155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
San Mateo, CA 94402
☎650-342-0300 | 415-566-5257

<image001.png>

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 10:58 AM
To: Callaway, Jenny; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer); John Murray (Feinstein); jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Bernal, Dan; Perkins, Brian (Speier); sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov; Roxas, Samantha
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Great talking with all of you this morning. Attached is a revised FAQ paper - please use this version. Thanks. Howard

On Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 8:20 AM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:

Everyone:

Attached is a Press Release, Newsletter, and FAQs related to the Supplemental draft Dog Management Plan ... the topic of today's phone call. I wanted you to have these materials in advance of the release, but please don't share them with others at this time - we will be contacting key stakeholders later this afternoon, and many of them are very sensitive to when they get information and who has gotten it before them.

I'm looking forward to talking with you later this morning. A reminder that the conf line is

1-866-732-0765
Code

Howard

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Kershaw, Jessica [jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: 9/5/2013 3:04:11 PM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
CC: Suzanne Waldron [sue_waldron@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]; Frank Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; Stephanie Burkhart [stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov]; Litterst, Michael [mike_litterst@nps.gov]; Kate Kelly [kate_kelly@ios.doi.gov]; Blake Androff [blake_androff@ios.doi.gov]
Subject: Re: Dog Mgt SEIS press release, FAQs, etc

Thanks to all for your work on this and for keeping us updated on changes/docs, etc.

On Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 10:34 AM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks for passing this on, Sue. HL

Got it, Jessica - thanks! We'll make the change. HL

On Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 3:01 AM, Suzanne Waldron <sue_waldron@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks jessica. Looping in park

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 4, 2013, at 9:54 PM, "Kershaw, Jessica" <jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
I'd suggest making this paragraph the second one in the release rather than 4th so that the reason for the release is a little more clear:

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

On Wed, Sep 4, 2013 at 8:12 PM, Jessica Kershaw <jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Let me take a look now that NPS has finished review and I'll get back to you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 4, 2013, at 7:39 PM, "Litterst, Michael" <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:
Did you all have any comments on this, as the press release is being sent out on Thursday afternoon.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson (acting)
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
Ph: (202) 513-0354
Cell: (202) 306-4166

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Waldron, Suzanne** <sue_waldron@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Sep 4, 2013 at 10:20 AM
Subject: Fwd: Dog Mgt SEIS press release, FAQs, etc
To: Howard Levitt <howard_levitt@nps.gov>, Stephanie Burkhart <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>, Frank Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov>, Alexandra Picavet <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov>, Shirwin Smith <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>, Michael Edwards <michael_b_edwards@nps.gov>, Kate Kelly <Kate_Kelly@ios.doi.gov>, Blake Androff <Blake_Androff@ios.doi.gov>, Jessica L Kershaw <jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov>, Mike Litterst <Mike_Litterst@nps.gov>, Maureen Foster <Maureen_Foster@nps.gov>

Thanks Howard - just gave it all a quick read and looks good!

Looping in DOI since this is on fast track

A few editorial comments on consistency in and among the 4 documents:

1. Document to be issued Friday is called all of these things:
- draft Plan/SEIS (sometimes the "d" and "p" are both lower case, sometimes mixed),
- SEIS
- draft dog management plan/SEIS
- Draft Dog Management Plan/Supplemental EIS
- second EIS
- second draft EIS
- Supplemental EIS
- Plan/SEIS

Document released in January 2011 is called all of these things:
- First draft EIS
- DEIS
- EIS
- Plan/DEIS
- draft plan/EIS
- 2011 draft EIS

Suggest you settle on one shorthand term for each and use it consistently to avoid confusion.

2. The deadline for comments is listed as both midnight and 11:59 pm.

3. Think it is confusing to list both a mountain time and pacific time deadline – know there is probably a good reason, but suspect that most commenters will be pacific time, so why not just make it midnight pacific time?

4. How to submit comments: in one doc it says written comments can be mailed, sent via other mail delivery service or hand delivered – in others says only mailed.

Comments on the Q&A are attached…

On Tue, Sep 3, 2013 at 9:09 PM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Sue and Stephanie:

As promised, here are several of the key public information pieces on the release of the Dog Mgt Plan/SEIS this Fri. Included is a press release to be sent on the PM of 9/5; a newsletter that will accompany the press release (and will also be sent to agencies and key stakeholders), some FAQs that will also accompany the press release. We've also included a more comprehensive comm strategy than you've seen previously.

We consider all of these products to be final, but are always open to your suggestions and corrections of the inevitable typos, etc, that find their way into these things.

Happy Dog Week.

GOGA TEAM DOG PLAN- Howard, Shirwin, Alex

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--
Sue Waldron
Assistant Director, Communications
National Park Service
(202) 208-3046
Visit us at www.nps.gov

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<SEIS Comm Plan v2 0903.doc>

<SEIS final Press Release.pdf>
<SEIS newsletter 092013 (1).pdf>
<SEIS FAQs 09032013 final.doc>
<SEIS FAQs 09032013 final-sue.doc>

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Jessica Kershaw
Press Secretary
OS/Office of Communications
@DOIPressSec
Office: 202-208-6416
Cell: 202-669-0968

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--
Jessica Kershaw
Press Secretary
OS/Office of Communications
@DOIPressSec
Office: 202-208-6416
Cell: 202-669-0968

Message

From: Roxas, Samantha [Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov]
Sent: 9/7/2013 12:33:35 AM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: RE: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Howard—

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Please let me know if any of these days work.

