

GOGA call – 9.6.12

Conference Line Information: [REDACTED], PIN [REDACTED]

- Schedule
- Immediate tasks
 - Alternatives – EA reviewing and will revise
 - Vollmer report (NPS) - update on status? (SES to review today)
 - Mileage / acreage (NPS) - update on status? (SES to get delivery date from Craig 9/7)
 - Public comment responses – may need to reconcile with changes to CH 2, plan to return to NPS between September 14 & September 21
 - Supp EIS tasks
 - Lit review additions – if not peer reviewed, is it technical in nature? If not, don't use.
 - Reference list sent to Outside Magazine
 - Comments on this from park need to be incorporated into the lit review – when will GOGA comments be available?
 - Guide dogs report
 - Sand effects study – received from Michael
 - direct link to press release from the U of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science about the study - <http://www.rsmas.miami.edu/news-events/press-releases/2012/dont-assume-the-sand-is-safe>
 - And access to the study: <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/es203638x>
 - Impacts analysis
 - Effects of city plan for commercial dogwalking (allows more dogs than GGNRA on city lands) – so need to describe impact to the city
 - Cosco Busan -Health and safety impacts should reflect high visitation numbers at FOFU from dogs (see IEC visitor use survey), and indirect/cumulative from other visitors at Crissy - at least keep it in mind.
 - GMP consistency
 - Rezone to be consistent? Change some natural area zones to diverse opp zones? Also, can't be in sensitive zone. – waiting on final plan from GOGA
 - LE data – Katie Chipman (LBG)
 - Analyze data for 2011 - when will 2011 data be available? (sent 9/6/12)
 - Edits to tables:
 - On the le stats, note that 36 CFR 2.2 (a) (2) which is titled in the drop down menu as "Disturbance to T&E Species", is actually Wildlife Protection generally, not limited to T and E. We should correct that. CFR wording is: 2.2 Wildlife Protection (a)the following is

prohibited...(2)The feeding touching, teasing, frightening or intentional disturbance of wildlife nesting, breeding or other activities.

- Consultation
 - SHPO, FWS, NOAA-NMFS – letters to go with SEIS
 - Need another consistency determination

GOGA call – 10.4.12

Conference Line Information: [REDACTED], PIN [REDACTED]

- General update
- Immediate tasks
 - Alternatives – EA revising CH 2
 - Mileage / acreage (NPS) - update
 - SES to call when files are ready
 - Alts costing information – update
 - **SES to get this!**
 - Public comment responses – coming to NPS 10.5.12
 - Revised to reduce # of concerns statement
 - Supp EIS tasks
 - Lit review additions – ready for NPS review, 10.4.12
 - MBE to review
 - Appendix E – Guidelines for ROLAs, re-wording
 - GMP consistency
 - Need to review information from Sarah Bodo
 - LE data
 - NPS concerns/questions on analysis
 - EA questions
 - EA proposal for data analysis
 - EA will consolidate graphs
 - TMDLs and water quality

GGNRA Dog Mgmt Plan Conference Call

10.5.11

Call-in [REDACTED], Passcode [REDACTED]

1. Tasks (4 weeks out)

- a. Draft responses on SF Natural Areas EIR – Michael and Shirwin to start and send to M.
 - i. Please take a harder look at adjacent areas and impacts to GGNRA lands – survey?
 - ii. Timing – when will they make a decision? *And for Suzie, note that will need to evaluate these closures with the survey info.*
- b. RD and AD-NRSS briefing on DEIS supplement, schedule – Shirwin to schedule, Michael and Shirwin to prep materials **SES reminded Lori today**
- c. Review notes from alts meeting and get comments back to Suzie – Michael and Shirwin **Michael to start and send to SES Friday**
- d. Determination on whether or not to use city cites for park violations – need to close loop and email traffic for admin record – **Shirwin**
- e. FOFU Access Trail follow-up - **Shirwin**
- f. LE data – Michael, Shirwin, Katie
 - i. Missing LE reports – Shirwin **done**
 - ii. Data compilation – Katie
 1. Input missing LE reports
 2. Class 2 stuff?
 3. Additional citations from MB? See 9.9.11 email with chart from Shirwin and set up call.
 4. Reformat – recalculate
 5. Methodology
- g. DOJ accessibility call to review alts – Michael, Shirwin **when ready to do, SES to contact Bonnie Prober**
- h. Redistributive survey – Michael and Shirwin
 - i. Set up EPA call to brief on redistributive survey **Shirwin to ask Frank (SES to call staffer)**
 - ii. Format initial mailer, follow-up mailer, and non-response bias mailer
 - iii. Mailing list – random sample – Katie
- i. Brent Plater comments – included as own concern statement in public comment response report? **Suzie**
- j. Newsletter and formatting for after RD briefing – Michael and **Shirwin**
- k. Address Lee Dickinson comments on SUP – Michael to develop and send to **Shirwin**
- l. Evaluate fire plan for designated roads and mapping of trails that don't allow dogs – will receive info on Oct. 11 - **Shirwin**
- m. Save our Seashore responses – how changed with new CMS approach? - Michael
- n. Meet with GMP team to confirm consistency between the two documents – Michael and **Shirwin**

- o.** Check in with Brian Aviles on interim trails plan for Rancho - Shirwin
 - p.** Obtain data on Rancho for impacts analysis – Shirwin to get from Brian and send to Suzie
 - q.** Responses to public comment – Suzie, Michael and Shirwin reviewing
- 2.** Tasks (6 weeks out)
 - a.** Decision on level of supplementation
 - b.** Tabulate survey results and incorporate with proposed city closure data from EIR. Incorporate into impacts analysis. Note to use EIR rationale (that effects are speculative) in EIS as well.
- 3.** Tasks (8 weeks out)
 - a.** Finalize responses to comments
 - b.** Incorporate edits into supplement (see also Michael’s list of changes)
- 4.** Schedule – March DEIS
- 5.** Other

GOGA call – 10.18.12

Conference Line Information: [REDACTED], PIN [REDACTED]

- General update
- Immediate tasks
 - Alternatives – EA revising CH 2
 - Mileage / acreage (NPS) - update (SES almost complete)
 - Alts costing information – update (underway – won't have until early Nov at earliest-when needed?)
 - Public comment responses – update (SES more than 1/2way through)
 - Supp EIS tasks
 - Lit review additions – update
 - Appendix E – Guidelines for ROLAs, re-wording
 - GMP consistency
 - EA completing review
 - LE data
 - Dog Parks – EPA Letter
 - Rancho – anecdotal information on visitor use, experience, LE concerns
 - Ft Miley bird habitat – on a call, Shirwin noted that “the site is mostly old growth forest with little understory so it wouldn't have much habitat for ground nesting birds”. Can we use this or do we need to confirm w Bill or Daphne before adding to SEIS. (No – see follow up email on this - just re-sent - from me plus we should ck with B and D)

GGNRA Dog Mgmt Plan Conference Call
10.19.11

Call-in [REDACTED], Passcode [REDACTED]

1. Tasks (4 weeks out)
 - a. EA to review and include in impacts analysis once finalized.
 - b. Review notes from alts meeting and get comments back to Suzie – Michael and Shirwin
 - c. LE data – Michael, Shirwin, Katie - *we need this by mid-November...* (in progress)
 - i. Missing LE reports – Shirwin
 - ii. Data compilation – Katie
 1. 2007 reports – Shirwin and MB to compile. Shirwin to send spreadsheet, Katie to put into template format (input drop down menus/categories).
 2. In Jan 2012, get 2012 LE data and incident reports.
 3. LE light duty rangers to read through reports for 2007 and 2011 and categorize.
 4. Citation analysis from MB – Katie evaluating how to include
 5. Figure out way to include multiple violations in incident reports
 6. Reformat – recalculate for 1) individual years, and 2) all years combined
 - a. One table across all years for type of incident.
 - b. And, table of subcategories by CFR and violation type.
 - c. Per Area
 7. Katie - also, compare 79 Pet Policy areas with areas? And, compare stats from when Crissy Fence went up in the WPA - Jan. 2010 forward...did violations go down? But this won't be part of original data crunch.
 8. Methodology
 9. Make reader-friendly charts after November
 - d. DOJ accessibility call to review alts – Michael, Shirwin and Suzie SES set up call with Bonnie to go over general DEIS approach – follow up with specific alts if needed.
 - i. Reference Plater letter on accessibility
 - e. Redistributational survey – Michael and Shirwin
 - i. Set up EPA call to brief on redistributational survey as fyi only – Shirwin to call staffer only
 - ii. Format initial mailer, follow-up mailer, and non-response bias mailer
 - iii. Mailing list – random sample – Katie
 - f. Brent Plater comments – included as own concern statement in public comment response report? Suzie and Shirwin
 - i. Dog incident type comments address broadly
 - ii. Individual studies should be particularly addressed
 - g. Newsletter and formatting – Michael and Shirwin
 - i. Not to do until after RD briefing

- ii. *Need more accurate date for Supp. DEIS and when released*
 - h. Address Lee Dickinson comments on SUP – Michael and Shirwin - See Shirwin's 6.14.11 email with Aaron's comments, and 10.17.11 email from Michael.
 - i. Should commercial permit be transferable? SUP office suggests no. Aaron suggests it could be, but not sure.
 - ii. Need to determine amount of insurance (aggregate and per occurrence)
 - iii. Also, include actual range of fees? Talk to Lee about this...and park.
 - i. Evaluate fire plan for designated roads and mapping of trails that don't allow dogs – will receive info on Oct. 11 – Shirwin - consult with FM Team and Trails supervisor to confirm that dog plan fire roads are likely to stay fire roads and will not be reduced to trails.
 - j. Save our Seashore responses – how changed with new CMS approach? – Michael
 - i. Question for group: do we want to continue to disclose how data will be evaluated, or is this better left to the park's discretion in the future?
 - k. Rewrite compliance based strategy – Michael – send to Shirwin and then Jeannette, Suzie. (See brief write-up in meeting notes, overall write-up still needed for DEIS).
 - l. Meet with GMP team to confirm consistency between the two documents – Michael and Shirwin – going to wait until after public comment period. There is no Oakwood Valley issue now that is on leash.
 - m. Check in with Brian Aviles on interim trails plan for Rancho and determine their conclusions – Shirwin
 - n. Obtain data on Rancho for impacts analysis – Shirwin to track down to send to Suzie. Contractor can follow up as well.
 - i. San Mateo trails study
 - o. Responses to public comment – Suzie, Michael and Shirwin reviewing
- 2. Tasks (6 weeks out)
 - a. Decision on level of supplementation
 - b. Tabulate survey results and incorporate with proposed city closure data from EIR. Incorporate into impacts analysis. Note to use EIR rationale (that effects are speculative) in EIS as well. - Katie, Michael
- 3. Tasks (8 weeks out)
 - a. Finalize responses to comments
 - b. Incorporate edits into supplement (see also Michael's list of changes)
- 4. Schedule – Spring DEIS?
 - a. Need accurate schedule for newsletter and DEIS sup – put in a range of dates
- 5. Other

GOGA call – 11.1.12

Conference Line Information: [REDACTED], PIN [REDACTED]

- General update – documents/data received:
 - 10/18/2012 – Shirwin sent EA via email the annual LE reports for years 2000-2005
 - 10/19/2012 – Bill Merkle sent EA via email information on Ft Miley bird habitat - EA will incorporate data into Ch 3
 - 10/24/2012 - Shirwin sent EA via email two documents that address “responses to comment CO1100” in the comment matrix:
 - *Golden Gate National Recreation Area Follow-Up Visitor Survey Peer Review Report – v1.0.* Prepared by Public Research Institute (PRI). April 2010.
 - *Final Report Summer-Fall 2008 Phase 1 Visitor Survey and Counts, At Crissy Field, Presidio and Ocean Beach Sites; Golden Gate National Recreation Area.* Prepared by Patrick Tierney. November 2009.
 - 10/24/2012 - Shirwin sent EA via email a news article titled: “Off-Leash Options Are Still Few on Peninsula Beaches” from the Pacifica Patch; Forwarded by Christine Carey
 - 10/26/2012 - Shirwin sent EA via email the Marine mammal data that is finalized for inclusion in Admin Record for years: 2000-2005; 2006; 2007-2009; 2010-2011
 - 10/29/2012 - Shirwin sent EA via email the “measurement” data for each GGNRA site and alternative that is finalized for inclusion in Admin Record
 - 10/29/2012 - Shirwin sent EA via email the most recent information on the Redwood Creek project at Muir Beach (will incorporate into cumulative impacts analysis)
 - 10/31/2012 - Michael sent EA via email the “Concern response matrix to NPS 10_08_2012” – includes both Shirwin’s and Michael’s comments plus input from Jason Waanders
- Immediate tasks
 - Alternatives – EA doing a final check on CH 2 to ensure that all comments have been addressed
 - Alts costing information – update *****Needed by end of the month*****
 - Supp EIS tasks
 - Lit review additions – Visitor Use & Experience and Health & Safety Sections have been updated; Natural Resources Sections completed.
 - Appendix E – Guidelines for ROLAs, re-wording
 - GMP consistency
 - EA completing review – discuss Fort Funston and Rancho.
 - LE data – analysis moving forward
 - Adjacent Dog Parks – EA developing a methodology for a consistent analysis (initially discussed on 10/25/2012 conference call)
 - Rancho – anecdotal information on visitor use, experience, LE concerns – Shirwin sent an email on 10/22/2012 and requested that Christine Carey characterize Rancho site
 - Final User Groups to incorporate into plan/EIS

GGNRA Dog Mgmt Plan Conference Call
11.16.11
12 noon Pacific, 1pm MT, 3pm ET
Call-in [REDACTED], Passcode [REDACTED]

1. Tasks (4 weeks out)

- a.** LE data – Michael, Shirwin, Katie - *we need this by mid-November...* (in progress) – delayed until December
 - i.** Missing LE reports – Shirwin
 - ii.** Data compilation – Katie
 - 1.** 2007 reports – Shirwin and MB to compile. Shirwin to send spreadsheet, Katie to put into template format (input drop down menus/categories). LE light duty rangers to read through reports for 2007 and 2011 and categorize. (WAIT UNTIL NEW YEAR 2012 FOR 2011 DATA).
 - 2.** Citation analysis from MB – Katie evaluating how to include
 - 3.** Figure out way to include multiple violations in incident reports
 - 4.** Reformat – recalculate for 1) individual years, and 2) all years combined
 - a.** One table across all years for type of incident.
 - b.** And, table of subcategories by CFR and violation type.
 - c.** Per Area
 - 5.** Katie - also, compare 79 Pet Policy areas with areas? And, compare stats from when Crissy Fence went up in the WPA - Jan. 2010 forward...did violations go down? But this won't be part of original data crunch.
 - 6.** Methodology
 - 7.** Make reader-friendly charts after November
- b.** DOJ accessibility call to review alts – Michael, Shirwin and Suzie
 - i.** Reference Plater letter on accessibility
- c.** Redistributive survey – Michael and Shirwin
 - i.** Set up EPA call to brief on redistributive survey as fyi only – *Shirwin to call staffer only*
 - ii.** Format initial mailer, follow-up mailer, and non-response bias mailer
 - iii.** Mailing list – will be all 7000
 - iv.** Working on Agreements contract now
- d.** Brent Plater comments – included as own concern statement in public comment response report? Suzie and Shirwin
 - i.** Dog incident type comments address broadly
 - ii.** Individual studies should be particularly addressed
- e.** Newsletter and formatting – Michael and Shirwin
 - i.** *Not to do until after RD briefing*
 - ii.** *Need more accurate date for Supp. DEIS and when released*