Have a great weekend,

Samantha

Samantha Roxas

Field Representative

Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier

155 Bovet Road, Suite 780

San Mateo, CA 94402

☎650-342-0300 | 415-566-5257

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 10:58 AM
To: Callaway, Jenny; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer); John Murray (Feinstein); jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Bernal, Dan; Perkins, Brian (Speier); sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov; Roxas, Samantha
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

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On Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 8:20 AM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:

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1-866-732-0765

Code [redacted]

Howard

--
Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

--
Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

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Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/5/2013 3:20:13 PM
To: Jenny Callaway [jenny.callaway@mail.house.gov]; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer) [Joshua_Quigley@boxer.senate.gov]; John Murray (Feinstein) [john_murray@feinstein.senate.gov]; jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Dan Bernal [dan.bernal@mail.house.gov]; Brian Perkins [brian.perkins@mail.house.gov]; sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov
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Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/5/2013 5:57:56 PM
To: Jenny Callaway [jenny.callaway@mail.house.gov]; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer) [Joshua_Quigley@boxer.senate.gov]; John Murray (Feinstein) [john_murray@feinstein.senate.gov]; jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Dan Bernal [dan.bernal@mail.house.gov]; Brian Perkins [brian.perkins@mail.house.gov]; sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov; Roxas, Samantha [Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov]
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--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Perkins, Brian (Speier) [Brian.Perkins@mail.house.gov]
Sent: 9/5/2013 3:22:26 PM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
CC: Roxas, Samantha [Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov]
Subject: FW: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Howard: Thank you for this information. You may substitute my colleague Samantha Roxas for my name on this distribution list. She's taking over this subject from Alana who has moved on to Genentech. Unfortunately if you send me this information I am often 200 + emails behind and it's going to be delayed in being read and processed. Thank you for the information. Brian Perkins

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 8:20 AM
To: Callaway, Jenny; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer); John Murray (Feinstein); jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Bernal, Dan; Perkins, Brian (Speier); sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov
Subject: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Everyone:

Attached is a Press Release, Newsletter, and FAQs related to the Supplemental draft Dog Management Plan ... the topic of today's phone call. I wanted you to have these materials in advance of the release, but please don't share them with others at this time - we will be contacting key stakeholders later this afternoon, and many of them are very sensitive to when they get information and who has gotten it before them.

I'm looking forward to talking with you later this morning. A reminder that the conf line is

1-866-732-0765

Code NR

Howard

--

Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/5/2013 5:46:05 PM
To: Elsbernd, Sean (Feinstein) [Sean_Elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov]
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Thanks, Sean. Good advice re Weiner; I'll try to work it into my briefing today at City Hall. We spoke with Scott before he introduced the city commercial dog ordinance and tried to convince him to use the industry standard of six dogs max, but he seemed locked into satisfying the commercial dog interests who had his ear on the matter. HL

On Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 10:08 AM, Elsbernd, Sean (Feinstein) <Sean_Elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov> wrote:

Howard,

Good Luck with this effort. I'd strongly suggest reaching out to Weiner as soon as you can about the discrepancy in the commercial dog walking cap. He tends to be very protective of any of "his" legislation, and could very well see your work as an effort to undermine him personally.

All the best,

Sean

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 8:20 AM
To: Jenny Callaway; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer); Murray, John (Feinstein); Tang, Jennifer (Boxer); Dan Bernal; Brian Perkins; Elsbernd, Sean (Feinstein)
Subject: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Everyone:

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415-561-4730

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Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/10/2013 12:47:55 AM
To: Picavet, Alexandra [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: brief phone call Pt Reyes Light about SEIS

Yes please set up an interview -thanks!

On Mon, Sep 9, 2013 at 5:46 PM, Picavet, Alexandra <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Howard- you want this or shall I? You are at Forum, I am at Rodeo doing KPIX interview until noon. Want me to set it up for you to call her after 12:15?
Alex

Alexandra Picavet
Public Affairs Specialist
Golden Gate National Parks
alexandra_picavet@nps.gov
415-786-8021 mobile
www.nps.gov/goga

On Mon, Sep 9, 2013 at 9:33 AM, Tess Elliott <tessevenstar@gmail.com> wrote:
Hello Alex! I'm wondering if there is a good time this morning to ask you a few questions about the new draft dog management plan. I'll be free until 11, then again at 12:15. Let me know!

Best,

Tess Elliott
editor@ptreyeslight.com
(415) 669.1200

--

Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/5/2013 3:28:27 PM
To: Perkins, Brian (Speier) [Brian.Perkins@mail.house.gov]
CC: Roxas, Samantha [Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov]
Subject: Re: FW: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Thanks, Brian. HL

Hi Samantha: I'll look forward to meeting you in person one of these days, but meanwhile, I hope you will be able to join the conf call at 9:00 AM. HL

On Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 8:22 AM, Perkins, Brian (Speier) <Brian.Perkins@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Howard: Thank you for this information. You may substitute my colleague Samantha Roxas for my name on this distribution list. She's taking over this subject from Alana who has moved on to Genentech. Unfortunately if you send me this information I am often 200 + emails behind and it's going to be delayed in being read and processed. Thank you for the information. Brian Perkins

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 8:20 AM
To: Callaway, Jenny; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer); John Murray (Feinstein); jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Bernal, Dan; Perkins, Brian (Speier); sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov
Subject: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

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Director of Communications and Partnerships

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howard_levitt@nps.gov

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Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/10/2013 6:55:25 PM
To: David Yacubian [dyacubian@gmail.com]
Subject: Re: nice job!

In my own scientific study, I have personally witnessed children constantly shitting on blankets - little cotton ones tied neatly around their midsections. HL

On Tue, Sep 10, 2013 at 11:45 AM, David Yacubian <dyacubian@gmail.com> wrote:
the woman who said some dog owners are bad just like some parents are bad...
I have yet to see a child run up and bite someone on the beach or shit on their blanket. Yet, I have seen dogs do both of these things this at least once. (Not a scientific study though..)

Dave
Check out our website www.readysf.com

On Tue, Sep 10, 2013 at 11:36 AM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks, Dave! Dogs will be the death of me. HL

On Tue, Sep 10, 2013 at 10:01 AM, David Yacubian <dyacubian@gmail.com> wrote:
Howard-
I caught the tail end of your time on Forum. Nice work- tough topic.
I was going to call in as I found some of the comments inane, but I decided to just listen.

Dave
Check out our website www.readysf.com

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Roxas, Samantha [Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov]
Sent: 9/10/2013 8:35:32 PM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
CC: Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: RE: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Not a problem - Is 4pm on 9/19 too late? I can do earlier if needed.

Please let me know.

Thanks again,

Samantha

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 11:44 AM
To: Roxas, Samantha
Cc: Shirwin Smith; Alexandra Picavet
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Hi Samantha:

Wonderful to talk with you, too. Sorry to be so slow in getting back to you ... once the Dog Plan hit the streets it has been non-stop media for us.

How about either the afternoon of 9/18 or the afternoon of 9/19 for a tour - your choice? Both dates are available for us.