- f. Address Lee Dickinson comments on SUP – Michael and Shirwin - See Shirwin's 6.14.11 email with Aaron's comments, and 10.17.11 email from Michael.
 - i. Should commercial permit be transferable? SUP office suggests no. Aaron suggests it could be, but not sure.
 - ii. Need to determine amount of insurance (aggregate and per occurrence)
 - iii. Also, include actual range of fees? Talk to Lee about this...and park.
 - g. Evaluate fire plan for designated roads and mapping of trails that don't allow dogs – will receive info on Oct. 11 – Shirwin (Update: FMP has not designated fire roads. Will consult with FM team and trail supervisor to confirm that dog plan fire roads are likely to stay fire roads).
 - h. Save our Seashore responses – how changed with new CMS approach? – Michael
 - i. Question for group: do we want to continue to disclose how data will be evaluated, or is this better left to the park's discretion in the future?
 - 1. Show that we are likely evaluating this way, and possibly in other ways in the future too. Peer reviewed monitoring plan and subject to public comment.
 - 2. Have sent to Shirwin for one last review on 10.20.11 – will send to Suzie once receive back.
 - i. Rewrite compliance based strategy – Michael – *send to Shirwin and then Jeannette, Suzie. (See brief write-up in meeting notes, overall write-up still needed for DEIS).*
 - j. Check in with Brian Aviles on interim trails plan for Rancho and determine their conclusions – Shirwin
 - k. Obtain data on Rancho for impacts analysis – Shirwin to track down to send to Suzie. Contractor can follow up as well.
 - i. San Mateo trails study
2. Tasks (6 weeks out)
- a. Decision on level of supplementation
 - b. Decision on thresholds?
 - c. Tabulate survey results and incorporate with proposed city closure data from EIR. Incorporate into impacts analysis. Note to use EIR rationale (that effects are speculative) in EIS as well. - Katie, Michael
 - d. Meet with GMP team to confirm consistency between the two documents – Michael and Shirwin – *going to wait until after public comment period. There is no Oakwood Valley issue now that it is on leash.*
 - e. Responses to public comment – Suzie, Michael and Shirwin reviewing
 - f. Gather materials needed to Supp EIS, including materials from Presidio Trust, others
 - g. EA to review the EIR and include in impacts analysis once finalized.
 - h. Non-impairment determination removed from appendix
3. Tasks (8 weeks out)
- a. Finalize responses to comments

- b.** Incorporate edits into supplement (see also Michael's list of changes)
 - c.** Decision on thresholds
- 4.** Schedule – Spring DEIS?
 - a.** Need accurate schedule for newsletter and DEIS sup – put in a range of dates
- 5.** Other

GGNRA Dog Mgmt Plan Conference Call
11.29.11
12 noon Pacific, 1pm MT, 3pm ET
Call-in [REDACTED], Passcode [REDACTED]

1. Update on RD briefing
2. Tasks (4 weeks out)
 - a. Set up call with EPA/GOGA/EQD on survey
 - b. Set up call with Barbara and Shirwin
 - i. Issue is - replace Alt. E with 79 policy but with compliance, or make a new alt? Whether replace or add, question is whether there are things in the 79 policy that aren't enforceable or feasible, thus couldn't reasonably be adopted as an action alt. Could also make hybrid. May not meet P & N though. Need specifics here.
 - c. Set up call with Daphne and Shirwin on CMS and examples of short-term closures, what might trigger them, buffer zones examples, etc.
 - d. LE data – Michael, Shirwin, Katie - *January*
 - i. Missing 2007 LE reports – Shirwin
 - ii. Data compilation – Katie
 1. 2007 reports – Shirwin and MB to compile. Shirwin sent spreadsheet on 10/20/11, Katie to put into template format (input drop down menus/categories). LE light duty rangers to read through reports for 2007 and 2011 and categorize. (WAIT UNTIL NEW YEAR 2012 FOR 2011 DATA).
 2. Citation analysis from MB – Katie evaluating how to include
 3. Figure out way to include multiple violations in incident reports
 4. Reformat – recalculate for 1) individual years, and 2) all years combined
 - a. One table across all years for type of incident.
 - b. And, table of subcategories by CFR and violation type.
 - c. Per Area
 5. Katie - also, compare 79 Pet Policy areas with areas? And, compare stats from when Crissy Fence went up in the WPA - Jan. 2010 forward...did violations go down? But this won't be part of original data crunch.
 6. Methodology
 7. Make reader-friendly charts after November
 - e. DOJ accessibility call to review alts – Michael, Shirwin and Suzie
 - i. Reference Plater letter on accessibility
 - f. Redistributive survey – Michael and Shirwin
 - i. Format initial mailer, follow-up mailer, and non-response bias mailer
 - ii. Mailing list – will be all 7000

- iii. Working on Agreements contract now
- g. Brent Plater comments – included as own concern statement in public comment response report? Suzie and Shirwin
 - i. Dog incident type comments address broadly
 - ii. Individual studies should be particularly addressed
- h. Newsletter and formatting – Michael and Shirwin
 - i. Do now.
 - ii. *Need more accurate date for Supp. DEIS and when released*
- i. Address Lee Dickinson comments on SUP – Michael and Shirwin - See Shirwin's 6.14.11 email with Aaron's comments, and 10.17.11 email from Michael.
 - i. Should commercial permit be transferable? SUP office suggests no. Aaron suggests it could be, but not sure. See Shirwin's 10/31 SUP follow up email. Need to determine amount of insurance (aggregate and per occurrence)
 - ii. Follow approach in Michael's 11/3 email to Shirwin describing possible approach.
- j. Designation of GOGA fire roads: FMP did not designated fire roads. Planning and Trails Supervisor working to finalize status of all park trails – hope to complete by end of 2011- Needed to confirm that dog plan fire roads are likely to stay fire roads.
- k. Save our Seashore responses – how changed with new CMS approach? – Michael
 - i. Question for group: do we want to continue to disclose how data will be evaluated, or is this better left to the park's discretion in the future?
 - 1. Show that we are likely evaluating this way, and possibly in other ways in the future too. Peer reviewed monitoring plan and subject to public comment.
 - 2. Have sent to Shirwin for one last review on 10.20.11 – will send to Suzie once receive back.
- l. Rewrite compliance based strategy – Michael – *send to Shirwin and then Jeannette, Suzie. (See brief write-up in meeting notes, overall write-up still needed for DEIS). Needs to include soft triggers, buffers, etc. from Daphne.*
- m. Continue checking in with Brian Aviles/Nancy Hornor on status of completion of interim trails plan for Rancho. Latest is that the interim trail plan will not be ready by the time property transfers– Shirwin
- n. Obtain data on Rancho
 - i. For impacts analysis – Shirwin to track down to send to Suzie. Contractor can follow up as well.
 - ii. San Mateo trails study
 - iii. Meet with LE and Planning based on this info – need to know exact trail names that will be open, plus ROLA locations; rest of area closed to dogs.
 - iv. Provided thus far:
 - 1. 10/25 – posted docs for Biosensitivity Study onto EA ftp site

3. Tasks (6 weeks out)

- a. Decision on level of supplementation
 - b. Decision on thresholds
 - c. Tabulate survey results and incorporate with proposed city closure data from EIR. Incorporate into impacts analysis. Note to use EIR rationale (that effects are speculative) in EIS as well. - Katie, Michael
 - d. Meet with GMP team to confirm consistency between the two documents – Michael and Shirwin – *going to wait until after public comment period. There is no Oakwood Valley issue now that it is on leash.*
 - e. Responses to public comment – Suzie, Michael and Shirwin reviewing
 - f. Gather materials needed to Supp EIS, including materials from Presidio Trust, others
 - g. EA to review the SF Sig. Nat’l Res. Areas EIR and include in impacts analysis once finalized.
 - h. Non-impairment determination removed from appendix
4. Tasks (8 weeks out)
- a. Finalize responses to comments
 - b. Incorporate edits into supplement (see also Michael’s list of changes)
 - c. Decision on thresholds
5. Schedule – Spring DEIS?
- a. Need accurate schedule for newsletter and DEIS sup – put in a range of dates
6. Other

GOGA call – 11.29.12

Conference Line Information: [REDACTED], PIN [REDACTED]

- General update
 - 1st Internal SEIS for NPS review – Dec 7
- Immediate tasks
 - Alts costing information - update
 - Supp EIS tasks
 - Appendix E – Guidelines for ROLAs, re-wording
 - GMP consistency
 - Adjacent Dog Parks – site analysis complete, summaries nearly complete
 - Visitation trend analysis – update complete
 - Crissy Field ROLA and water quality / engineering drawings still needed despite dismissal as impact topic
 - Presidio Trust proposed rule for commercial dog walking
- NPS Review schedule for SEIS
- Finalize public comment response report (after SEIS submittal)

GGNRA Dog Mgmt Plan Conference Call
11.29.11
10am Pacific, 11 am MT, 1pm ET
Call-in [REDACTED], Passcode [REDACTED]

1. Tasks (4 weeks out)
 - a. Literature review **Complete**
 - i. ~~Comments back from Michael/Shirwin~~ **yes**
 - ii. Send revised to Daphne/Bill/Ray S. – along with report of current articles in DEIS that have been peer reviewed **To send to Daphne/Bill early Jan**
 - iii. Issues
 1. Peer review
 2. Missing reports (call commenters?). Purchase. **3 to be purchased by EA**
 3. Combine all documents, and include peer review research on articles already used in DEIS.
 4. Page numbers.
 - b. Set up call with EPA/GOGA/EQD on survey **Wait and see about jury duty. Maybe do w/out SES**
 - c. Set up call with Barbara and Shirwin
 - i. Issue is - replace Alt. E with 79 policy but with compliance, or make a new alt? Whether replace or add, question is whether there are things in the 79 policy that aren't enforceable or feasible, thus couldn't reasonably be adopted as an action alt. Could also make hybrid. May not meet P & N though. Need specifics here.
 - d. 2nd issue – fee issue in city lands transfer agreement **Sent docs to Barbara for review 12/7**
 - e. Set up call with Daphne and Shirwin on CMS and examples of short-term closures, what might trigger them, buffer zones examples, etc. (Have not heard back from Daphne yet on this) **MBE sent a second request for input 12/12**
 - f. LE data – Michael, Shirwin, Katie - *January*
 - i. Katie reformatting reports now
 - ii. Missing 2007 LE reports – Shirwin (*Found but still not full year so will not use.*)
 - iii. Data compilation – Katie
 1. ~~2007 reports – Shirwin and MB to compile.~~ Shirwin sent spreadsheet on 10/20/11, Katie to put into template format (input drop down menus/categories). LE light duty rangers to read through reports for ~~2007 and~~ 2011 and categorize. (WAIT UNTIL NEW YEAR 2012 FOR 2011 DATA).
 - g. DOJ accessibility call to review alts – Michael, Shirwin and Suzie **Date TBD**
 - i. Reference Plater letter on accessibility

- h. Redistributational survey **30-day survey (on line for 30 days)** – Michael and Shirwin – January **U of Idaho to be contracted for work – final report should be ready in late Feb.**
 - i. Format initial mailer, follow-up mailer, and non-response bias mailer
 - ii. Mailing list – will be all 7000
 - iii. Working on Agreements contract now
 - i. Newsletter and formatting – Michael and Shirwin **SES sent email to Howard with the request for George Su’s help – to be forwarded to M. Gee/Interp (can he use InDesign files?)**
 - j. Address Lee Dickinson comments on SUP – Michael and Shirwin – (*See Shirwin's 6.14.11 email with Aaron's comments, and 10.17.11 email from Michael*)
 - i. Should commercial permit be transferable? SUP office suggests no. Aaron suggests it could be, but not sure. (*See Shirwin's 10/31 SUP follow up email*) Need to determine amount of insurance (aggregate and per occurrence) (*per Joe Hague, call insurance company..Joe will provide contact info for his company*)
 - ii. Follow approach in Michael’s 11/3 email to Shirwin describing possible approach re: permit costs.
 - k. Designation of GOGA fire roads: FMP did not designate fire roads. Planning and Trails Supervisor working to finalize status of all park trails – hope to complete by end of 2011- Needed to confirm that dog plan fire roads are likely to stay fire roads. **Q – is there an existing GIS layer for existing Rancho trails SES to check. (SES sent email to Craig 12/12)**
 - l. Save our Seashore responses – how changed with new CMS approach? – Michael
 - i. Send responses to Suzie along with CMS changes. Confirm name change of CMS to MMS.
 - m. Rewrite compliance based strategy – Michael – *send to Shirwin and then Jeannette, Suzie. (See brief write-up in meeting notes, overall write-up still needed for DEIS). Needs to include soft triggers, buffers, etc. from Daphne.*
 - n. Continue checking in with Brian Aviles/Nancy Hornor on status of completion of interim trails plan for Rancho. Latest is that the interim trail plan will not be ready by the time property transfers– Shirwin **After input from Frank, go back to Nancy – say we have info we need and now need specific trail info**
 - o. Obtain data on Rancho (*done*) and set up call with Frank **Scheduled – 12/15, 1:30-2:15 PST**
 - i. Meet with LE and Planning based on this info – need to know exact trail names that will be open, plus ROLA locations; rest of area closed to dogs. If don’t know names, use Trail A, B, C, etc. Regulation will need actual names though.
2. Tasks (6 weeks out)
- a. Decision on level of supplementation
 - b. Decision on thresholds

- c. Tabulate survey results and incorporate with proposed city closure data from EIR. Incorporate into impacts analysis. Note to use EIR rationale (that effects are speculative) in EIS as well. - Katie, Michael
 - d. Meet with GMP team to confirm consistency between the two documents – Michael and Shirwin – **Wait until after public comment period. There is no Oakwood Valley issue now that it is on leash.**
 - e. Responses to public comment – Suzie, Michael and Shirwin reviewing
 - f. Gather materials needed to Supp EIS, ~~including materials from Presidio Trust (done),~~ others
 - g. EA to review the SF Sig. Nat’l Res. Areas EIR and include in impacts analysis once finalized.
 - h. Non-impairment determination removed from appendix
 - i. Rename compliance-based management strategy to monitoring management strategy. Note that in some places in the document we still talk about the compliance based management strategy in terms of replacing it, so can’t just do simple “replace all”.
 - j. ~~Obtain results of Boulder TAG program coming out in December.~~ Put in lit review, along with other study Shirwin sent on 11.30.11. **Sent to MBE/EA 12/12/11 Requested protocol document from Mark Gersham.**
3. Tasks (8 weeks out)
- a. Finalize responses to comments
 - b. Incorporate edits into supplement (see also Michael’s list of changes)
 - c. Decision on thresholds
4. Schedule
5. Other

**Background Information for Participation on a
GGNRA Dog Management Negotiated Rulemaking Committee**

Name: Gary Fergus

Organization: CalDOG

Contact information: Business address: Fergus, a law firm, 595 Market Street, Suite 2430, San Francisco, California 94105 (415) 537-9032(o) (415) 537-9038(fax) gfergus@ferguslegal.com. Home address: [REDACTED], San Francisco 94115 [REDACTED].

Personal Background Related to GGNRA and Dog Management Issues:

I have lived adjacent to the GGNRA for almost 25 years. I started with daily runs on the social paths, progressed to running with a jogging stroller for our children on those same paths. More recently, I have resorted to walks in the GGNRA with our dogs. Over this period, I have had the opportunity to see the daily use of the GGNRA change from a military base to a park, improvements in places like Julius Kahn, and steps taken to preserve endangered species. There is a regular community of GGNRA trail users who rely upon the social trails as part of their daily lives. Some have dogs--others do not. One common denominator, however, that I have observed is how each of these GGNRA trail users treasure their access to the social trails and have worked as a matter of courtesy and respect to protect each others' solitude and to peacefully co-exist. It is that spirit of cooperation and respect for others and the GGNRA that I believe I can bring to the negotiated rule making process.

I have been an active participant in various activities that affect the GGNRA and its social trails. I was an active participant in the January 2001 hearing before GGNRA Advisory Commission where the 1979 off leash dog walking policy was debated. Since then I have been an active participant in the various meetings and efforts that led to the proposed negotiated rule making. Other activities include my participation in the William Kent society, which is part of the Golden Gate National Park Conservancy and a supporter of the Trails Forever program. In addition, last year when the Presidio was working on the Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan and Environmental Assessment, I submitted written comments and specific suggestions for preservation of social trails that would help preserve the balance among uses of the Presidio, as well as the natural habitat. I was extremely concerned that the "one size fits all uses" trail model being proposed for the Presidio would be detrimental to many Presidio trail users. As a regular visitor to Crissy Field, I have seen the conflicts between high speed bicycles, strollers, toddlers, runners, elderly infirm walkers and dog walking on the single use crushed gravel path along the shoreline. By contrast, the existing social trails in the Presidio allow for dispersion of users and minimize these conflicts. I made specific suggestions on how to accommodate all users in the Historic Forest, Lovers Lane and Inspiration Point areas of the Presidio. I believe the negotiated rule making process, at a minimum, will have to make similar compromises and will provide guidance on how to accommodate all of these competing interests.

I am a trial lawyer by training and fully understand litigation as a forum for resolving disputes. I firmly believe, however, that the only practical process that will work to resolve conflicting views on the appropriate continued uses, for as complex a park as the GGNRA is one of compromise with all of the interests represented and committed to finding a lasting solution. I concur in the analysis written by Lisa Benton in her book *The Presidio, From Army Post to National Park*, Northeastern Press, 1998 at p. 200:

The Presidio, of course challenged many with its complexity. It is simultaneously a nature park, a culture park, and a recreation area. * * * Some observers believe the Presidio represents the prototype of contradictions and challenges that future national parks will face. America's wilderness is, for the most part protected. This means that future additions to the national park system are likely to be more complex in character: partially developed, mixed use sites, maybe urban in location, and perhaps environmentally contaminated to some degree. These realities are at odds with predominate park ideals and might generate the same type of heated debate and controversy evidenced in the struggle for the Presidio. The biography of the Presidio—its history as an Army post, its relationship with the City of San Francisco, the recent conversion planning process, and the struggle to win legislation for the Presidio Trust—has engaged many in a debate that sought to rethink and reconcile nature/culture and city/park. It challenges us to reconsider our biases and assumptions, our tendencies to classify and divide the world. It is not a finished product but an ongoing process.

I believe I have the skill set, commitment and desire to make the negotiated rule making process a success and to be part of the "ongoing process" for the GGNRA on behalf of CalDOG. CalDOG is a statewide group of

responsible off-leash advocates who want to help people all over California create and preserve off-leash space. CalDOG has a much broader reach and encompasses not only San Francisco related issues, but also issues in the larger GGNRA area (e.g. including Marin county). The mission statement for CalDOG focuses on the goal of getting off-leash space, and on the tools for getting public space—education, legislation, cooperation and responsible dog ownership. CalDOG promotes responsible dog ownership, off-leash access, and shared use of public space through education, cooperation, legislation and advocacy. CalDOG has been in existence since 2002. While Cal Dog does not keep membership lists per se but instead relies upon email lists to communicate with Cal Dog “members”. These are individuals and other dog owners groups that share CalDOG's vision, and have expressed interest, collaborated or are affiliated with CalDOG. The primary email list contains over 1000 such "members," and through them, CalDOG can reach approximately 5000 additional dog owners.

#9582

WAPC

FEB 14 2012

Jonathan Jarvis
Director
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

February 7, 2012



Dear Director Jarvis;

The recent announcement by the National Park Service that they will be reconsidering their proposed dog policy for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) came as welcome news to the dog owners of the Bay Area. Regrettably, this change of position on the part of the Park Service is far too late to repair the massive damage done by the release of the initial Draft Dog Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement or DEIS. That damage has only been exacerbated by the recent incident involving the use of a stun gun to subdue a dog walker in the Rancho Corral de Tierra. The combination of the DEIS and the behavior of the law enforcement arm of the Park Service towards dog walkers reflects a deep, pervasive anti-dog culture in the Park Service. It needs both new leadership and a radically new approach to forming an appropriate, pragmatic and workable dog policy for the GGNRA. The new policy must involve a new outreach program to dog walkers and, critically, a new approach by law enforcement. Tweaking the initial report will not be successful.

I submit myself as exhibit one for the damage done by the Park Service in its recent management efforts to address dog policy. Before reading the DEIS and before some recent encounters with the law enforcement arm of the Park Service, my thoughts about the National Park Service were very favorable. The words I might have used to characterize the Park Service would be: "open, trustworthy, credible, thoughtful, science-based, friendly, innovative." Since reading the DEIS (reinforced by a few experiences with the law enforcement arm of the Park Service) my thoughts about the Park Service are reflected in words like: "hostile, sloppy, incompetent, biased, untrustworthy, aggressive, and lacking in credibility." I could have been a strong supporter for a new dog policy in the GGNRA; instead, I do not trust those that created the initial DEIS and those currently in charge of enforcing dog policy to develop and administer a dog policy that will be workable for the unique circumstances of the GGNRA.

Personal Background:

I am a long time resident of San Francisco and a recently retired senior citizen. Since I was a child I have loved animals, walking outdoors and exploring nature. I am a great believer in parks- local, regional and national. I also support a variety of environmentally oriented organizations, contributing money and, since my retirement, considerable time working as a volunteer. I spend many hours talking to the public about wildlife, habitats and the environment.

With my love of walking outside and my love of animals, it was short step to getting a dog when I retired. Like many residents in San Francisco, I live in an apartment style building with no yard. My only option for exercising her is to walk the city streets and to go to the local/regional parks and beaches. Living in a very urban area, I have worked hard at being a good dog owner, making sure that my dog did not disturb others or the environment while enjoying the pleasure of spending many hours outside with my dog. In the past six years in the company of my dog I have become very familiar with the San Francisco City Parks and the GGNRA lands in San Francisco and Marin, spending many hours each week visiting these areas. I have developed an extensive knowledge of these areas and a deep love for them.

Personal Expectations for Dog Plan:

Since I greatly value my adventures with my dog and the environment, I looked forward with great interest to the Draft Dog Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement. The park resources (local and GGNRA) are treasures that should be preserved. The Bay Area's large urban population is heavily focused on outdoor recreation and puts a strain on park resources. Dogs and dog walkers are only one factor in the heavy demands made upon our park resources. A DEIS which examined dog walking in a balanced and appropriate manner within the context of all park use would be beneficial to all.

Reaction to DEIS:

I was shocked, angered, left incredulous when I opened the DEIS and began to read about the areas in the GGNRA that I know well. The DEIS demonstrated a lack of knowledge about these sites; a lack of concern for the impact of the proposed policy on city parks; and generally sloppy research and analysis. The elements that left me seething were:

1) the failure to provide a well researched picture of how dog walking fit into the use of these sites for other activities. A good analysis of use patterns would provide a solid base for resource allocation and for determining relative impact. When park service personnel were asked at an open house about the absence of this analysis, they said it was too expensive, but the DEIS calls for spending over \$1 million to count dogs at each site as part of a draconian enforcement program. The willingness to spend money on enforcement but not on formulating a balanced policy reflects the Park Service decision to just get rid of the dogs.

2) the frequent allegations of environmental and other damage committed by dogs that were either not supported or supported by inaccurate information. In short, the document looks like a concerted effort to smear dogs in any and every way possible with no regard to solid research and analysis. The document looks very much like someone set out to justify by any means a massive reduction in the presence of dogs in the GGNRA. The DEIS apparently was treated as a necessary step to paper over a decision that was already made.

Enforcement of Dog Policy:


The signs of this pervasive anti-dog culture in the Park Service are on display in the general approach to dogs and dog walkers by the law enforcement arm. The latest

incident in Rancho Corral de Tierra comes, unfortunately, as no surprise to many of us that walk dogs in Park Service lands. There is a major disconnect between the perceptions of the Park Service and dog walkers about the use of leashes. The Park Service seems to equate "off leash" with "inherently dangerous and destructive," almost equivalent to brandishing a gun. Dog walkers equate off leash with a pleasant walk where dogs can sniff, run and perhaps play with a ball or each other in a safe environment. When those two views collide, hostility erupts. In my experience, officers/rangers have approached people with off leash dogs in an extremely hostile manner. The folks with the dogs off leash are bewildered because (in every case that I have seen), the dog is doing nothing wrong other than being off leash. In fact, in the cases where I have personally been stopped by law enforcement, my dog and I were behaving perfectly and were under the impression that off leash walking was permitted in the area. While I was only given a "warning," my identification was demanded; I was asked if I had any outstanding tickets or warrants (answer was a clear no); I was asked to wait while the officer called in my information to check up on me; and I was threatened with being put on a "data base." While I was only given a warning, the approach of the officer left me feeling I was regarded as a dangerous felon; that my dog and I were not welcome in the park; and that they would be keeping an eye on me as a dangerous element in the park. Until that point, my dog and I had been enjoying a very pleasant walk through the park. While I was compliant with the officer's demands, my encounter left me angry and defiant, and certainly did not contribute to making me sympathetic with and supportive of Park Service Dog Policy.

The citizens of the Bay Area love their dogs and their parklands. Many dog walkers are also staunch protectors of the environment. The vast majority of dog walkers would be supportive of a thoughtful dog policy that recognized the unique role of the GGNRA in this highly urban setting. We need new leadership to formulate a new policy; to put in place a meaningful outreach program; and to reform the culture of the park service and, in particular, the law enforcement personnel in the dealings with dog walkers.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Katherine J. Pattison

(b) (6)

San Francisco, CA 94109

(b) (6)

(b) (6) @sbcglobal.net

Cynthia D. Adam

Healdsburg, CA 95448

Cynthia Adam has lived in San Francisco for 27 years, working, raising a family, and walking her dogs. She has been a member of the Crissy Field Dog group since its inception and has exercised her 2 dogs there for the past 11 years.

Professionally Ms. Adam has more than 20 years of business and nonprofit experience in San Francisco. Her background includes financial planning and analysis, strategic planning, marketing, project management, business development, client service, executive recruiting, and nonprofit management. Currently she works as a free lance grant writer and consultant. Most recently she was a consultant at The Neighborhood Parks Council, preparing a business plan and recruiting for ParkScan, and writing grants. Prior to that she was the Interim Executive Director of the Friends and Foundation of the San Francisco Public Library. Other experience includes executive recruiting at Korn Ferry International, client service and business development at Odyssey, a market research and consulting firm. She has also done project management at Charles Schwab, consulting at Arthur D. Little, and consulting for nonprofits and start ups. Her career began as a commercial banker in New York.

In the volunteer arena Ms. Adam has served on the Boards of the Katherine Delmar Burke School, the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, and City CarShare. She has also been a docent at the San Francisco Botanical Garden. Recently she helped the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society with grant writing for the restoration of the Old Mint. She has also assisted The Circus Center and a hospice in South Africa in their fund raising efforts. Participating in the community through volunteer service is something she believes in and enjoys.

Ms. Adam has raised three children in San Francisco. Over the years she has been an avid user of local parks and recreation facilities. She and her family are outdoor enthusiasts with activities ranging from surfing at Ocean Beach to biking in the GGNRA and hiking with the dogs where ever possible. She was a runner for many years, training by running with her dogs and ultimately completing the San Francisco marathon. These days she and the dogs walk.

Ms. Adam earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado and an MBA from Stanford University. She is an enthusiastic reader with dreams of returning to school and getting a Masters in English Literature.

**Background Information for Participation on a
GGNRA Dog Management Negotiated Rulemaking Committee**

Name: Carol J. Arnold

Organization: SFDOG

Contact information:

[REDACTED]
San Francisco, CA 94110

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [@aol.com](mailto:[REDACTED]@aol.com)

Personal Background Related to GGNRA and Dog Management Issues:

I have walked my dog at Ft. Funston and occasionally at Crissy Field for at least 15 years. I have been involved in negotiations for SFDOG, in particular hearings regarding the San Francisco Dog Policy and GGNRA. I am an Environmental Planner by profession with over 15 years as Program Manager with the California Coastal Conservancy. Several of my land acquisition projects with that agency involved the GGNRA. I served on NAPCAC last year in one of the environmental slots.



HARTY *Conflict Consulting & Mediation*

DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

DRAFT MEMORANDUM

To: Chris Powell
Shirwin Smith

Cc: Greg Bourne
Catherine McCracken

From: Mike Harty

Date: October 25, 2006

Subject: Review of Dog Management Committee Protocols

The following represents a robust application of the Protocols and Criteria to recent events. It is intended to test those commitments without being overly broad, and provoke a thoughtful conversation about how to proceed. It contains the reactions I have heard from Committee members directly, as well as my own analysis. This document does not represent a decision, but rather an effort to assist with deliberations about how to proceed with the Reg Neg.

[REDACTED]

DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

[Redacted content]

DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION COMMUNICATION

- [REDACTED]
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DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

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<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>

DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
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DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

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DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

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DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

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DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
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DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

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J. Michael Harty
Page 12

DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Dog Management EIS
Briefing for Jon Jarvis
April 15, 2009

Attendees:

GGNRA: Brian O’Neill, Superintendent; Daphne Hatch, NR Division Chief; Marybeth McFarland, Law Enforcement Specialist; Chris Powell, Public Affairs Specialist, Shirwin Smith, Management Assistant.
Pacific West Region: Jon Jarvis, Regional Director
Solicitor’s Office: Barbara Goodyear, Field Solicitor
WASO, NRPC-EQD: David Jacobs, Environmental Protection Specialist

Briefing Points:

(b) (5) [Redacted]
(b) (5) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

a. (b) (5)

[Redacted]

(b) (5) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California 94123

Form 10-114
Rev. Jan. 00

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

Name of Use: *Commercial Dog Walking*

Date Permit Reviewed 2013
Expires 2014
Permit No. 8140-2501-XX-####

Name Of Area: **XXXXXX**
Long Term
Short Term

NATIONAL
PARK
SERVICE

(b)
(5)

Comment [bq1]: (b) (5)

[Redacted]

For the purpose(s) of:

Commercial Dog Walking in GGNRA San Francisco and Marin sites currently open to dog walking.

Authorizing legislation or other authority (see DO-53): 36 CFR 1.6.

NEPA & NHPA Compliance: CATEGORICALLY EXCLUDED EA/FONSI EIS OTHER APPROVED PLANS

PERFORMANCE BOND: Required Not Required Amount \$0

LIABILITY INSURANCE: Required Not Required Amount \$2,000,000.00 aggregate/\$1,000,000 per occurrence.

ISSUANCE of this permit is subject to ~~the conditions on the reverse hereof and appended pages and when appropriate to the receipt of Permittee's payment of \$375.00 to the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service of the sum of \$375 which consists of a includes \$75 for the application fee and a \$300 for the badge fee.~~

The undersigned hereby accepts this permit subject to the terms, covenants, obligations, and reservations, expressed or implied herein.

Permittee: _____
Signature Organization Date

Comment [SES3]: We should discuss with Barbara what is preferred, but I think it would be simpler to have them be 1 year. Otherwise, we'll need to prorate the first year and then spend a lot on outreach to make sure folks know there's only one window in a year to sign up.

(b) (5)

Authorizing Official: _____
Signature Title Date

GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. The ~~permittee~~ Permittee is prohibited from giving false information in connection with permittee's application for this permit and in connection with permittee's exercise of the privilege granted hereunder. ~~to do so will be considered a breach of conditions and be grounds for revocation.~~ [36 CFR Sections 2.32(a)(3) and 1002.32(a)(3) (check cite to Trust regulation)].

2. The ~~p~~Permittee's ~~shall~~ exercise of the this privilege granted under this permit is subject to the supervision of the Superintendent or his designee at all times. This Permit conveys no right, title or interest to the Permittee in any real or personal property and is merely a temporary license for the non-possessory use of areas within the GGNRA. Possession of this permit does not guarantee entry into GGNRA. Permittee expressly acknowledges that the Superintendent or his designee may restrict entry or close portions of the GGNRA to the public at any time.

2.3 (b) (5) [Redacted]

(b) (5) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

4. ~~Permittee's F~~ailure to comply with applicable laws and regulations or with any of the terms and conditions of this permit may result in the immediate suspension or revocation of the permit as determined in the sole discretion of the Superintendent or his designee. Permittee expressly acknowledges the revocable nature of this permit.

5. (b) (5) [Redacted]

(b) (5) [Redacted]

6. (b) (5) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

7. ~~This permit is made upon the express condition that the United States, its agents and employees shall be free from all liabilities and claims for damages and/or suits for or by reason of any injury, injuries, or death to any person or persons or property of any kind whatsoever, whether to the person or property of the Permittee, its agents or employees, or third parties, from any cause or causes~~

~~whatsoever while in or upon said premises or any part thereof during the term of this permit or occasioned by any occupancy or use of said premises or any activity carried on by the Permittee in connection herewith, and the Permittee (b) (5) reimburse, defend, save and hold harmless the United States, its agents, and employees for and from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, damages, losses, charges, judgments, expenses, and costs and the like, including reasonable attorneys fees, on account of or by reason of any such injuries, deaths, liabilities, claims, suits or losses however occurring or damages growing out of the same, for any loss or destruction of or damage to any property, or for the death of or injury to any person, of any nature whatsoever and by whomever made, which may arise out of or be incident to the activities of the Permittee, whether or not the same shall be occasioned by the negligence or lack of diligence of the Permittee.~~

(b) (5)

~~6-8. Permittee (b) (5) insurance against claims occasioned by the action or omissions of the pPermittee, its agents and employees in carrying out the activities and operations authorized under by this permit. The policy shall be in the amount of \$2,000,000 and underwritten by a United States company naming the United States of America as additionally insured. The permittee (b) (5) with a Certificate of Insurance with the proper endorsements prior to the effective date of the permit.~~

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

~~7. Permittee agrees to deposit with the park a bond in the amount of \$0 from an authorized bonding company or in the form of cash or cash equivalent, to guarantee that all financial obligations to the park will be met, including the restoration and rehabilitation of the permitted area.~~

~~8-9 (b) (5)~~

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

~~9-10. The Permittee person named on the permit as in charge of the permitted activity on site must have full authority to make any decisions about the activity and must remain in control of the dogs under his/her supervision on-site at all times. In case of emergency, the Permittee acknowledges that he/she has the authority to make decisions regarding the dogs under his/her control when requested by a person authorized to enforce this permit. He/she shall be responsible for all individuals, groups, vendors, etc. involved with the permit~~

(b) (5)

~~10-11. The permittee Permittee represents and it is a condition of acceptance of this permit that, pursuant to 41 U.S. C. 22, "No Member of Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of any contract or agreement made, entered into, or accepted by or on behalf of the United States, or to any benefit to arise thereupon."~~

~~11-12. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as binding the National Park Service to expend in any one fiscal year any sum in excess of appropriations made by Congress or administratively allocated for the purpose of this permit for the fiscal year, or to involve the National Park Service in any contract or other obligation for the further expenditure of money in excess of such appropriations or allocations.~~

~~(b) (5)~~

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

~~12~~.14. This permit terminates on the date listed on the cover page of this permit. There is no right to renewal of this permit. If Permittee wishes to exercise the privilege of commercial dog walking for an additional permit term, Permittee must apply for a new permit and pay all associated fees and costs.