Let us know.

Howard

On Fri, Sep 6, 2013 at 5:33 PM, Roxas, Samantha <Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Howard—

It was a pleasure speaking with you and the group yesterday. Thank you for being so accommodating and for offering to give me a tour the park. I'm free to take the tour any of the following days:

Thursday, September 12th

Wednesday, September 18th

Thursday, September 19th

Please let me know if any of these days work.

Have a great weekend,

Samantha

Samantha Roxas

Field Representative

Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier

155 Bovet Road, Suite 780

San Mateo, CA 94402

☎650-342-0300 | 415-566-5257

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 10:58 AM
To: Callaway, Jenny; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer); John Murray (Feinstein); jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Bernal, Dan; Perkins, Brian (Speier); sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov; Roxas, Samantha
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Great talking with all of you this morning. Attached is a revised FAQ paper - please use this version. Thanks. Howard

On Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 8:20 AM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:

Everyone:

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Code **NR**

Howard

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Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

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Howard Levitt

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howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

--

Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

Message

From: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/12/2013 12:18:40 AM
To: Howard_Levitt@nps.gov; shirwin_smith@nps.gov; Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov; Aaron_Roth@nps.gov; kevin_cochary@nps.gov; Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov; jessica_carter@nps.gov
Subject: Comm Dog

Hi,

Sounds like we have an internal consensus on dog permit pricing, but Aaron expressed a concern about commercial versus private dog walking permits. Our SEIS plan does not make that distinction and relies simply on field staff observing the number of dogs present and anything over 3 would need a permit.

Exemption 5

Frank

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/10/2013 9:07:11 PM
To: Thomas Kuhn [tom@tomkuhn.com]; ilanabardavid@gmail.com; johnfrykman@comcast.net; jason jungreis [jasonjungreis@gmail.com]
Subject: Re: 1st Draft Agenda for next week -

Hi Tom, Ilana, John, and Jason: I'd like to devote my time to a discussion of our newly-released supplemental/draft Dog Mgt Plan. See you next week. Howard

On Mon, Sep 9, 2013 at 5:54 PM, Thomas Kuhn <tom@tomkuhn.com> wrote:
Hi Team, Please send your additions and corrections to Ilana & John - I I'd like to send the final agenda out by Friday/ Thanks, Tom

.

On Sep 9, 2013, at 5:34 PM, Ilana Bar-David <ilanabardavid@gmail.com> wrote:

Coalition to Save Ocean Beach / Friends of Sutro Heights Park

A Coalition of Groups devoted to improving the Parklands & City

Monday September 16 - 7:00 to 8:30 PM

we strive for on-time start & finish
751-47th Ave bet Cabrillo & Balboa
John Frykman's home **Facilitator Jason Jungreiss**

1. Review of minutes, appoint timekeeper and other housekeeping. (5 mins.)

2. GGNRA Howard Levitt (10 min)

3. VA hospital update (Julie) (10 mins.)

4. Beach Chalet Soccer Fields (Kathy) (10 mins.)

5. Setting up a neighborhood watch/SF Police Captain (15 mins.)

5. New business & Announcements (5 mins.)

6. Sutro Park - Lynn Shimek (10 mins.)

7. Agenda items for next meeting (5 mins.)

8. Set date and confirm next meeting location

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/13/2013 7:14:41 PM
To: Kevin Cochary [Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov]; Jason Wu [Jason_Wu@nps.gov]
CC: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach

Kevin and Jason, could one of you have an officer contact Brian Davis to get a report? Sounds like he's not going to follow up my strong suggestion to report the incident, and a bite that leads to rabies shots definitely merits documentation.

And I apologize to all for having addresses on the cc, rather than the bcc, line. I think it's been a long week.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Brian Davis** <brianjohndavis@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 12:02 PM
Subject: Re: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach
To: "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>
Cc: Howard Levitt <Howard_Levitt@nps.gov>, Alexandra Picavet <Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov>, Kevin Cochary <Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov>, Jason Wu <Jason_Wu@nps.gov>, Tina Davis <tinakdavis@yahoo.com>

Dear Shirwin,
Thank you for the thoughtful response and your concern about the experience of park visitors.

Because this particular dog did not have proof of vaccination and also bit a 2nd person approximately 20 minutes before me, I have begun a series of rabies shots. The rabies vaccine series requires 5 separate visits to the Emergency Department (Not available in primary care setting) and costs several thousand dollars.

I understand that the park needs to be shared with people and their pets, but the presence of unleashed vicious dogs should be prevented if possible. Thank you for forwarding information regarding the new dog walking regulation for GGNRA. I hope that this process provides all visitors a way to enjoy the Presidio.

Kind Regards,

Brian

On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 11:04 AM, Smith, Shirwin <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
Hello Mr. Davis, we received your email (attached below) regarding the incident and injury you experienced at Baker Beach. We very much regret that this happened, and hope you've been treated for the bite. I will pass your message on to our Law Enforcement divisions (U.S. Park Police and Park Rangers). They do regularly patrol park sites, but given the size of the park, it's helpful for them to be aware of particular problem areas.

When you're in any GGNRA area, if you need assistance from our law enforcement staff, please do call the park's dispatch center (open 24/7) - the emergency number is 415-561-5656. If you want to report an incident - and I urge you to report this one - please call the non-emergency number: 415-561-5505, and request that an officer contact you to take a report.

The park is in the midst of a planning project to create a new dog walking regulation for GGNRA, and given your concerns, you may want to review the just-released draft dog management plan/Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and provide comment. FYI - the preferred alternative recommends that Baker Beach be divided into two sections, one allowing on-leash dog walking and the other prohibiting dogs; no off-leash dog walking would be allowed. General information about the plan, and a link to the online site where you can review the plan and comment on it, is at: www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm

As to how to avoid dogs, currently, the one GGNRA beach in the city which prohibits dogs is China Beach. The intent of the dog management plan is to better balance the use of GGNRA areas and provide a variety of safe visitor experiences.

If you have any questions, please let me know. And thank you for contacting the park about this incident. I hope your future visits will be much more pleasant.

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

I have seen a steady rise in the number of Pit Bulls and other vicious dogs at Baker Beach. Yesterday, while jogging at Baker Beach, I was bit by an unleashed boxer-mix dog. While trying to scare the dog away another unleashed dog, a pit bull approached me. Unfortunately this dog did not bit me.