APPENDIX I: SPECIAL PARK CONDITIONS

1. This permit authorizes Permittee to walk more than three but not more than six dogs at one time for consideration. A permit is required for any commercial dog walker with 4 to 6 dogs in the areas listed as open to dog walking in Appendix I, Attachments A and B. Permittee is prohibited from walking more than six dogs for consideration at one time. A permit is not needed to walk three or fewer dogs, even when done for consideration. Commercial dog walkers with 7 or more dogs are not permitted within GGNRA's San Francisco and Marin sites where dog walking is allowed.

2. (b) (5)

3. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

5. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

6. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

8. The Permittee-Permittee expressly acknowledges that Permittee has read and understood the rules and regulations that pertain to dog walking must abide by all National Park Service regulations, including in GGNRA (including the regulations in 36 CFR Section 2.15 and Section 1002.15), understands which sites that are not open and closed to voice-control dog walking per the 1979 Pet Policy, (see Attachments A and B) 36 CFR 2.15(a), which requires that dogs be restrained by a leash no longer than 6 feet and agrees to abide by the same at all times when exercising the privilege authorized by this permit.

9. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

10. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

11. The Permittee shall take every reasonable precaution to ensure the safety of its clients, its employees or agents, other GGNRA visitors, and GGNRA employees.

12. The Permittee-Permittee and/or their agents shall exercise the privilege authorized under this permit in a manner that ensures the safety of federal employees and their agents and the safety of park visitors

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)
Comment [SES19]: My point is that this may be more than we want to enforce for this interim measure - we should confirm with LE (Chad and/or Kevin)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Comment [SES23]: Not in compendium now that I could find. It should go in for 2014 - ck with LE>

(b) (5)
(b) (5)

Comment [SES25]: Correct.

(b) (5)

~~and their dogs. In addition, Permittee shall courtesy and consideration in their relations with the public ensure that the dogs under his/her control do not interfere with the activities of other park visitors or with the administrative activities of -and with NPS- federal employees, volunteers or other and their agents. The Permittee and/or their agents will review and correct the conduct of any of its employees or volunteers whose actions or activities are considered by GGNRA to be inconsistent with the experience, enjoyment, and protection of visitors and stewards of public lands.~~

~~13. This permit is valid for GGNRA San Francisco and Marin sites where dog walking is allowed only, and is not valid for any other public lands.~~

~~14. The Permittee is not entitled to any preference to renewal of this authorization except to the extent otherwise expressly provided by law. This authorization is not exclusive and is not a concession contract.~~

~~15. The Permittee shall not construct any structures, fixtures or improvements within GGNRA.~~

~~16-10.~~ Advertising for the authorized activity shall not state or imply endorsement by GGNRA or the National Park Service. Upon request, the ~~Permittee~~ Permittee will provide GGNRA with copies of advertising brochures and any other materials related to activities within GGNRA.

APPENDIX I, ATTACHMENT A: SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR GGNRA SAN FRANCISCO LANDS

1. (b) (5) (b) (5)

- Baker Beach, north of Lobos Creek
- Crissy Field (excluding the Wildlife Protection Area at the west end of Crissy field beach where leashes are required all year except from May 15 to July 1)
- Fort Funston (excluding the 12-acre closure in northwest Ft. Funston and the northern end of the Coastal trail, closed due to erosion.)
- Fort Miley
- Lands End
- Ocean Beach (excluding the Plover Protection Area from Sloat Blvd. north to Stairwell 21 where where leashes are required all year except from May 15 to July 1)

2. **Areas Open For On Leash Dog Walking Only**

- All trails not closed to dogs
- All parking lots and picnic areas
- Fort Point lands, excluding inside the fort and the pier
- Fort Mason
- Sutro Heights
- Lands managed by the Presidio Trust

3. **Areas Closed To Dogs**

IN THE CRISSY FIELD AREA

- Crissy Field Tidal Marsh and Lagoon

IN THE FORT FUNSTON AREA

- Fort Funston Habitat Protection Area
- Coastal Trail, intersection of Horse trail to Great Highway, closed due to erosion

IN THE FORT POINT AREA

- Fort Point (inside historic fort)
- Fort Point pier (Torpedo Wharf)

(b) (5)

Comment [SES28]: Done

(b) (5)

Comment [SES30]: I edited to clarify.

IN PRESIDIO AREA A

- Battery to Bluffs Trail
- China Beach site
- Lobos Creek
- Marshall Beach

APPENDIX I, ATTACHMENT B: SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR GGNRA MARIN COUNTY LANDS1. **Areas Open For ~~On Leash or~~ Voice Control Dog** (b) (5)

- Alta Avenue between Marin City/Oakwood Valley
- Homestead Valley
- Muir Beach
- Oakwood Valley Fire Road, and Oakwood Valley Trail from junction with Oakwood Valley Road to Alta Avenue
- Rodeo Beach and South Rodeo Beach
- Three Marin Headlands trail corridors:
 1. Coastal Trail from Golden Gate Bridge to junction with Wolf Ridge Trail;
 2. Loop Trail from Rodeo Beach parking lot up Coastal Trail paved road (Old Bunker Road) near Battery Townsley and return to Rodeo Beach on paved road;
 3. Wolf Ridge Loop (Coastal Trail to Wolf Ridge Trail; Wolf Ridge Trail to Miwok Trail; Miwok Trail back down to Coastal Trail).

(b) (5) (b) (5)

Comment [SES32]: Edited to clarify

2. **Areas Open For On Leash Dog Walking Only**

- All parking lots and picnic areas
- County View Road and Marin Drive connector trails to North Miwok Trail
- Fort Baker
- Oakwood Valley Trail to the junction with Oakwood Valley Fire Road
- Rhubarb Trail
- Stinson Beach, parking lots/picnic areas only
- Four Marin Headlands Trail corridors:
 1. Coast Trail between Hill 88 (junction of Coastal Trail and Wolf Ridge Trail) and Muir Beach
 2. Miwok Trail between Tennessee Valley parking lot and Highway 1 (North Miwok Trail)
 3. Fire road around Battery Smith-Guthrie
 4. Trail to South Rodeo Beach

3. **Areas Closed To Dogs**

IN THE FORT BAKER AREA

- Chapel Trail
- Fort Baker Pier

IN THE MARIN HEADLANDS AREA

- Alta Trail (only between Oakwood Valley trail intersection and Wolfback Ridge Road)
- Bicentennial Campground
- Bobcat Trail
- Coyote Ridge Trail
- Dias Ridge Trail
- Fox Trail
- Green Gulch Trail
- Hawk Campground and Trail
- Haypress Campground and Trail
- Kirby Cove area
- Lower Fisherman Trail and Beach
- Marincello Road
- Middle Green Gulch Trail
- Miwok Cutoff Trail
- Miwok Trail, between Wolf Ridge and Bobcat Trail
- Morning Sun Trail

- Old Springs Trail
- Point Bonita Lighthouse Trail
- Rodeo Avenue Trail
- Rodeo Beach Lagoon
- Rodeo Lake
- Rodeo Valley Trail
- SCA Trail
- Slacker Hill Trail
- Tennessee Valley beach
- Tennessee Valley Trail from parking lot to beach
- Upper Fisherman Trail and beach

IN THE MUIR BEACH AREA

- Big Lagoon
- Owl Trail
- Redwood Creek

IN THE MUIR WOODS AREA

- Muir Woods National Monument
- Redwood Creek Trail

IN THE STINSON BEACH AREA

- Coast Trail
- Dipsea Trail
- Matt Davis Trail
- McKennan Trail
- Willow Camp Fire Road
- Stinson Beach (beach only)

COMPENDIUM AMENDMENT

PART 51 – General Provisions ~~COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE OPERATIONS~~

~~36 CFR §5.3 – BUSINESS OPERATIONS 1.6 Permits~~

COMMERCIAL DOG WALKING

The walking of four or more dogs at one time by any one person for consideration (commercial dog walking) is prohibited within San Francisco and Marin County sites administered by Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), where dog walking is allowed, unless:

- That person has been issued a currently valid permit from GGNRA.
- The walking of four or more dogs is done pursuant to the terms and conditions of that permit.
- (b) (5) [REDACTED]
- The permit is produced for inspection upon request by an officer with law enforcement authority in areas administered by GGNRA.

(b) (5) [REDACTED]

Comment [SES2]: There may be another way to call out that they have to have all these dogs on leash unless they're in an area where off leash is currently legal. This was the shortest way I could think of to make that point.

GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Commercial Dog Walking Permit Requirement Interim Compendium Amendment

ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE * ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT FOIA EXEMPT

Comments by B. Goodyear, DOI Solicitor's Office July 23, 2013

Summary: The public is invited to comment on the National Park Service (NPS) proposal to impose a public use limit and permit requirement on persons who are ~~require that any person~~ walking four or more dogs at one time for consideration (commercial dog walker) ~~in on lands~~ under the administrative jurisdiction of the NPS in any Marin County and or the City and County of San Francisco where dog walking is allowed. ~~site of Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) where dog walking is allowed, to obtain a permit from the park.~~ Permits will allow a maximum of six dogs per dog walker, and require a business license and proof of liability insurance and approved dog-handling training through existing training courses, such as those offered by Marin Humane or SF SPCA. Permit holders must abide by all NPS regulations, including 36 CFR 2.15(a), which requires that dogs be restrained by a leash no longer than 6 feet in sites that are not open to voice control dog walking per the 1979 Pet Policy.

This public use limit would be an interim action and would remain in effect until the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) promulgates a final special regulation for dog walking. including in GGNRA, which will address commercial dog walking, is promulgated. That final special regulation is anticipated in 2015. Should the Superintendent of GGNRA decide to approve this interim public use limit and permit system action, an amendment to GGNRA's Compendium¹ would be completed ~~(per 36 CFR 1.5).~~

The NPS thanks you for your participation in this process.

Dates:

Comments on this proposal must be received by XXX, XX, 2013.

Addresses:

Comments may be submitted online at https://parkplanning.nps.gov/*add **shortlink name**, or by mail to:

National Park Service
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: Commercial Dog Walking
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

¹ GGNRA's Compendium is a listing of all park closures and use limits within the GGNRA.

For Further Information Contact:

XXXX

Background:

This ~~proposed public use limit and permit requirement action~~ is a direct response to commercial dog walking permit programs recently enacted by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and the Town of Tiburon in Marin County which ~~went into will be in~~ effect in July 2013, and which ~~will~~ 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 PUC properties) of the City and County of San Francisco's ordinance, coupled with the effect of the City of Tiburon's ordinance, the NPS reasonably anticipates that a number of commercial dog walkers, who would otherwise use areas that would cause them to fall under these ordinances, will instead walk their dogs in areas under the administrative jurisdiction of the NPS in San Francisco and Marin Counties that are already regularly used by dog walkers, including ~~many~~ commercial dog walkers.

The proposed public use limit and permit requirement would be adopted as interim measures and would be replaced by a regulation that will be published in the Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This regulation will be developed after the GGNRA. Although the GGNRA completes the dog management planning project which addresses recreational and commercial dog walking. The plan and its accompanying environmental impact statement (EIS) are is well underway. Once the plan is finalized, the NPS will initiate a rule making process and seek public comment on the codification of the plan's regulatory elements in the Code of Federal Regulation. -A final rule is not anticipated until 2015. In the absence of a ~~this interim action and a~~ final rule, commercial dog walkers ~~would are not be~~ regulated and ~~would be are~~ able to walk an unlimited number of dogs at GGNRA park sites where dog walking is currently allowed. (b) (5)

~~Commercial dog walkers have been using GGNRA's San Francisco and Marin sites for at least ten years. During that time, the GGNRA dog management planning process had already begun, and the decision as to whether commercial dog walking should be permitted on GGNRA lands was deferred to the dog management planning process and its accompanying NEPA analysis and rulemaking. Over the past ten years, the number of commercial dog walkers in San Francisco and Marin has increased. Research and interviews conducted as part of the GGNRA's for the draft dog management planning project /EIS indicate (b) (5)~~

~~(b) (5)~~ although there are also commercial dog walkers who do not have a business license and are not listed in the phone book. Many of these dog walkers are single individuals (who may or may not be licensed), as well as companies with several employees. There is at least one association for commercial dog walkers in San Francisco (Prodog). In San Francisco, commercial dog walkers most often use GGNRA's Fort Funston and Crissy Field, but are also seen at Fort Mason, 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.

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 estimates 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 six dogs each, at any given time of the day. A 2011 Visitor Use Study (b) (5) that 24% of visitors at Crissy Field were dog walkers. That same study found that at Fort Funston, an average of 62% of daily visitors were dog walkers (66% on weekdays and 57% on weekends), and that on weekdays, 50% of the dogs observed were in groups of five or more dogs, with approximately 15% in groups of ten or more dogs. The 2009 visitation at Fort Funston was estimated at 546,000.

(b) (5)
(b) (5)

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 are used by commercial dog walkers with more than six dogs per person; dog walkers with six or more dogs have been seen at both Rodeo Beach and the Alta Trail above Marin City. The Alta Trail is regularly used by commercial dog walkers who have an average of ten dogs per walker. GGNRA staff have often experienced up to 50 off-leash dogs at one time on the Alta (b) (5). Without an interim restriction on commercial dog use, commercial dog walking could increase on GGNRA lands in southern Marin.

(b) (5)
(b) (5)
(b) (5)
(b) (5)

~~The preferred alternative for GGNRA's draft dog management plan currently requires that commercial and private dog walkers with more than three dogs must 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. However, the preferred alternative may change in light of public comment received on the supplemental EIS and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. Also, a number of steps remain before a final regulation for dog walking in GGNRA could be promulgated. A Supplemental EIS for the draft dog management plan will be released for public comment in summer 2013. A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be released in 2014 for an additional public comment, with a final rule anticipated in 2015. In the absence of that final rule, commercial dog walkers are not regulated and thus may walk unlimited number of dogs at GGNRA park sites.~~

The maximum number of dogs per commercial dog walker in this proposed interim compendium amendment was drawn from the permit conditions for commercial dog walkers developed in the dog management planning process. The permit conditions for commercial dog walkers proposed in the preferred alternative of the draft dog management plan/EIS (draft plan/EIS), including the number of dogs allowed per dog walker, were developed initially by the GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management, and further developed in the draft Plan/EIS. During the public comment period on the draft Plan/EIS, the National Park Service (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 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 ~~establishing~~ proposing alternatives for the maximum number of dogs per walker in the draft plan/EIS, the NPS was concerned first and foremost with resource protection and visitor experience and safety, two key objectives of the draft plan/EIS. The NPS questioned whether a dog walker could consistently control more than six dogs in areas open to voice control, particularly 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 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 GGNRA Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for dog management, park staff observations and research, 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 the draft Plan/EIS 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. Thus

This proposed public use limit is similar in that it would impose a ~~the~~ maximum of 6 dogs per commercial dog walker is proposed in this interim compendium amendment, consistent with the draft plan/EIS, for ~~the~~ protection of resources and visitor and employee safety.

As indicated above, this interim restriction and permit requirement would remain in place until the NPS completes the planning and rulemaking processes associated with the Dog Management Plan. GGNRA plans to release a supplemental draft environmental impact statement for the Plan in the fall of 2013 and a final plan in XXXX. The proposed interim restriction does not limit or otherwise affect the range of alternatives that will be considered in the planning process for the Plan.

Applicable Law and Policy:

This interim Compendium amendment appropriately regulates a commercial activity on National Park Service lands, as required by National Park Service 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. 36 CFR § 1.5. Under 36 CFR § 5.31.6, (b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Shirwin – the next step is to address the following criteria, which are required by Section 1.5(a):

1. Explain why this proposed public use limit is consistent with NPS Policy (e.g., Management Policies) and explain why it is not inconsistent with 1979 Pet Policy

2. Explain that the public use limit is necessary to protect park resources, equitably allocate the use in areas, protect public health and safety, and/or avoid conflicts among user groups (Note – you only really need to prove 1 of these factors, but if we can prove more, then it’s worth doing so)

This 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 and park resources. Further, commercial dog walking was not addressed by the 1979 GGNRA Citizen’s Advisory Pet Policy (Attachment C), and has not ever been a permitted activity in the park. As stated previously, at the time that the park became aware of this new use of park areas, the GGNRA dog management planning process had already begun, and the decision as to whether commercial dog walking should be permitted on GGNRA lands was deferred to the dog management planning process and its accompanying NEPA analysis and rulemaking.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

The proposed public use limit would not adversely affect the natural, aesthetic or cultural values of park lands in Marin and San Francisco Counties. SHIRWIN: ADD EXPLANATION OF WHY THESE VALUES WOULD NOT BE HARMED.

Adoption of the proposed public use limit would not require a long-term or significant modification in the park’s resource management objectives. This proposed public use limit is

being adopted on an interim basis and would be replaced by a final regulation in approximately two years. The proposed action is also consistent with the park's resource management objectives because ----- SHIRWIN – ADD EXPLANATION

The proposed restriction is not highly controversial. Multiple jurisdictions in the Bay Area, including the City and County of San Francisco, the City of Tiburon, and Marin County Parks and Open Space, have recognized the need to impose reasonable restrictions on commercial dog walking. The approach proposed here was ~~In that this interim action is based in a proposal for commercial dog walking~~ developed with much public input during the GGNRA dog management planning effort, and (b) (5) [redacted] that the proposed regulatory provisions are the minimum level acceptable to meet the park's management obligations with regard to the protection of visitor and employee safety and park resources, this is not anticipated to be a highly controversial nature.

(b) (5) [redacted]
(b) (5) [redacted]

The proposed interim restriction and permit requirement is the minimum necessary action at this time. The action is 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, 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 and the GGNRA's ability to protect park resources.

Finally, this interim action ~~would result in minor changes to commercial dog walking activities in the park. This action is~~ not expected to displace commercial dog walkers to adjacent lands managed by other agencies. Both the City of Tiburon and the ~~in~~ Marin County Parks and Open Space District, which 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 minimal difference is not expected to result in a significant amount of displacement from GGNRA lands to San Francisco-managed sites. Add something about the Trust – no increase there because they are taking action consistent with NPS approach.

Decision / Implementation Process

This proposal will be released for a 30-day public review and comment period. Following the public comment period, NPS will review all substantive comments received. After considering public comment, the GGNRA Superintendent will make an informed decision on whether or not to implement the proposal. (b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]

(b) (5) [redacted]
(b) (5) [redacted]

UPDATED
7/05

Negotiated Rulemaking
Community Contacts for Situation Assessment

ELECTED OFFICIAL

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Phone #	Fax #	Address	E-mail	Notes
Dan	Bernal	Office of Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi	415-556-4862	415-861-1670	450 Golden Gate Avenue, 14 th floor San Francisco, CA 94102	dan.bernal@mail.house.gov	
Susan	Brissenden-Smith	Office of State Senator Jackie Speier	415-557-7857	415-557-7864	455 Golden Gate Ave. Suite 14200 San Francisco, CA 94102		
Jim	Vreeland	Mayor of Pacifica				jimvreeland@earthlink.net	

ENVIRONMENTAL

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Phone #	Fax #	Address	E-mail	Notes
Norman	La Force	Representing the Sierra Club, through a special committee from the San Francisco Bay Chapter	(h) [REDACTED] (w)415-2227-2322		(h) [REDACTED] El Cerrito, CA 94530 (w) Fortune, Drevlow, 560 Mission Street, 21st Floor San Francisco, CA 94105	[REDACTED]@comcast.net	
Arthur	Feinstein		[REDACTED]		2530 San Pablo Ave., Suite G Berkeley, CA 94702	[REDACTED]@earthlink.net	
Stephen	Krefting	Executive Director, Presidio	415-826-3124		45 Montcalm Street San Francisco, CA	Skrefting@igc.org	

UPDATED
7/05

		Sustainability Project			94110-5357		
Jake	Sigg	California Native Plant Society			338 Ortega St San Francisco 94122	██████████@earthlink.net	Prefers email contact
Fred	Wu	Program Coordinator, NPCA Pacific Regional Office	510-839-9922 x20		P.O. Box 1289 Oakland, CA 94604	fwu@npca.org	
Kathy	Zagzebski	Marine Mammal Center	415-289-0184	415-289-7333	1065 Ft. Cronkhite Sausalito, CA 94965	zagzebskik@tmmc.org	
Susan	Andres	Farallones Marine Sanctuary Assoc.	415-561-6625 x314	561-6616	The Presidio P.O. Box 29386 San Francisco, CA 94129	sanders@farallones.org	
Trent	Orr		665-2185		953 Clayton Street #5 San Francisco, CA 94121	trentorr@aol.com	Former CAC member and environmental atty.
Randy	Zebell	California Native Plant Society	415-759-7448		2471 15 th Avenue San Francisco, CA 94116	rzebell@sbcglobal.net	

EQUESTRIAN

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Phone #	Fax #	Address	E-mail	Notes
Alice	Caldwell-Steele	President, Miwok Valley Assoc.	415-924-2257		701 B Tennessee Valley Rd Mill Valley 94941	██████████@earthlink.net	A Marin organization – very interested in the reg-neg

UPDATED
7/05

Antoinette	Mogannam	Rides out of stable near Fort Funston	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] San Francisco, CA 94116	[REDACTED]@hotmail.com	Her horse has been attacked by dogs but still want to work with dogwalkers to solve issue
Judy	Teichman	Marinwatch	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] San Francisco, CA 94115-1832	[REDACTED]@California.com	Has served on board of Marin Horse Council. Prefers email.

OFF-LEASH DOGWALKING

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Phone #	Fax #	Address	E-mail	Notes
Diane	Allevato	Marin Humane Society	(415) 883-4621	(415) 382-1349	171 Bel Marin Keys Blvd. Novato, CA 94949	dallevalo@marinhumanesociety.org	
Daniel	Crain	President, San Francisco SPCA	415-554-3005	415-901-5972	2500 16 th St. San Francisco, CA 94103-4213	dcrain@sfspca.org	
Anne	Farrow	SF Dog	[REDACTED]	650-757-5775	[REDACTED] Pacifica, CA 94044	[REDACTED]@aol.com	
Jeri	Flinn		[REDACTED]		[REDACTED] Pacifica, CA 94044	[REDACTED]@sbcglobal.net	out of country 5/19 - 6/10
Joe	Hague	Spokesperson for ProDog, a commercial dog walking group	[REDACTED] 1		[REDACTED] SF 94124	[REDACTED]@aol.com	
Linda	McKay	Fort Funston Dog Walkers	(h) [REDACTED]		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]@earthlink.net	

**UPDATED
7/05**

			(w)415-507-6777		San Francisco, CA 94134		
Chris Griffith		Alt. for Crissy Field Dogwalkers	(415) 777-2727,	(fax) (415) 495-7587	Ellman Burke Hoffman & Johnson, 601 California Street, Nineteenth Floor, SF, CA, 94108		
Martha	Walters	Crissy Field Dogwalkers			San Rafael, CA 94901	@aol.com	
Gary	Fergus		(415) 537-9030	(415) 537-9038	595 Market Street Suite 2430 San Francisco, California 94105	GFergus@ferguslegal.com	
John	Keating			650-851-5912	PO Box 620622 Woodside, CA 94062	@aol.com	

OTHER

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Phone #	Fax #	Address	E-mail	Notes
Paul	Jones	City of Pacifica	650-355-4383		1190 Manzanita Dr. Pacifica, CA 94044	jones.paul@epa.gov	Former CAC member
Ken	Mabery	President, Assoc. of National Park Service Rangers	(o) 724-329-5802 (c) [REDACTED]	(fax) - 724-329-8682	Office: 1 Washington Parkway Farmington, PA, 15437 Home address: [REDACTED]	Ken_Maybery@nps.gov	Superintendent Fort Necessity/Friendship Hill

**UPDATED
7/05**

					Farmington, PA 15437		
Ron	Maykel	Open Space Committee, Pacifica				juliemaykel@dochs.org	

PARENT

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Phone #	Fax #	Address	E-mail	Notes
Leslie	Gordon					██████████@stanford alumni.org	Parent (walks her dog on leash)
Kevin	Kendrick		██████████		██████████ San Francisco, CA 94129	██████████@pacbell.net	Parent
David	Robinson	Speaking for Coleman Advocates	(h) ██████████		██████████ San Francisco, CA 94110	██████████@pacbell.net	Parent

PARK VISITOR

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation	Phone #	Fax #	Address	E-mail	Notes
Pamela	Aden				██████████ San Francisco, CA 94115		Park Visitor (without dog)
Kyle	Mizokami		██████████		██████████ San Francisco, CA 94115	██████████@mac.com	Fisherman at Crissy Field – use of area affected by off-leash dogs

**UPDATED
7/05**

Richard	Sipser					San Francisco, CA 94133	Has osteoporosis Walks Crissy Field often – afraid of being knocked over by off-leash dogs.
Mischa	Arp					San Francisco, CA 94131	Advocates on-leash dogwalking
Paul	Varghese		(cell)			@hotmail.com	Walks Ocean Beach frequently – concerned about dogs chasing birds
Names Added 6/25/04 – Request from Assessment Team							
Michele	Moss	Field Representative, San Francisco Office of Senator Barbara Boxer	(415) 403- 0100	(415) 956-6701 fax	1700 Montgomery Street, Suite 2400 San Francisco, CA 94111	Michele_Moss@boxer. senate.gov	
Dan	Buford	Supervisor, Coast, Bay, Delta Branch US Fish and Wildlife Service	916-414-6600			Daniel_Buford@fws.g ov	
Carl	Wilcox	Calif Dept of Fish and Game, Habitat Conservation Manager	707-944-5525				Mike Harty got this name through his DFG contact
Peter	Thorner	President, San Francisco Boardsailing Association	415-454-3522 x104			thorner@sfba.org	

UPDATED
7/05

Sean	Gibson	Chapter Chair, San Francisco Chapter, Surfriders	Waiting for phone number from former chair, Todd Walsh			seang@surfrider.org	
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Draft November 6, 2013
COMPENDIUM AMENDMENT

PART 1 – General Provisions

36 CFR § 1.6 Permits

COMMERCIAL DOG WALKING

The walking of more than three dogs, with a limit of six dogs, ~~four or more dogs~~ at one time by any one person for consideration (~~commercial~~ dog walking) is prohibited within San Francisco and Marin County sites administered by Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), where dog walking is allowed, unless:

(b) (5) (b) (5)

- That person has been issued a (b) (5) from GGNRA.
- The walking of ~~four or more dogs~~ more than three dogs, with a limit of six dogs, is done pursuant to the terms and conditions of that permit (b) (5)
- The permit is produced for inspection upon request by an officer with law enforcement authority in areas administered by GGNRA.

Comment [SES2]: This is the name on the draft permit from the Bus. Office

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

DOG RELATED ISSUES AT FORT FUNSTON/GGNRA

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From Barbara Goodyear memo March 2009:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

DOG MANAGEMENT TEAM

for NEPA & Negotiated Rulemaking

GGNRA STAFF

Core Team

Chris Powell	Project Manager	415.561.4732	chris_powell@nps.gov
Shirwin Smith	Project Manager	415.561.4947	shirwin_smith@nps.gov
Yvette Ruan	LE & Protection	415.561.4745	yvette_ruan@nps.gov
Marybeth McFarland	LE & Protection	415.561.5140	marybeth_mcfarland@nps.gov
Connie Leonard	Park Police	415.561.5170	constance_leonard@nps.gov
Daphne Hatch	Resource Protection	415.331.0744	daphne_hatch@nps.gov
Bill Merkle	Resource Protection	415.331.2894	bill_merkle@nps.gov
Maria Banuelos Connell	Business Management	415.561.4944	maria_banuelos_connell@nps.gov
Howard Levitt	Interpretation	415.561.4759	howard_levitt@nps.gov
Steve Ortega	Planning & Compliance	415.561.4841	steve_ortega@nps.gov
Karen Cantwell	Planning & Compliance	415.561.4842	karen_cantwell@nps.gov

Extended Team

Don Mannel	Maintenance	415.561.4951	don_mannel@nps.gov
Leo Barker	Cultural Resources	415.561.4836	leo_barker@nps.gov
Steve Haller	Cultural Resources	415.561.4815	stephen_haller@nps.gov
Kim Coast	LE & Protection	415.331.3812	kim_coast@nps.gov
Theresa Griggs	Interpretation	415.561.4393	theresa_griggs@nps.gov

EQD-DENVER

Core Team

Sarah Bransom	NEPA Manager	303.987.6926	sarah_bransom@nps.gov
Michael B. Edwards	Env. Protection Specialist	303-987-6953	michael_b_edwards@nps.gov

Extended Team

Mike Mayer	Michael_mayer@nps.gov
Jim McTurnan	James_C_McTurnan@partner.nps.gov

NEPA CONTRACTOR

Core Team

Heidi West	TQNEPA	(b) (6)	(b) (6) @aol.com
Jules Evens	AVOCET Research Associates	(b) (6)	(b) (6) @svn.net
Kathy Joyner	TQNEPA	(b) (6)	(b) (6) @comcast.net



HARTY *Conflict Consulting & Mediation*

DELIBERATIVE DRAFT—SUBJECT TO ADRA—CONFIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMUNICATION

DRAFT MEMORANDUM

To: Chris Powell
Shirwin Smith

Cc: Greg Bourne
Catherine McCracken

From: Mike Harty

Date: October 25, 2006

Subject: Review of Dog Management Committee Protocols

The following represents a robust application of the Protocols and Criteria to recent events. It is intended to test those commitments without being overly broad, and provoke a thoughtful conversation about how to proceed. It contains the reactions I have heard from Committee members directly, as well as my own analysis. This document does not represent a decision, but rather an effort to assist with deliberations about how to proceed with the Reg Neg.

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DRAFT

Draft Memorandum

TO: Chris Powell
GOGA DFO Dog Management Negotiated Rulemaking Committee

FROM: Sarah Bransom
Project Manager

SUBJECT: Summary of Conference Call Regarding Approach to Rulemaking

Per your request, I have prepared this summary of our conversation with Barbara Goodyear, SOL, Pacific West Region; Mike Tiernan, SOL, WASO; Jerry Case, Regulatory Office, NPS, WASO; and Shirwin Smith, GOGA Management Assistant, regarding the approach to rulemaking for regulating off-leash dog walking at Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GOGA).