I have 3 small children and enjoy living in the Presidio, but I now feel unsafe. How do you recommend that we avoid vicious unleashed dogs at Baker Beach?

--
Brian

Message

From: Brian Davis [brianjohndavis@gmail.com]
Sent: 9/13/2013 7:02:25 PM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
CC: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Kevin Cochary [Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov]; Jason Wu [Jason_Wu@nps.gov]; Tina Davis [tinakdavis@yahoo.com]
Subject: Re: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach

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I understand that the park needs to be shared with people and their pets, but the presence of unleashed vicious dogs should be prevented if possible. Thank you for forwarding information regarding the new dog walking regulation for GGNRA. I hope that this process provides all visitors a way to enjoy the Presidio.

Kind Regards,
Brian

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If you have any questions, please let me know. And thank you for contacting the park about this incident. I hope your future visits will be much more pleasant.

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--
Brian

Message

From: Edwards, Michael [michael_b_edwards@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/12/2013 2:22:36 AM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
CC: Francis Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; Barbara Goodyear [Barbara.Goodyear@sol.doi.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Aaron Roth [Aaron_Roth@nps.gov]; Kevin Cochary [kevin_cochary@nps.gov]; Jessica Carter [jessica_carter@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Comm Dog

Shirwin, Frank,

I have two concerns about broadening the scope of this interim action, which I can detail by phone. Shirwin - I'm around tomorrow if you want to call and I can relay the info.

Thanks,
Michael

On Wed, Sep 11, 2013 at 7:14 PM, Smith, Shirwin <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
F
rank - the direction I've been going is to keep this action tightly targeted to respond specifically to the City action. Although our max. number is based on/supported by the EIS, this interim action - being under a CatEx - has been drawn up to be the minimum action necessary to do that job. The EIS preferred alt, of course, goes much further - both including any dog walker and then limiting their use to 7 park sites.

Barbara - see Frank's message below. REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Wed, Sep 11, 2013 at 5:18 PM, Francis Dean <frank_dean@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi,

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Frank

Frank Dean
General Superintendent
Golden Gate
National Recreation Area
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 561-4720

--

Michael B. Edwards
Project Manager
Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Quality Division, Planning & Compliance Branch
WASO-NRSS
303.969.2694 (work)
303.638.1928 (cell)
303.987.6782 (fax)

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/10/2013 3:50:37 PM
To: Barbara Goodyear [Barbara.Goodyear@sol.doi.gov]; Frank Dean [Frank_Dean@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: Response to CFDG/Montara dog Rancho letter?

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

SES

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Me** <rosewalt4@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Sep 10, 2013 at 8:35 AM
Subject: Response to Rancho letter
To: Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov

Hi Shirwin

We are still waiting for a response from the GGNRA regarding the most recent letter regarding Rancho

Please advise to the status of the response

Thanks Martha

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/13/2013 7:36:31 PM
To: Jason Wu [jason_wu@nps.gov]
CC: Kevin Cochary [Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Todd Roth [Todd_Roth@nps.gov]; Jeff Wasserman [Jeff_Wasserman@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach

I don't have any other info, other than his email and physical address, which is in the Presidio, so perhaps that can help you reach him.

Brian Davis
Exemption 6
San Francisco, CA 94129

Thanks, Jason and Todd.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 12:20 PM, Jason Wu <jason_wu@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Sherwin,

I will my staff reach out to Mr. Brian Davis. Do you have other contact info for him other than email?

Todd - please assign someone to follow up with Mr. Davis.

Thanks,

Jason

Jason Wu, Major
Commander, SFFO
United States Park Police
(415) 561-5149 office
(415) 561-5166 fax
(415) 559-9642 mobile

On Sep 13, 2013, at 12:15, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
Kevin and Jason, could one of you have an officer contact Brian Davis to get a report? Sounds like he's not going to follow up my strong suggestion to report the incident, and a bite that leads to rabies shots definitely merits documentation.

And I apologize to all for having addresses on the cc, rather than the bcc, line. I think it's been a long week.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
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Date: Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 12:02 PM
Subject: Re: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach
To: "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>
Cc: Howard Levitt <Howard_Levitt@nps.gov>, Alexandra Picavet <Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov>, Kevin Cochary <Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov>, Jason Wu <Jason_Wu@nps.gov>, Tina Davis <tinakdavis@yahoo.com>

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Brian

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As to how to avoid dogs, currently, the one GGNRA beach in the city which prohibits dogs is China Beach. The intent of the dog management plan is to better balance the use of GGNRA areas and provide a variety of safe visitor experiences.

If you have any questions, please let me know. And thank you for contacting the park about this incident. I hope your future visits will be much more pleasant.

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

I have seen a steady rise in the number of Pit Bulls and other vicious dogs at Baker Beach. Yesterday, while jogging at Baker Beach, I was bit by an unleashed boxer-mix dog. While trying to scare the dog away another unleashed dog, a pit bull approached me. Unfortunately this dog did not bit me.

I have 3 small children and enjoy living in the Presidio, but I now feel unsafe. How do you recommend that we avoid vicious unleashed dogs at Baker Beach?

...

Brian

Message

From: David Yacubian [dyacubian@gmail.com]
Sent: 9/10/2013 7:18:11 PM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: nice job!

Touché.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 10, 2013, at 11:55, "Levitt, Howard" <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
In my own scientific study, I have personally witnessed children constantly shitting on blankets - little cotton ones tied neatly around their midsections. HL

On Tue, Sep 10, 2013 at 11:45 AM, David Yacubian <dyacubian@gmail.com> wrote:
the woman who said some dog owners are bad just like some parents are bad...
I have yet to see a child run up and bite someone on the beach or shit on their blanket. Yet, I have seen dogs do both of these things this at least once. (Not a scientific study though..)

Dave
Check out our website www.readysf.com

On Tue, Sep 10, 2013 at 11:36 AM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks, Dave! Dogs will be the death of me. HL

On Tue, Sep 10, 2013 at 10:01 AM, David Yacubian <dyacubian@gmail.com> wrote:
Howard-
I caught the tail end of your time on Forum. Nice work- tough topic.
I was going to call in as I found some of the comments inane, but I decided to just listen.

Dave
Check out our website www.readysf.com

Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--

Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: David Yacubian [dyacubian@gmail.com]
Sent: 9/10/2013 6:45:59 PM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: nice job!

the woman who said some dog owners are bad just like some parents are bad...
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Check out our website www.readysf.com

Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/10/2013 6:43:39 PM
To: Roxas, Samantha [Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov]
CC: Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Hi Samantha:

Wonderful to talk with you, too. Sorry to be so slow in getting back to you ... once the Dog Plan hit the streets it has been non-stop media for us.

How about either the afternoon of 9/18 or the afternoon of 9/19 for a tour - your choice? Both dates are available for us.

Let us know.

Howard

On Fri, Sep 6, 2013 at 5:33 PM, Roxas, Samantha <Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Howard—

It was a pleasure speaking with you and the group yesterday. Thank you for being so accommodating and for offering to give me a tour the park. I'm free to take the tour any of the following days:

Thursday, September 12th

Wednesday, September 18th

Thursday, September 19th

Please let me know if any of these days work.

Have a great weekend,

Samantha

Samantha Roxas

Field Representative

Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier

155 Bovet Road, Suite 780

San Mateo, CA 94402

☎650-342-0300 | 415-566-5257



From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 10:58 AM
To: Callaway, Jenny; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer); John Murray (Feinstein); jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Bernal, Dan; Perkins, Brian (Speier); sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov; Roxas, Samantha
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Great talking with all of you this morning. Attached is a revised FAQ paper - please use this version. Thanks. Howard

On Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 8:20 AM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:

Everyone:

Attached is a Press Release, Newsletter, and FAQs related to the Supplemental draft Dog Management Plan ... the topic of today's phone call. I wanted you to have these materials in advance of the release, but please don't share them with others at this time - we will be contacting key stakeholders later this afternoon, and many of them are very sensitive to when they get information and who has gotten it before them.

I'm looking forward to talking with you later this morning. A reminder that the conf line is

1-866-732-0765

Code NR

Howard

--

Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

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Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

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howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

--

Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Drew Levitt [drew.levitt@gmail.com]
Sent: 9/10/2013 5:36:01 PM
To: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: PEPC link broken?

Hi guys,

As of right now, visiting this page and clicking the draft dog plan for review and comment returns "HTTP Error 400, Bad Request". Don't know if this is because of excessive demand for the document at the moment but I'd look into fixing it.

Best,
- Drew

--
Drew Levitt
drew.levitt@gmail.com
Exemption 6

Message

From: Drew Levitt [drew.levitt@gmail.com]
Sent: 9/10/2013 5:38:05 PM
To: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: PEPC link broken?

It's working again. No fear. D

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Hi guys,

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Best,
- Drew

--
Drew Levitt
drew.levitt@gmail.com
Exemption 6

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Drew Levitt
drew.levitt@gmail.com
Exemption 6

Message

From: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/10/2013 8:40:57 PM
To: Roxas, Samantha [Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov]
CC: Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Earlier would be better - we'd like to show you as many of the park sites that are in Congresswoman Speier's district as possible. Could you make it as early as 1:30 PM on 9/19?

On Tue, Sep 10, 2013 at 1:35 PM, Roxas, Samantha <Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Not a problem - Is 4pm on 9/19 too late? I can do earlier if needed.

Please let me know.

Thanks again,

Samantha

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 11:44 AM
To: Roxas, Samantha
Cc: Shirwin Smith; Alexandra Picavet
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Hi Samantha:

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How about either the afternoon of 9/18 or the afternoon of 9/19 for a tour - your choice? Both dates are available for us.

Let us know.

Howard

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Samantha

Samantha Roxas

Field Representative

Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier

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☎650-342-0300 | 415-566-5257

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Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 10:58 AM
To: Callaway, Jenny; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer); John Murray (Feinstein); jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Bernal, Dan; Perkins, Brian (Speier); sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov; Roxas, Samantha
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

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Everyone:

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I'm looking forward to talking with you later this morning. A reminder that the conf line is

1-866-732-0765

Code **NR**

Howard

--

Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

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howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

--

Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

Message

From: Tess Elliott [tessevenstar@gmail.com]
Sent: 9/10/2013 3:03:17 AM
To: Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: brief phone call

Howard, could you call me instead at 2:30? I'll be at a number I can't call out from. It's (415) 669.9709. Thank you so much; I look forward to talking.

Tess

On Sep 9, 2013, at 7:49 PM, Alexandra Picavet wrote:

How about connecting with Howard at 2:30 tomorrow. His number is 415-561-4730. He will expect your call.

Thanks Tess. Have a good night.

Sent from iPhone, please excuse typos and made up words my phone inserted.
Alexandra Picavet
Public Affairs Specialist
415-786-8021

On Sep 9, 2013, at 7:16 PM, Tess Elliott <tessevenstar@gmail.com> wrote:

> Thanks Alex! I'll be available at noon onward. Let me know when is good for one of you.
>
> Tess
>
> On Sep 9, 2013, at 5:48 PM, "Picavet, Alexandra" <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hi Tess. I will try to coordinate something between Howard and myself to get back to you tomorrow- either way if we can, it will have to be after noon.
> >
> > Thanks for contacting us!
> > Alex
> >
> > Alexandra Picavet
> > Public Affairs Specialist
> > Golden Gate National Parks
> > alexandra_picavet@nps.gov
> > 415-786-8021 mobile
> > www.nps.gov/goga
> >
> > On Mon, Sep 9, 2013 at 9:33 AM, Tess Elliott <tessevenstar@gmail.com> wrote:
> > Hello Alex! I'm wondering if there is a good time this morning to ask you a few questions about the new draft dog management plan. I'll be free until 11, then again at 12:15. Let me know!

Best,

Tess Elliott
editor@ptreyeslight.com
(415) 669.1200

Message

From: Jason Wu [jason_wu@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/13/2013 7:37:50 PM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
CC: Kevin Cochary [Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Todd Roth [Todd_Roth@nps.gov]; Jeff Wasserman [Jeff_Wasserman@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach

Thanks.

Jason Wu, Major
Commander, SFFO
United States Park Police
(415) 561-5149 office
(415) 561-5166 fax
(415) 559-9642 mobile

On Sep 13, 2013, at 12:36, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

I don't have any other info, other than his email and physical address, which is in the Presidio, so perhaps that can help you reach him.