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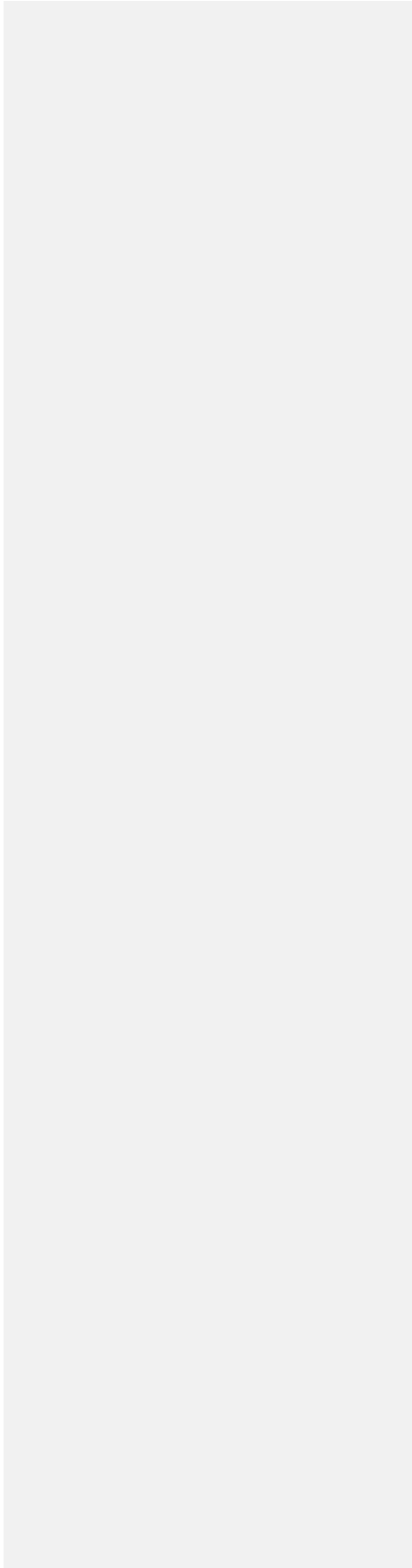
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FROM:

**Draft Summary of Homestead Valley Site Tour and Recommendation for
Dog Mangement
4/17/07**

Present:

Shirwin Smith, Daphne Hatch, Bill Merkle, Marybeth McFarland

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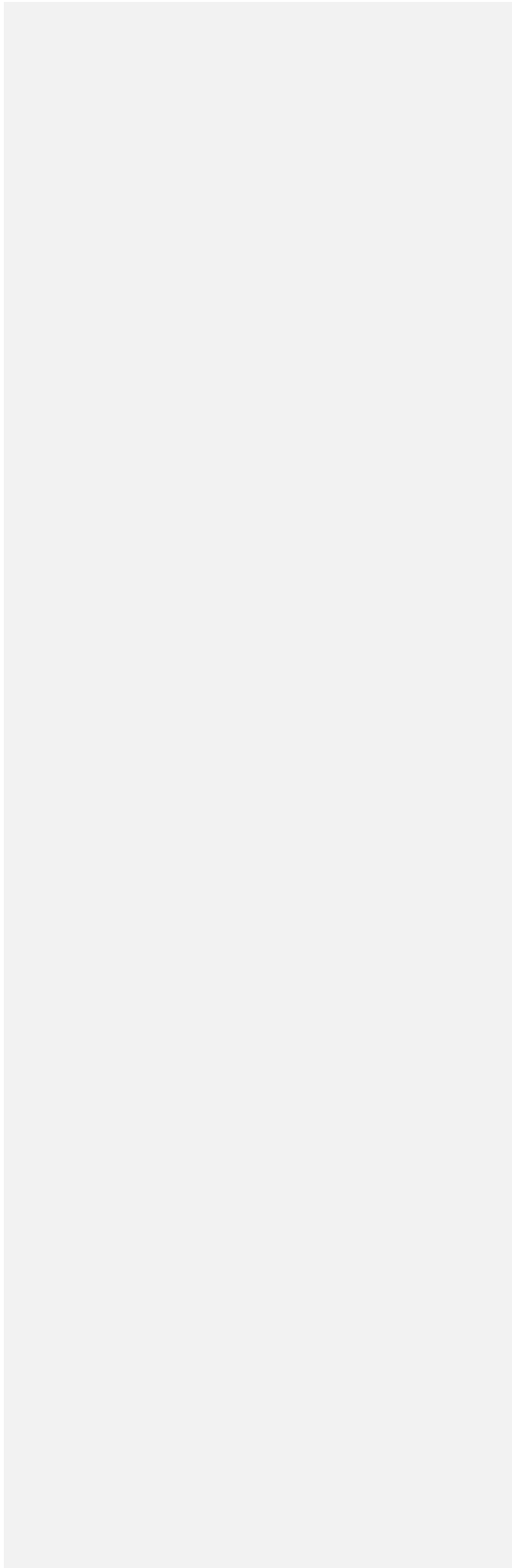
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(cpowell 5/15/07)



Subject: Enforcing on the Alta easement

To: Kevin Cochary <Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov>, Randolph Lavoiseur <randy_lavoiseur@nps.gov>, Chad Marin <chad_marin@nps.gov>, Kurt Veeck <kurt_veeck@nps.gov>

Cc: Michael B Edwards <Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov>, Barbara Goodyear <Barbara.Goodyear@sol.doi.gov>, Katharine Arrow <katharine_arrow@nps.gov>, Nancy Hornor <nancy_hornor@nps.gov>

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To: Kevin Cochary <Kevin_Cochary@nps.gov>, Randolph Lavoiseur <randy_lavoiseur@nps.gov>, Chad Marin <chad_marin@nps.gov>, Kurt Veeck <kurt_veeck@nps.gov>

Cc: Michael B Edwards <Michael_B_Edwards@nps.gov>, Barbara Goodyear <Barbara.Goodyear@sol.doi.gov>, Katharine Arrow <katharine_arrow@nps.gov>, Nancy Hornor <nancy_hornor@nps.gov>

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From: [Shirwin Smith](#)
To: [Marybeth McFarland](#); [Matthew Ehmann](#); [Kim Coast](#); [Constance Leonard](#)
cc: Barbara.Goodyear@sol.doi.gov; [Michael B Edwards](#); [Katharine Arrow](#); Chris.Powell@nps.gov
Subject: Enforcement on Alta Trail easement
Date: 03/17/2010 10:22 AM

(b) (5)



(b) (5)



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 by Shirwin Smith/GOGA/NPS on 03/17/2010 10:14 AM -----

Shirwin Smith

To: Greg.Lind@sol.doi.gov
cc: Suzanne.Carlson@sol.doi.gov
Subject: Final question - Enforcement on easement

02/26/2010 09:32 AM PST

(b) (5)




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 by Shirwin Smith/GOGA/NPS on 02/26/2010 09:27 AM -----

Shirwin Smith

To: Greg.Lind@sol.doi.gov

cc:

Subject: Enforcement on easement - further info

02/09/2010 04:11 PM PST

(b) (5)



Thx for your help with this -

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)

From: [Shirwin Smith](#)
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cc: Barbara.Goodyear@sol.doi.gov; [Michael B Edwards](#); [Katharine Arrow](#); Chris.Powell@nps.gov
Subject: Enforcement on Alta Trail easement
Date: 03/17/2010 10:22 AM

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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)

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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)
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Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

RESTORATION PROJECT ACTION PLAN

Project Name: Fort Funston Bank Swallow Protection Area Restoration
Author of Plan: Joe Cannon, contracted by GGNRA Natural Resources
Phone: (b) (6) E-mail: (b) (6)@yahoo.com

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. General Project Description

The National Park Services, under its mission to protect and enhance its natural resources, has closed twelve acres of Fort Funston's western bluffs to off-trail recreational use by the public. The primary purpose was to protect the habitat for a nesting colony of California state-threatened bank swallows (*Riparia riparia*) from disturbance. This action has also provided the opportunity to restore the native dune plant community that was historically present in the newly protected area. The restoration of this now rare plant community will provide habitat for several globally as well as locally rare species. This project follows the successful restoration of 23 acres from 1992 to 1998 just north of the current site.

This three-year project will restore the twelve-acre area through the outplanting of native dune perennials and direct seeding of native annuals. The project will be phased over the three years starting on the eastern edge, working west toward the coastal bluff (Map #1). Areas exposed to direct coastal winds and/or adjacent to actively moving sand will be stabilized in year one and two with dune species that can establish in these conditions (Table #1). The restoration of this site will require the removal of iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) which dominates much of the site and several small patches of tea tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) and acacia (*Acacia longifolia*). The restoration project is funded for three years through cluster base funds from the Pacific-West Regional Office of the National Park Service. The Fort Funston Nursery will grow the plants for the project, and the Fort Funston Green team will implement the primary fieldwork. Like the previous restoration efforts at Fort Funston, NPS staff working with community volunteer groups will implement restoration. The goals of this restoration project will be to expand the native dune habitat in the closure area and create a contiguous, biologically diverse and dynamic native dune scrub community.

B. Problem Statement and Justification

Following are the list of mandates and guidelines from the Concluding Report for the Implementation of the Bank Swallow and Habitat Protection and Restoration Project (Sharon Farrell, 2000):

The Organic Act of 1916 established the mission of the National Park Service: that it must "...conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." This mission statement remains the guiding principle behind all management actions and is widely emulated.

The National Park Service's Natural Resources Management Guidelines (NPS-77)

- Directs that the management of candidate species, and state endangered or threatened species "should, to the greatest extent possible, parallel the management of federally listed species."
- Directs that the NPS follow "an ecosystem strategy based on integrated pest management (IPM), to obtain the best long-term cost-effective results."
- States that special status species must be actively managed for recovery, or they may continue to decline because their habitats may no longer be suitable for survival, reproduction, and recruitment. "Permanent or temporary closures of selected areas are acceptable methods for reducing or eliminating undesirable impacts associated with human use, even if such closures affect visitor use and park operations."
- States that geologic resources are to be preserved in their natural condition wherever possible. "It may be necessary in some cases to restrict public access to a particularly sensitive or fragile geologic resource or some aspect of the resource. Access may also be controlled for public safety."

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Approved General Management Plan (1980) identifies Fort Funston as a natural area subzone. According to the plan, "the primary management goal in these areas will be to continue to accommodate relatively high use levels with a commitment to intensive maintenance in order to retain the appearance of a natural landscape. Examples of intensive measures that will be required in this subzone include...stabilization and maintenance of planted sand dunes" (p. 17). Further, in the Natural Resource Management section of the GMP, the management strategies for Fort Funston are stated as "The natural appearance ... will be maintained ... and wherever possible along the ocean shoreline and dune environment will be restored. These lands will continue to have a relatively natural character, but intensive management... may be required" (pp. 95-96).

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Natural Resources Management Plan (1999) – The actions of the bank swallow and habitat protection project are consistent with the strategy and actions proposed within the Vegetation Management Section of this plan - specifically the strategies for controlling invasive exotic species and restoring impacted habitats through community stewardship.

Under the Code of Federal Regulations, title 36, section 1.5 the national park service has the authority to: “effect closures and public use permits within a national park units when necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources...” The closure at Fort Funston was necessary to protect natural resources, to protect public safety, and to implement management responsibilities. (Farrell, 2000) Also the City and County of San Francisco's general plan calls for the restoration of Fort Funston.

Fort Funston is one of the largest remaining undeveloped areas with the potential to restore dune biodiversity with natural dune processes. Fort Funston lies on the southern end of the San Francisco dune complex that once covered 36 square kilometers. Over 95% of this area has been developed (Powell, 1978). Also the San Francisco dune system has several locally and regionally rare plant species and a potentially rare insect community as evidenced by the extinction of the Xerces Blue butterfly in 1942 in the Presidio. In addition to the bank swallow colony the site has the potential to enhance the habitat of the California Quail (*Callipepla californica*), and Burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*).

The army's construction activities and stabilization plantings of iceplant, other exotics and some natives and the subsequent dominance of iceplant have greatly reduced both the amount and diversity of the native plant and animal communities. To restore the native plant community back to these exotic plant dominated areas requires the removal of the invasive species. “Even when [natural] processes are protected, the very nature of dunes, which are prone to disturbance and characterized by openings in the vegetation, renders them constantly susceptible to the invasion of non-native species – especially in urban settings. For these reasons, restoration is an essential component of dune conservation in northern California” (Pickart and Sawyer 1998).

C. Location

Part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), Fort Funston spans approximately 230 acres along the coastal region of the northern San Francisco peninsula. It is located south of Ocean Beach and north of Pacifica, and is flanked to the east by Skyline Boulevard and to the west by the Pacific Ocean. The site is located within the northern region of Fort Funston. It is defined to the west by the edge of the coastal bluffs; to the east by the Coastal Trail; to the north by protective fencing

installed in the early 1990s for habitat protection; and to the south, by a protective fence along the “beach access” trail west of the Battery Davis “Y”.

D. Site History

Prior to the turn of the century, what is today known as Fort Funston was a just a portion of a once vast area of coastal dunes and bluffs stretching up the San Francisco peninsula. The area was first owned by the Spring Valley Water Company and then was purchased by the Army in 1900 with initial development starting in 1917. In the process of building an extensive system of coastal defense batteries during the 1930s, the army significantly altered most of the dune topography and eliminated the majority of the native dune community. During the Cold War period these coastal defense batteries were replaced or expanded. The invasive exotic Iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) as well as natives such as Sagewort (*Artemisia pycnocephala*), Coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), Lizard tail (*Eriophyllum staechadifolium*) and Lupines (likely *Lupinus arborius* and/or *L. chamissonis*) were planted to stabilize the open sand created by construction activities around the batteries. Due to the invasiveness of iceplant, most of Fort Funston is now dominated by this exotic weed.

By 1961, most of Fort Funston was transferred to the city Department of Parks and Recreation, and in the early seventies it was transferred to the National Park Service. (George Durgerian, pers. comm.) Today the larger Fort Funston area is being used recreationally by walkers, bird watchers, hang gliders, equestrians, and habitat restoration volunteers. (Farrell, 2000)

In 1991, the area north of the current restoration area was closed and fenced to protect the bank swallow colony that was nesting in the northern most bluffs. Over the next three years, the 23-acre site was restored by removing exotic invasive vegetation and outplanting of over 35,000 native plants that were propagated at the Fort Funston’s native plant nursery. This was accomplished with the help of thousands of volunteers – including the Habitat Restoration Team, International Work Camp volunteers, high school groups, corporate groups and students.

E. Site Analysis

1. General Characteristics:

This 12-acre site is dominated by ice plant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) with several large tongues of open blowing sand starting at the bluff edge migrating inland across the site in response to the dominant. The site has undulation dune topography and is highly variable for such a small area. The western limit of the site is a sharp dropping bluff that erodes at approximately one foot a year (Drew Kennedy, pers. comm.). There are several pre-existing native dune scrub areas within the footprint and one small restoration area that was planted last year (Assha Setty pers. comm.). There are four large Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) trees on the eastern margin along the main walking path, a sizable area of Australian tea tree clustered near the southern end

of the 12 acre site, and several low growing hedges of golden wattle (*Acacia longifolia*) on the north eastern corner of the site (Map #2). The open sand of the site is relatively mobile, with much of it having been blown in from the bluff in the last two years. Also, there are the remains of the old rifle clubs foundation on the eastern edge of the site about midway along the length. The site is enclosed on three sides by fencing.

2. Soils:

The soil of the site is primarily unconsolidated sand. The iron-oxide content of these dunes strongly suggests that their source is from the weathered Colma/Merced formation on top of which the dunes are perched. This layer of sand in these dunes developed at some point during the mid- to late Holocene. (Peter Baye pers. comm.) The current source of the actively moving dunes is reworked sand from the eroding bluff edge. The stability of the dunes varies considerably across the site from open and moving to stabilized with considerable vegetation cover. However most of the stabilizing vegetation is the invasive exotic iceplant. As iceplant removal and native plant restoration take place over the next three years the areas inland from the active bluff edge and those areas in the wind shadow (southeast) of existing dunes will likely remain more stabilized. Conversely, those areas exposed to the active coastal wind along the bluffs will likely be far more dynamic.

3. Geology/Hydrology:

The exposed coastal bluffs at Fort Funston provide the opportunity to view over two million years of geologic history. The layers of the Merced Formation are sediments that were laid down in the different climatic conditions that existed across geologic time including layers from beaches, dunes, and marshes. "At the south end of the beach near Mussel Rock, the basal strata of the Merced Formation are at least 2 million years old; they get progressively younger as the units are traced north towards Ocean Beach and the extreme northern tip of Fort Funston. An ash bed from a volcanic eruption in the Mount Lassen area is clearly evident in the tilted "layer cake" exposure." (Clifton et. al. 1999) The dunes perched atop the bluffs as mentioned above are iron stained suggesting they have an older source than most of the rest of dunes of western San Francisco, which have been deposited in the last 5-6 thousand years.

The Fort Funston bluff itself is the result of sea level rise over the last 10,000 years that has been steadily moving landward. The ongoing process of bluff retreat is the result of winter storm waves that undercut the bluff face at an average rate of one foot a year. The rich geologic history of the exposed Merced Formation provides a one of a kind educational opportunity within the park and the region. This variability within a dune landscape is a natural feature of dune systems. This variability within a dune landscape is a natural feature of dune systems. This variability within a dune landscape is a natural feature of dune systems.

4. Climate:

The coast of California has a Mediterranean climate with relatively cool, dry, summers and warm, wet, winters. Fort Funston is subject to summer fog, moderate maritime temperatures, salt spray along the bluff edge, and strong winds. The average annual precipitation at Fort Funston is approximately 22 inches, which falls from November through April.

5. Vegetation:

The pre-disturbance native dune community at Fort Funston was a small portion of the large historic San Francisco dune complex. The native dune flora of this 36 square kilometer system had many different plant community assemblages associated with differing qualities of sand, proximity to the water table and the ocean, time since last disturbance and micro-climates. Fort Funston with its bluff top dunes occupied a unique portion of that once diverse system. One quality that makes the dune system unique at Funston is that it lacks true foredunes or beach dunes. However the dunes still receive the full force of coastal winds. Unlike the dunes of the Sunset, which pre-development received a constant source of sand moving in from the beach, at Funston natural dune disturbance comes in the form of dune blow-outs either at the bluff edge or the reworking of previously stable dunes. Blowouts create patches of secondary vegetation succession, gaps in which local pioneer vegetation can establish. (Baye pers. comm.) The structure and the plant species composition of dune scrub are closely associated with how dynamic sand movement is in a particular area and the properties of the sand. This process is vital in maintaining a diverse native plant community by creating a mosaic of successional plant community assemblages. Most of the rare dune annuals require these disturbance processes to persist.