Brian Davis
Exemption 6
San Francisco, CA 94129

Thanks, Jason and Todd.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 12:20 PM, Jason Wu <jason_wu@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Sherwin,

I will my staff reach out to Mr. Brian Davis. Do you have other contact info for him other than email?

Todd - please assign someone to follow up with Mr. Davis.

Thanks,

Jason

Jason Wu, Major
Commander, SFFO
United States Park Police
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(415) 561-5166 fax
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On Sep 13, 2013, at 12:15, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
Kevin and Jason, could one of you have an officer contact Brian Davis to get a report? Sounds like he's not going to follow up my strong suggestion to report the incident, and a bite that leads to rabies shots definitely merits documentation.

And I apologize to all for having addresses on the cc, rather than the bcc, line. I think it's been a long week.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Brian Davis** <brianjohndavis@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 12:02 PM
Subject: Re: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach
To: "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>
Cc: Howard Levitt <Howard_Levitt@nps.gov>, Alexandra Picavet <Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov>, Kevin Cochary <Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov>, Jason Wu <Jason_Wu@nps.gov>, Tina Davis <tinakdavis@yahoo.com>

Dear Shirwin,
Thank you for the thoughtful response and your concern about the experience of park visitors.

Because this particular dog did not have proof of vaccination and also bit a 2nd person approximately 20 minutes before me, I have begun a series of rabies shots. The rabies vaccine series requires 5 separate visits to the Emergency Department (Not available in primary care setting) and costs several thousand dollars.

I understand that the park needs to be shared with people and their pets, but the presence of unleashed vicious dogs should be prevented if possible. Thank you for forwarding information regarding the new dog walking regulation for GGNRA. I hope that this process provides all visitors a way to enjoy the Presidio.

Kind Regards,
Brian

On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 11:04 AM, Smith, Shirwin <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
Hello Mr. Davis, we received your email (attached below) regarding the incident and injury you experienced at Baker Beach. We very much regret that this happened, and hope you've been treated for the bite. I will pass your message on to our Law Enforcement divisions (U.S. Park Police and Park Rangers). They do regularly patrol park sites, but given the size of the park, it's helpful for them to be aware of particular problem areas.

When you're in any GGNRA area, if you need assistance from our law enforcement staff, please do call the park's dispatch center (open 24/7) - the emergency number is 415-561-5656. If you want to report an incident - and I urge you to report this one - please call the non-emergency number: 415-561-5505, and request that an officer contact you to take a report.

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As to how to avoid dogs, currently, the one GGNRA beach in the city which prohibits dogs is China Beach. The intent of the dog management plan is to better balance the use of GGNRA areas and provide a variety of safe visitor experiences.

If you have any questions, please let me know. And thank you for contacting the park about this incident. I hope your future visits will be much more pleasant.

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
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415-561-4947 (o)
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I have 3 small children and enjoy living in the Presidio, but I now feel unsafe. How do you recommend that we avoid vicious unleashed dogs at Baker Beach?

--
Brian

Message

From: Roxas, Samantha [Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov]
Sent: 9/12/2013 11:31:45 PM
To: Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: RE: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

1:30 on Thursday 9/19 works for me!

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 1:41 PM
To: Roxas, Samantha
Cc: Shirwin Smith; Alexandra Picavet
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Earlier would be better - we'd like to show you as many of the park sites that are in Congresswoman Speier's district as possible. Could you make it as early as 1:30 PM on 9/19?

On Tue, Sep 10, 2013 at 1:35 PM, Roxas, Samantha <Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Not a problem - Is 4pm on 9/19 too late? I can do earlier if needed.

Please let me know.

Thanks again,

Samantha

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 11:44 AM
To: Roxas, Samantha
Cc: Shirwin Smith; Alexandra Picavet
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

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How about either the afternoon of 9/18 or the afternoon of 9/19 for a tour - your choice? Both dates are available for us.

Let us know.

Howard

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Wednesday, September 18th

Thursday, September 19th

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Have a great weekend,

Samantha

Samantha Roxas

Field Representative

Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier

155 Bovet Road, Suite 780

San Mateo, CA 94402

☎650-342-0300 | 415-566-5257



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Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 10:58 AM
To: Callaway, Jenny; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer); John Murray (Feinstein); jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Bernal, Dan; Perkins, Brian (Speier); sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov; Roxas, Samantha
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Code NR

Howard

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Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

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howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

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howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

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Howard Levitt

Director of Communications and Partnerships

Golden Gate National Parks

howard_levitt@nps.gov

415-561-4730

Message

From: Roth, Todd [todd_roth@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/13/2013 9:27:31 PM
To: Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]
CC: Kevin Cochary [Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Jeff Wasserman [Jeff_Wasserman@nps.gov]; Jason Wu [Jason_Wu@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach

Shirwin,
This incident was reported and a case number, 13-36137, was assigned when it happened. Photos were taken on scene and a follow up on documentation of proof of vaccination is being worked on. I don't understand why Mr. Davis led you to believe he did not want to document the incident.

Todd

On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 12:20 PM, Jason Wu <jason_wu@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Sherwin,

I will my staff reach out to Mr. Brian Davis. Do you have other contact info for him other than email?

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Jason Wu, Major
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Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

I have seen a steady rise in the number of Pit Bulls and other vicious dogs at Baker Beach. Yesterday, while jogging at Baker Beach, I was bit by an unleashed boxer-mix dog. While trying to scare the dog away another unleashed dog, a pit bull approached me. Unfortunately this dog did not bit me.

I have 3 small children and enjoy living in the Presidio, but I now feel unsafe. How do you recommend that we avoid vicious unleashed dogs at Baker Beach?

...

Brian

--

Lieutenant Todd Roth
United States Park Police
San Francisco Field Office
1217 Ralston Ave, San Francisco CA 94129
(w) 415-561-5162
(c) 415-740-5735
(f) 415-561-5193

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/14/2013 12:21:18 AM
To: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

SES

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 4:49 PM, Howard Levitt <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Shirwin : How can we pass on these kinds of reports Martha,et al, without compromising the guy who was bit? HL

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 13, 2013, at 2:42 PM, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
That's great, Todd, thanks for confirming that a report was taken. I'm thinking he just didn't really see my request mid-email to report the incident. He didn't refuse, he just didn't respond, so I figured best to just start from the other end and ask you guys for assistance. But given all the effort made by officers to document the incident, am surprised he didn't at least touch on it in his message...

Shirwin

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Management Assistant
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On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 2:27 PM, Roth, Todd <todd_roth@nps.gov> wrote:
Shirwin,

This incident was reported and a case number, 13-36137, was assigned when it happened. Photos were taken on scene and a follow up on documentation of proof of vaccination is being worked on. I don't understand why Mr. Davis led you to believe he did not want to document the incident.

Todd

On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 12:20 PM, Jason Wu <jason_wu@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Sherwin,

I will my staff reach out to Mr. Brian Davis. Do you have other contact info for him other than email?

Todd - please assign someone to follow up with Mr. Davis.

Thanks,

Jason

Jason Wu, Major
Commander, SFFO
United States Park Police
(415) 561-5149 office
(415) 561-5166 fax
(415) 559-9642 mobile

On Sep 13, 2013, at 12:15, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
Kevin and Jason, could one of you have an officer contact Brian Davis to get a report? Sounds like he's not going to follow up my strong suggestion to report the incident, and a bite that leads to rabies shots definitely merits documentation.

And I apologize to all for having addresses on the cc, rather than the bcc, line. I think it's been a long week.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
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San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Brian Davis** <brianjohndavis@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 12:02 PM
Subject: Re: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach
To: "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>
Cc: Howard Levitt <Howard_Levitt@nps.gov>, Alexandra Picavet <Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov>, Kevin Cochary <Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov>, Jason Wu <Jason_Wu@nps.gov>, Tina Davis <tinakdavis@yahoo.com>

Dear Shirwin,
Thank you for the thoughtful response and your concern about the experience of park visitors.

Because this particular dog did not have proof of vaccination and also bit a 2nd person approximately 20 minutes before me, I have begun a series of rabies shots. The rabies vaccine series requires 5 separate visits to the Emergency Department (Not available in primary care setting) and costs several thousand dollars.

I understand that the park needs to be shared with people and their pets, but the presence of unleashed vicious dogs should be prevented if possible. Thank you for forwarding information regarding the new dog walking regulation for GGNRA. I hope that this process provides all visitors a way to enjoy the Presidio.

Kind Regards,
Brian

On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 11:04 AM, Smith, Shirwin <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
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When you're in any GGNRA area, if you need assistance from our law enforcement staff, please do call the park's dispatch center (open 24/7) - the emergency number is 415-561-5656. If you want to report an incident - and I urge you to report this one - please call the non-emergency number: 415-561-5505, and request that an officer contact you to take a report.

The park is in the midst of a planning project to create a new dog walking regulation for GGNRA, and given your concerns, you may want to review the just-released draft dog management plan/Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and provide comment. FYI - the preferred alternative recommends that Baker Beach be divided into two sections, one allowing on-leash dog walking and the other prohibiting dogs; no off-leash dog walking would be allowed. General information about the plan, and a link to the online site where you can review the plan and comment on it, is at: www.nps.gov/goga/seis.htm

As to how to avoid dogs, currently, the one GGNRA beach in the city which prohibits dogs is China Beach. The intent of the dog management plan is to better balance the use of GGNRA areas and provide a variety of safe visitor experiences.

If you have any questions, please let me know. And thank you for contacting the park about this incident. I hope your future visits will be much more pleasant.

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Message

From: Jason Wu [jason_wu@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/13/2013 7:20:29 PM
To: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
CC: Kevin Cochary [Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Todd Roth [Todd_Roth@nps.gov]; Jeff Wasserman [Jeff_Wasserman@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Vicious dogs at Baker Beach

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To: "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov>
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Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area

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San Francisco, CA 94123
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--
Brian

Message

From: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/13/2013 5:38:16 AM
To: Roxas, Samantha [Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov]
CC: Shirwin Smith [Shirwin_Smith@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Great. We'll get back to you with a rendezvous location. HL

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 12, 2013, at 4:31 PM, "Roxas, Samantha" <Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov> wrote:
1:30 on Thursday 9/19 works for me!

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 1:41 PM
To: Roxas, Samantha
Cc: Shirwin Smith; Alexandra Picavet
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Earlier would be better - we'd like to show you as many of the park sites that are in Congresswoman Speier's district as possible. Could you make it as early as 1:30 PM on 9/19?

On Tue, Sep 10, 2013 at 1:35 PM, Roxas, Samantha <Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov> wrote:
Not a problem - Is 4pm on 9/19 too late? I can do earlier if needed.

Please let me know.

Thanks again,
Samantha

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2013 11:44 AM
To: Roxas, Samantha
Cc: Shirwin Smith; Alexandra Picavet
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Hi Samantha:

Wonderful to talk with you, too. Sorry to be so slow in getting back to you ... once the Dog Plan hit the streets it has been non-stop media for us.

How about either the afternoon of 9/18 or the afternoon of 9/19 for a tour - your choice? Both dates are available for us.

Let us know.

Howard

On Fri, Sep 6, 2013 at 5:33 PM, Roxas, Samantha <Samantha.Roxas@mail.house.gov> wrote:
Howard—

It was a pleasure speaking with you and the group yesterday. Thank you for being so accommodating and for offering to give me a tour the park. I'm free to take the tour any of the following days:

Thursday, September 12th
Wednesday, September 18th
Thursday, September 19th

Please let me know if any of these days work.

Have a great weekend,
Samantha

Samantha Roxas
Field Representative
Office of Congresswoman Jackie Speier
155 Bovet Road, Suite 780
San Mateo, CA 94402
☎650-342-0300 | 415-566-5257

<image001.png>

From: Levitt, Howard [mailto:howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 10:58 AM
To: Callaway, Jenny; Quigley, Joshua (Boxer); John Murray (Feinstein); jennifer_tang@boxer.senate.gov; Bernal, Dan; Perkins, Brian (Speier); sean_elsbernd@feinstein.senate.gov; Roxas, Samantha
Subject: Re: Dog Plan Briefing Materials

Great talking with all of you this morning. Attached is a revised FAQ paper - please use this version. Thanks. Howard

On Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 8:20 AM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
Everyone:

Attached is a Press Release, Newsletter, and FAQs related to the Supplemental draft Dog Management Plan ... the topic of today's phone call. I wanted you to have these materials in advance of the release, but please don't share them with others at this time - we will be contacting key stakeholders later this afternoon, and many of them are very sensitive to when they get information and who has gotten it before them.