Properties of the sand such as water holding capacity, sand grain size, and consistency influence which native plants establish and the resulting plant community composition and diversity. This fact has influenced the recommended species list for restoration on the site. The species to be planted at the site do not include all of the native dune species currently at Fort Funston. There are a number of dune scrub species that are particular to the less mobile, higher organic content, older stained sands found inland of the current restoration site. These inland soils have higher water holding and nutrient holding capacities and therefore support a different set of species including species that overlap with coastal scrub found on non sand soils.

The native plant assemblage being restored to the twelve-acre closure site is transitional dune scrub. This is a mix of foredune species like sand verbena (*Abronia latifolia*) and dune tansy (*Tanacetum camphoratum*) which can handle moderate levels of sand accumulation, and dune scrub species that are associated with early to medium successional dune communities. (Table #1)

Currently the site is dominated almost entirely by a monoculture of iceplant. The California Exotic Pest Plant Council rates iceplant on its "A" list, which includes those species that are the Most Invasive and Damaging Wildland Pest Plants. The succulent

perennial was introduced from South Africa into the United States in the early 1900s for erosion control purposes. It can form nearly impenetrable mats that crowd out native plants. In many areas it has formed a virtual monoculture, reducing the floral diversity to almost zero. (Farrell, 2000) There are a few areas which have 10 to 20% cover with natives such as Coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), coastal buckwheat (*Eriogonum latifolium*), or seaside bluegrass (*Poa douglasii*). There are remnant individuals throughout the iceplant-dominated areas, and there is a 150 by 100-foot area that was revegetated last year. (See attached Map #2)

Species currently present at Fort Funston that are either globally or locally rare and have the potential habitat within the 12-acre closure area are: the San Francisco Bay spineflower (*Chorizanthe cuspidata* var. *cuspidata*), Dune gilia (*Gilia capitata* ssp. *chamissonis*), San Francisco Wall flower (*Erysimum franciscanum*), Locoweed (*Astragalus nuttalli* var. *virgatus*), and the San Francisco gumplant (*Grindelia hirsutula*).

One endangered and several globally rare plants that are no longer present in the dunes of Fort Funston, have potential habitat within the restoration area, and need to be reintroduced are: the San Francisco lessingia (*Lessingia germanorum*), round-headed Chinese houses (*Collinsia corymbosa*), San Francisco campion (*Silene verecunda* ssp. *verecunda*), and the curly-leaved monardella (*Monardella undulata*). Additionally, the following native dune species that have been extirpated from Fort Funston are proposed for reintroduction: Croton (*Croton californicus*), pink sand verbena (*Abronia umbellata*), and twisted evening-primrose (*Camissonia strigulosa*).

6. Fauna:

Fort Funston supports one of the last two remaining coastal cliff-dwelling colonies of the bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*) in California. Since 1900, there has been a 50% reduction in the bank swallow's range in California prompting the state of California to list the species as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act. Throughout the state its preferred habitat, of sheer sandy cliffs or banks, have been altered or eliminated by development and river channelization. Coastal cliff colonies which were once more numerous particularly in Southern California now can only be found at Fort Funston and one other colony at Año Nuevo. This migratory bird winters in central and South America and returns to Fort Funston between March and August. The Funston population feeds on flying insects primarily above Lake Merced but also above the vegetation between the colony and the lake. (George Durgerian, pers. comm.)

This colonial breeder nests in burrows dug into the sandstone bluffs perpendicular to the bluff face that can be 1-2.2 in. wide and up to 54 in. deep. (Zeiner, 1990) "The nesting site has moved periodically north and south along the sea cliffs. Storms during the winter of 1997 caused significant cliff retreat and slumping, including along the bluffs where the bank swallows had nested the previous spring. When the swallows returned in the spring of 1998, they moved to the cliff areas immediately south." (G. Durgerian, pers. comm.)

In a study of sand-dwelling arthropod assemblages at Fort Funston, Morgan and Dahlsten compared diversity between iceplant-dominated plots and areas where the native plant community had been restored. They found that "overall arthropod abundance and diversity are significantly reduced in iceplant dominated areas compared to nearby restored areas. If plant invasion and native plant restoration dramatically affect arthropod communities as our data indicate, they may also have wider reaching effects on the dune community as a whole. This research demonstrates the importance of native plant restoration for sand-dwelling arthropod communities" (Morgan and Dahlsten 1999).

The previously restored dunes at Fort Funston support several locally-rare native wildlife species including California quail (*Callipepla californica*), burrowing owls (*Athene cunicularia*) and brush rabbits (*Sylvilagus bachmani*), and a diversity of other native wildlife.

The California Quail that are only occasionally seen at Fort Funston represent one of only a few populations left within San Francisco.

California Quail feed primarily on seeds, green vegetation, arthropods, grains, and fruits. They forage on the ground and within low vegetation, and seldom venture more than 50-100 ft from cover to feed. In cooler weather, they can meet water needs from succulent plants, arthropods, and dew. In hot weather, they require a direct water source daily. "They gather near water in dry weather, and disperses when green vegetation and water are abundant." (Zeiner, 1990) Within the restoration site, quail will be encouraged by leaving the scattered low growing Monterey cypress trees and piling the woody debris from acacia and tea tree removal into brush piles. The restoration of native dune scrub and the associated grasses and forbs will provide both cover and food in the form of seeds, green vegetation and their divers associated

arthropod community. A constant artificial source of water somewhere in the Fort Funston's restored dunes such as a small pool may be considered to mitigate for the lack of habitat connectivity to Lake Merced. This would likely help establish a permanent year round population instead of just occasional seasonal use.

Burrowing owls have been seen burrowing in the restored area from 1993-1996, and hunting in the same area two years ago (Steve Prokop, pers. comm.). Burrowing owls are designated as both a federal and state species of concern. They eat mostly insects but also small mammals, reptiles, birds, and carrion. They use abandoned rodent or other animal burrows for roosting and nesting cover. They may dig their own burrows in soft soil. (Zeiner, 1990) Increasing the size of restored dune scrub should benefit the burrowing owls through increasing the presents of food species such as insects, small mammals, reptiles, and birds.

Brush rabbits are not known to occur in any other San Francisco location within GGNRA. They are herbivorous, grazing on a wide variety of grasses and forbs within, or very close to, dense brushy cover. They also browse, especially in fall and winter, on tender leaves, twigs, and buds. They prefer a cover of dense brush. "Brush rabbits occur in relatively small areas of shrub/herbaceous edge, and in early successional stages of many habitats." (Zeiner, 1990) Our restoration activities should encourage rabbits by providing cover through leaving low growing Monterey cypress trees and piling the woody debris into brush piles. The restoration of native dune scrub and the associated grasses and forbs will provide both cover and food for the rabbits.

7. Land Use:

Hikers, dog walkers and kids sliding down the sand slopes of Joey's hill previously used the site. During the restoration process, the site will be visited regularly by NPS staff and volunteers for restoration implementation and monitoring, including by the Fort Funston Green team volunteers, community and school groups. Also as has been seen with the past restoration areas, the site will increasingly be enjoyed by hikers and bird watchers as the plant community matures and supports more bird diversity.

F. Special Considerations

1. Bank swallow: As discussed above the bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*) has been listed as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act. To reduce the likelihood of disturbing all major restoration activities at the bluff edge will take place outside of the swallow's nesting season from March through early August.
2. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has released the Draft Recovery Plan for Coastal Plants of the Northern San Francisco Peninsula, which includes *Lessingia germanorum*. The document includes part of Fort Funston as part of the proposed 'Southern Recovery Unit' for lessingia and its habitat associates, including a number of other plants that are either rare or species of concern. The

implementation of this Restoration Action Plan proposes the reintroduction of lessingia to the Fort Funston dunes, and the establishment of habitat conditions suitable for its persistence on the site .

G. Objectives

1. Increase biological diversity by restoring native coastal dune scrub habitat.
2. Reduce invasive exotic species cover.
3. Restore natural dune processes.
4. Expand native coastal dune habitat at Fort Funston to enhance the diversity and abundance of locally rare wildlife populations, such as California quail.
5. Implement revegetation monitoring and continue photomonitoring the restoration site.
6. Continue to recruit groups of community stewards to help implement the restoration plan and to maintain the site free of non-native invasive plants.

II. PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

A. Implementation Plan

The specifics of the plan are detailed in attached Map #2, which shows the areas for exotic removal in each of the given years, and Map #1, which shows revegetation in each of the given years. Table #2 shows a month by month schedule of activities for each of the three years. If the lack of labor slows progress in year one or two those areas not finish will move forward to the following year.

1. Site Preparation - Invasive Exotic Plant Removal:

The current extent of ice plant (*Carpobrotus edulis*), acacia (*Acacia longifolia*), and tea tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) on the site has been mapped (Map #2). Removal of iceplant will be accomplished over the three years, starting year one on the inland or eastern side of the site, and working towards the bluff edge in year two and three). This will be accomplished through hand removal. In areas exposed to direct coastal winds and/or adjacent to actively moving sand closer to the bluff edge, species that can establish under these conditions will be planted amongst existing iceplant starting in year one. The iceplant will be removed in years two and three as the natives establish.

Iceplant debris should be piled to act as a barrier to wind movement across the site. Also, by removing the iceplant as close to the time of revegetation as possible it will

reduce the likelihood of wind erosion of the newly exposed areas. In year two the patches of acacias and tea tree (Map #2) will need to be removed and those areas revegetated. Along the main trail, a 30-foot swath of tea tree cover should be left to act as both a visual buffer, and as refuge for birds while the dune scrub grows in. This buffer vegetation should be removed at the end of the project. Brush removal can be accomplished through the use of either handsaws and/or chain saws, followed by painting of fresh cut stumps by an herbicide such as Round-Up, according to GGNRA IPM procedures. Brush from these species may be stacked in medium (3-5 ft.) piles on site to provide cover for wildlife. All plant removal activities will take place after August 15 and before March 15 so not to disturb nesting birds in the dunes or the nesting bank swallow colony on the bluff face.

2. Revegetation:

Revegetation will be implemented over the three years of the project. The more stabilized back dune areas closest to the main trail will be revegetated the first year, as well as three test areas in the more dynamic areas closer to the bluff (Map #1). The stable back dune areas will be planted on three foot centers, with the more dynamic frontal two-thirds of the site being cluster planted on four foot centers. To sustain natural sand dune processes across the site the areas that are currently open moving sand will not be planted. These areas will be allowed to revegetate through natural colonization from adjacent planted areas.

Table #1 details the specific native plant numbers to be grown by the Funston nursery for each of the three years. There are two species lists: transitional dune scrub, and an active dune mix for areas, which are more dynamic due to being closer to the bluff. The transitional dune scrub mix includes a small percentage of the species found in the active dune mix. Because occasionally tongues of sand move into the scrub areas of the site, it is important to plant species in the back dune areas that respond to sand accumulation. All plant propagules will be collected from Fort Funston or if the species is not currently present but historically recorded from the area it will be gathered from other native dune areas within San Francisco for reintroduction.

The important ecological role dune annuals play in supporting insect, small mammal and birds is clear from seven years of dune restoration experience in the Presidio. The presence of a diverse native dune annual cover in the Presidio also greatly reduced the invasion of the restoration sites by non-native invasive annuals. Historically there was approximately 35 species of native annuals in the dunes of San Francisco. At Fort Funston today there are 20 annual dune species remaining with 14 of those in relatively small numbers. Table #3 lists the species which can be seeded into the restoration sites this year and also the annual species which over the next two years can be collected and introduced to the restoration site in small founder populations as individual species seed volumes permit.

Sand fencing was successfully used to stabilize areas for revegetation in the previous restoration efforts at Fort Funston. In several test areas this first year iceplant will be

removed and natives planted without sand fencing installation to test for the need for this extra effort. If sand-fencing installation is necessary then NPS and the Fort Funston green team already has ample materials and experience installing the fencing. Also if the test areas show that there is the need then this should be used in years two and three revegetation along the windy bluff face. In order to maintain natural dune processes, sand fencing should not be used to stabilize areas that are already naturally unvegetated and mobile.

In the relatively level, mildly windy back dune area to be restored this year a suggested technique is to construct iceplant tubes. This would be a new technique to use the iceplant debris on site to reduce surface wind speeds and the likelihood of sand loss during plant establishment. This technique would involve first removing strips of ice plant the laying out six foot wide weed fabric perpendicular to the dominant wind direction out of the north west. Then piling iceplant on the downwind side of the fabric to about 2-3 ft. height, allowing the fabric to fold over the piles. The fabric would be necessary to prevent iceplant resprouting and facilitate its eventual removal after desiccation reduced its weight considerably, and the native dune vegetation has had a chance to establish.

3) Restoration Interpretation:

A wayside bulletin board detailing the project, its goals and the importance of the native dune community being restored, will be created, installed and maintained by the NPS Fort Funston Interpretation rangers. Also it would be ideal if an interpretation ranger were present at field restoration programs to answer the publics questions regarding the closure and the details of the restoration.

4.) Volunteer Recruiting and Management:

The majority of the labor to implement this project under the current budget will need to be volunteer. Because of this there will need to be a continued effort to recruit groups of community stewards to help implement the restoration plan and to maintain the site free of non-native invasive plants. The largest volunteer needs will be from August through February, in the field and March through September at the nursery. Refer to Table #2 for a month by month schedule of activities.

4) Monitoring:

Photo monitoring and exotic plant mapping are the two site evaluations for the 12-acre closure area that have previously taken place. A several year study of wildlife abundance and diversity designed to compare restored and exotic habitats with and without public access is in progress. Plots of this study lie within the restoration area. William Russell with USGS who oversees the study has been informed of the restoration and Fort Funston NPS staff and volunteers are aware of the plot locations.

Photomonitoring will continue and additional points will be needed to qualitatively monitor the individual study sites. (See attached Map #3) These new points will be added to the GGNRA's restoration database. Both existing and new points will need to be taken this fall. The GGNRA's method for this will allow points to be relocated and photos taken from year to year in order to make visual comparisons. The detail methods for photomonitoring are known by the Fort Funston staff and are detailed in Database.

In addition, revegetation survivorship will need to be monitored. The purpose of the revegetation monitoring will be to quantify the survivorship of outplanted species, to determine if the revegetation methods used (e.g. iceplant tubes, clustered plantings) have resulted in established native plants from all species planted. In San Francisco dune systems, the intensity of winds, and thus erosion and deposition of sand, and rainfall vary widely from year to year, and produce conditions difficult for outplant survivorship. Thus, the revegetation should be considered successful if within each planted area at least 40% of outplants from each species survive to reproductive maturity. Due to the high variability of topography, wind and sun exposure, and sand accumulation, the reason(s) for survival or mortality will need to be made subjectively through direct observation by the restoration implementers. The lack of site homogeneity makes setting up replicate comparable treatments and their controls questionable and would require far more effort than financially feasible.

Revegetation monitoring will be accomplished by recording the survivorship of outplanted species within random quadrats. A monitoring design shall be designed and implemented in collaboration with the USGS Biological Research Division.

If two years of monitoring show that one species mortality rate is particularly high (over 60%), the species appropriateness to the site will be evaluated. If further outplanting is appropriate, either a relevant number of that species will be outplanted the following year using an alternative propagation method and/or outplanting strategy, or the species appropriateness to the site will be evaluated. Conversely if one species dominates beyond its natural abundance in intact dune scrub, then it could be outplanted in smaller proportion in future years or other dune restoration projects.

B. Personnel Requirements

This project will be implemented by GGNRA staff and volunteers, with the majority of the work accomplished through the Fort Funston Green Team, a program of the park's Vegetation Stewardship Program. The Green Team currently participates in weekly volunteer programs at Fort Funston and has been instrumental in restoring more than 23 acres of degraded dune habitat. The Green Team will have the long-term responsibility of converting the iceplant-dominated areas to a mix of dune communities. All swallow monitoring efforts and wildlife issues are overseen by the Wildlife Biologist. It is strongly suggested that money be found for a project implementor to work with the green team during the three years of implementation.

Continue volunteer recruiting will be required to maintain and hopefully expand the Fort Funston Green Team so that stewarding activities such as site maintenance (invasive non-native species removal), monitoring, education, outplanting, and seed collection can be accomplished for this site as well as previously restored sites.

C. Schedule

The restoration project will begin this fall (2001) and continue for three years. Photo and revegetation monitoring will continue for an additional two years and be implemented by NPS and the Green team as part of the overall resource management of Fort Funston. For a month by month schedule of specific tasks refer to Table #2.