I'm looking forward to talking with you later this morning. A reminder that the conf line is

1-866-732-0765
Code NR

Howard

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--
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howard_levitt@nps.gov
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Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/14/2013 12:24:00 AM
To: Howard Levitt [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: You have time to give me a call?

S
ure, and it was just to confirm OK for SPCA to table about dog behavior eduction at Funston, starting next weekend. As I think you know, I'm hugely in favor - will be done by one of the gals who did the employee training here. They'll send us the info they intend to hand out, and James Sword is on tap to complete a permit asap.

SES

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 4:44 PM, Howard Levitt <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
Sorry I wasn't able to call / will Mon morn work?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 13, 2013, at 2:46 PM, "Smith, Shirwin" <shirwin_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
We have a great proposal from SPCA but need to expedite. Want to run by you.

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/13/2013 8:28:04 PM
To: Edwards, Michael [michael_b_edwards@nps.gov]; Levitt, Howard [howard_levitt@nps.gov]
CC: Frank Dean [frank_dean@nps.gov]; Goodyear, Barbara [barbara.goodyear@sol.doi.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [alexandra_picavet@nps.gov]
Subject: Re: Draft response to 8/27 Walters-Bechtell incoming letter

Michael and Howard, I took Michael's great edits, Barbara's suggestions and tweaked the letter a bit for clarity and tone. See if this gets us to a final.

Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
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415-716-9999 (c)

On Wed, Sep 11, 2013 at 7:15 PM, Edwards, Michael <michael_b_edwards@nps.gov> wrote:
Howard, et al:

Exemption 5

Thanks,
Michael

On Wed, Sep 11, 2013 at 6:35 PM, Goodyear, Barbara <barbara.goodyear@sol.doi.gov> wrote:

REDACTED ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE

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ichael and Barbara, attached are my edits to Howard's draft. We'd appreciate your edits, and thoughts as to whether this approach is sufficient.

Shirwin

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415-561-4947 (o)
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On Wed, Sep 11, 2013 at 2:11 PM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi All:

As you know, we had chosen not to reply to the latest (8/27) Walters-Bechtell letter until after release of the SEIS. Attached is a draft response, reiterating our earlier position. The reason to respond is to avoid a charge that we are non-responsive to Walters-Bechtell.

Comments?

Howard

--
Howard Levitt
Director of Communications and Partnerships
Golden Gate National Parks
howard_levitt@nps.gov
415-561-4730

--

Michael B. Edwards
Project Manager
Environmental Protection Specialist
Environmental Quality Division, Planning & Compliance Branch
WASO-NRSS
303.969.2694 (work)
303.638.1928 (cell)
303.987.6782 (fax)

Message

From: Smith, Shirwin [shirwin_smith@nps.gov]
Sent: 9/13/2013 9:42:00 PM
To: Roth, Todd [todd_roth@nps.gov]
CC: Kevin Cochary [Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov]; Howard Levitt [Howard_Levitt@nps.gov]; Alexandra Picavet [Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov]; Jeff Wasserman [Jeff_Wasserman@nps.gov]; Jason Wu [Jason_Wu@nps.gov]
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Subject: Re: Draft response to 8/27 Walters-Bechtell incoming letter

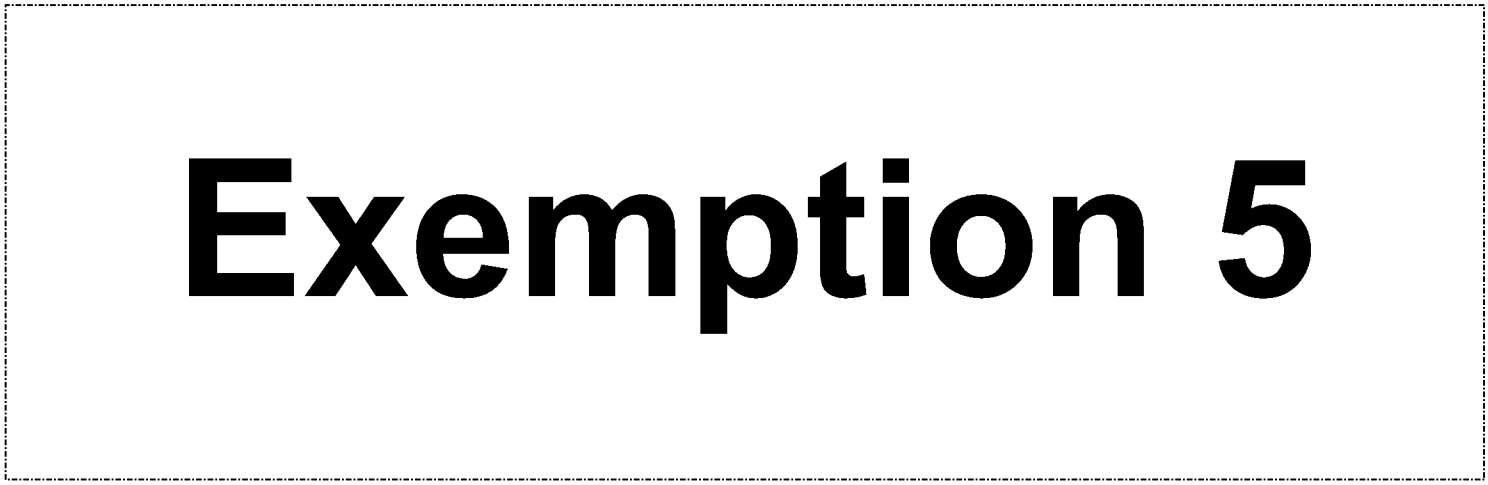
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On Wed, Sep 11, 2013 at 2:11 PM, Levitt, Howard <howard_levitt@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi All:

As you know, we had chosen not to reply to the latest (8/27) Walters-Bechtell letter until after release of the SEIS. Attached is a draft response, reiterating our earlier position. The reason to respond is to avoid a charge that we are non-responsive to Walters-Bechtell.

Comments?

Howard

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