D. Maintenance Requirements

The maintenance requirements of the project will be the continuation of nonnative plant removal and site photomonitoring. These maintenance activities will need to continue intensively the first two years then be integrated into the become apart of the overall native habitat maintenance activities at Fort Funston.

E. Monitoring Program

The monitoring which will take place and the factors to be monitored are covered above in the implementation plan. The monitoring will continue for four years, and then further action if needed will be determined.

F. Budget

The restoration project is funded for three years through cluster base funds from the western regional office of the National Park Service. The plants for the project will be grown by the Fort Funston Nursery and the Fort Funston Green team will implement the project.

Contacts and References:

Marc Albert, GGNRA natural resources specialist
Peter Baye, Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Branch
Joe Cannon, Contractor
George Durgerian, Fort Funston GGNRA Interpretation
Sharon Farrell, Presidio Trust natural resources planner
Karen Gaffney, Circuit Rider Ecologist
Asha Setty, Fort Funston Native Plant Nursery Manager
Betty Young, Park Native Plant Nursery Senior Manager

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NPS Guidelines and Policy, Park Specific Plans & Documents:

Bank Swallow Project Statement, appendix to the Natural Resources Management Plan, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Feb. 16, 1999

Golden Gate National Recreation Area Act of October 27, 1972, Pub. L. 92-589, 86 Stat. 1299 ("GGNRA"). The Act, as amended, is now codified at 16 U.S.C. § 460bb et seq., established GGNRA:

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Golden Gate National Recreation Area Natural Resources Management Plan. 1999.
Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service.

National Park Service General Authorities Act. 1970

Natural Resources Management Guidelines (NPS-77). 1991. Department of the Interior,
National Park Service.

Restoration Action Plan, Fort Funston Bank Swallow Habitat, 1992. Golden Gate
National Recreation Area.

The Organic Act of 1916

DOG RELATED ISSUES AT FORT FUNSTON/GGNRA

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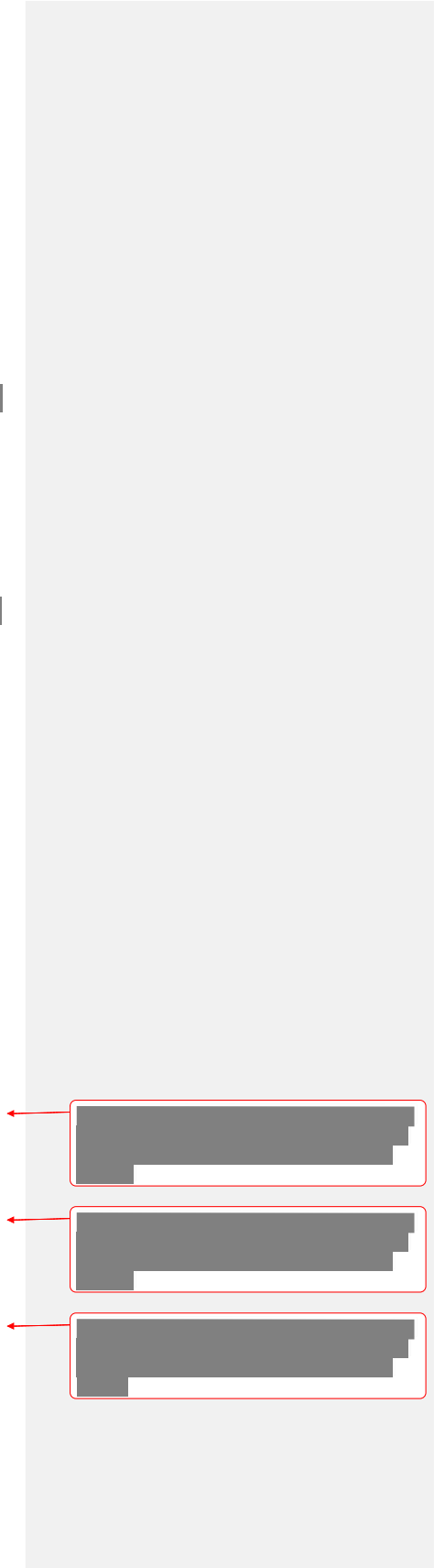
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[Redacted comment box 3]

From: [Shirwin Smith](#)
To: [Greg Gress](#)
Subject: Fw: Enforcement on an easement outside GOGA boundary
Date: 07/11/2011 03:23 PM

Greg - FYI -

----- Forwarded by Shirwin Smith/GOGA/NPS on 06/22/2011 01:53 PM -----

Shirwin Smith

03/17/2010 10:22 AM PDT

To: Marybeth McFarland/GOGA/NPS@NPS, Matthew Ehmann/GOGA/NPS@NPS, Kim Coast/GOGA/NPS@NPS, Constance Leonard/USPP/NPS@NPS
cc: Barbara.Goodyear@sol.doi.gov, Michael B Edwards/WASO/NPS@NPS, Katharine Arrow/GOGA/NPS@NPS, Chris_Powell@nps.gov
Subject: Enforcement on Alta Trail easement

(b) (5)

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(b)
(5)

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 by Shirwin Smith/GOGA/NPS on 03/17/2010 10:14 AM -----

Shirwin Smith

02/26/2010 09:32 AM PST

To: Greg.Lind@sol.doi.gov
cc: Suzanne.Carlson@sol.doi.gov
Subject: Final question - Enforcement on easement

(b) (5)



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 by Shirwin Smith/GOGA/NPS on 02/26/2010 09:27 AM -----

Shirwin Smith

To: Greg.Lind@sol.doi.gov

cc:

Subject: Enforcement on easement - further info

02/09/2010 04:11 PM PST

(b) (5)



Thx for your help with this -

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)

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(b)
(5)

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)

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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)

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(b) (5)



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Shirwin

Shirwin Smith
Management Assistant

GGNRA000447

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Ft. Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-561-4947 (o)
415-716-9999 (c)

**GGNRA
ANPR**

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*1/11/02 For the
Rich Wideman
(3 pages follow)*

JOHN B. KEATING
ATTORNEY AT LAW
POST OFFICE BOX 620622
2995 WOODSIDE ROAD, SUITE 350
WOODSIDE, CALIFORNIA 94062
FACSIMILE (650) 851-5912
(650) 851-5900

*01-4-4a
cc christ
mrgs
~~Alice~~
Shirley*

January 10, 2002

Mr. Brian O'Neill
Park Superintendent
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Bay and Franklin Streets
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123-0022

Re: ANPR Regarding New Pet Policy Enforcement Activities

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

Here is the note of thanks I intended to say as a preamble to any question I asked at your press conference this afternoon, but regrettably forgot in the rush of the moment.

I and many others appreciate the effort of Superintendent O'Neill and the National Park Service to recognize the importance of off leash dog walking recreation to the public, and to recognize the need for public input on whether to change the off leash dog walking policy.

We look forward to working cooperatively with the Superintendent and the National Park Service to achieve the fair and full public dialogue necessary to reach the best decision in balancing the various desires for use of our limited recreational space.

I do hope that the GGNRA will be able to meet the important goal of achieving public confidence in the process.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten Signature]
John B. Keating

1/4

01-4-4A

anymore, or was this a decision made here locally?

Brian O'Neill, Superintendent:

It wasn't, I mean, it's -- basically, when it became clear that we were out of compliance, when we were before the US Justice Department in the US District Court, the fact that we were out of violation, and had signs even memorializing that, because they said: "Voice Control Area" -- we were told to get in compliance.

Barbara Taylor, KCBS reporter:

By -- by whom?

how do you get that out of the opinion?

Brian O'Neill, Superintendent:

Well, in that case, that the federal courts said is that you cannot be having literature, brochures and signs that are in violation of a regulation that exists in the park.

I want to -- I understand, and I'm prepared to answer additional comments from those of you who want to pursue that, I would like to say first so we can, for the benefit of those, close the formal press conference, so I'll do that. But focus on any questions that relate to the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

John Keating:

To follow up on Ms. McKay's initial question about who makes the decision: I'm curious about the process by which you receive the staff summary and analysis that you will rely on and that the Director will rely on -- particularly in light of that prior court case you're talking about, where the court essentially made a variety of conclusions that the Park Service staff had studied the solicitation of one side, and had worked to keep the dog owners from having input, and had attempted to skew the record against the dog owners. Will you be making some effort to ensure the public confidence by keeping those people, who the public is suspicious of, from having -- playing the role of giving you the summaries. Will you get an outside person to do it, someone else in the Park Service?

Brian O'Neill, Superintendent:

No, this is going to be done by, I mean, we always get consultant help, but this analysis is a federal agency analysis and I expect and it will be done fairly and objectively, and I also respect the fact that some people may differ if indeed they don't like the result, but, you know, I think we ought to follow the process, make sure it has integrity, make sure that their evaluation is done fairly, and then, if there's a basis upon which action needs to be taken at that point, I have every confidence that those who have concern about it will be prepared to do that.

I'm going to say, for the staff that's here, if you could raise your hand: Chris [Powell] and Rich Weideman, Roger Scott in the back, Mary Scott over here, any of those can answer whatever detailed questions you have.

So, if there are no more questions on the ANPR, I appreciate your attendance and your involvement as the process proceeds from here. Thank you.

2/4

01-4-AA

96 F. Supp. 2d 1021, *1022; 2000 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9308, **2

Except in emergency situations, a closure, designation, use or activity restriction or condition, or the termination or relaxation of such, which is of a nature, magnitude and duration that will result in a significant alteration in the public use pattern of the park area, adversely affect the park's natural, aesthetic, scenic or cultural values, require a long-term or significant modification in the resource management objectives of the unit, or is of a highly controversial nature, shall be published as rule-making in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

36 C.F.R. 1.5(b). Plaintiffs contend that the National [**3] Park Service violated this regulation by closing a portion of Fort Funston without first publishing the proposed closure in the Federal Register and allowing comment. n1

n1 Publication in the Federal Register is a procedure that allows the public to scrutinize a proposed rule. Publication is followed by a period during which the public may file written comments on the proposed rule. The comments become part of the administrative record. The purpose is to gather and record the views of all interested parties. After the comment period ends, the agency is not obligated to follow any particular comment, but the agency's decision with regard to the proposed rule may not be arbitrary and capricious in light of the administrative record, of which the comments are a part.

[*1023]

2. Fort Funston

Fort Funston is a multi-use recreational area on the coastal bluffs in southwest San Francisco overseen by the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), a unit of the National Park Service. Fort Funston is one of several [**4] separate public lands in the Bay Area that are superintended by the GGNRA. Others are Fort Mason, Fort Baker, the Presidio, Lands End, Alcatraz Island, Muir Woods, and Fort Miley. All told, the GGNRA encompasses approximately 76,500 acres of land and water. Fort Funston itself encompasses approximately 222 acres. Fort Funston became a part of the GGNRA in 1974, when San Francisco transferred its ownership and control to the United States. In the GGNRA's statement of purpose, Congress acknowledged both maintaining recreational open space within an urban area and preserving that area from uses that would destroy its natural character:

In order to preserve for public use and enjoyment certain

areas of Marin and San Francisco Counties, California, possessing outstanding natural, historic, scenic, and recreational values, and in order to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary to urban environment and planning, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area . . . is hereby established. In the management of the recreation area, the Secretary of the Interior . . . shall utilize the resources in a manner which will provide for recreation and educational opportunities [**5] consistent with sound principles of land use planning and management. In carrying out the provisions of the subchapter, the Secretary shall preserve the recreation area, as far as possible, in its natural setting, and protect it from development and uses which would destroy the scenic beauty and natural character of the area.

16 U.S.C. 460bb. Although the National Park Service generally requires that pets be on-leash in national parks, the Park Service allows dog owners to walk their dogs off-leash at Fort Funston. n2

n2 Section (a)(2)(iii) of the GGNRA compendium amendment to 36 C.F.R. 1 provides as follows:

The following areas, described below and depicted on maps included as attachments 1-11, are designated as voice control areas where obedient pets, under supervision, may be allowed off leash.

Fort Funston and Fort Funston Beach: Beach area south of Sloat Boulevard to San Mateo County line. Pets must be leashed within the trail system of the Bank Swallow Habitat Area and pets are prohibited inside the Battery Davis Hillside Closure.

(A.R. USO:472, GGNRA, 36 C.F.R. 1, Compendium Amend., signed on July 8, 1996, by Brian O'Neill, Gen. Superintendent).

[**5]

3. Plaintiff Dog Walkers

Perhaps because they may run off-leash on voice command, dogs and their owners frequent Fort Funston, although they are not its only visitors. Ft. Funston Dog Walkers was formed in 1996 so that the members could get to know one another and organize regular park clean-ups. The group has approximately 600 members. The group meets once a month on a Saturday morning. Clean-up supplies are provided to members who attend. Annual dues are ten dollars. SFDOG was formed in 1976 as a consolidated voice for dog owners in the San

although the opinion was amended this statement that there is no doubt the fact that the 175 people adopted by the GGNRA in 1996 confined in 1996, even if not approved in the compendium

01-4-4A

96 F. Supp. 2d 1021, *1037; 2000 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 9308, **51

"What I would like to propose is that if the crew finishes earlier than the contract calls for then we pay you the balance in full -- the project is that political" (ibid. [**52]).

"We knew this was not going to be a popular thing" (A.R. US06113, Marianne Constantinou, "Dog Owners Snarl At Fences," S.F. Exam., Mar. 1, 2000 at A-1, A-8) (quoting Roger Scott). Roger Scott admitted in his deposition that he made this statement.

These excerpts show an intent on the part of the National Park Service to railroad through the closure, to maintain secrecy, [*1038] to unleash the fencing with lightening speed, and to establish a fait accompli.

Second, contrary to the government's argument the closure affected a significant and strategically located parcel. The ten-acre closure should be viewed in terms of the 220 acres of Fort Funston, not the larger GGNRA. Otherwise, a closure within a multi-site park could never be considered of a "highly controversial nature." The closure must be considered in conjunction with the previous closure of the same type; otherwise, piecemeal closures could never be challenged even though large in overall scope. This parcel is especially significant. The closure encompasses beach-front land with important beach access and large sand dunes on which people exercise and play with their dogs. Put differently, plaintiffs [**53] are able to articulate objectively plausible issues about the closure that explain why the closure is legitimately highly controversial. It is a project whose details might well be modified by public input even if it goes forward.

D. Substantial Alteration in Public Use Pattern

Two decisions have discussed the term "significant alteration in the public use pattern." In *Mausolf v. Babbitt*, 125 F.3d 661 (8th Cir. 1997), the snowmobilers sought to enjoin the National Park Service from enforcing restrictions on snowmobiling in Voyageurs National Park. The plaintiffs argued, inter alia, that the restriction should have been published in the Federal Register under Section 1.5(b) because it would result in "a significant alteration in the public use pattern." The Eighth Circuit rejected the argument. Snowmobiling in Voyageurs National Park was already generally prohibited absent special regulations permitting the activity. *Id.* at 669 n.10. The court reasoned that although the National Park Service had neglected to enforce the provision and had allowed snowmobiling to continue despite regulations to the contrary, the challenged closure order restricting [**54] snowmobiling did not amount to a "sig-

nificant alteration" in what was previously an unlawful public use of the park. *Ibid.*

In *Spiegel v. Babbitt*, 855 F. Supp. 402 (D. D.C. 1994), the court held that the National Park Service's decision to limit mooring hours in Georgetown Waterfront Park did not create a "significant alteration in the public use pattern." Without lengthy analysis, the court concluded that plaintiffs' arguments to the contrary were not sufficient to outweigh the deference a court normally grants to an agency decision. In *Spiegel*, the National Park Service had written a letter to the plaintiff explaining that its limited docking restriction did not constitute a significant alteration of public use warranting publication in the Federal Register. *Id.* at 404. The District of Columbia Circuit affirmed this portion of the district court's order. *Spiegel v. Babbitt*, 312 U.S. App. D.C. 461, 56 F.3d 1531, No. 94-5184, 1995 WL 364555, *1 (D.C. Cir. May 21, 1995).

Here, however, walking dogs off-leash in Fort Funston was expressly permitted (A.R. US01472, GGNRA. 36 C.F.R. 1, Compendium Amend., signed on [**55] July 8, 1996, by Brian O'Neill, Gen. Superintendent). Thus, Fort Funston had the reverse scheme from *Mausolf*, which required special regulations to allow snowmobiling. The National Park Service's closure of the coastal bluff area was not simply enforcement of existing law. Likewise, this case differs significantly from *Spiegel*. There the court's decision rested solely on deference to the National Park Service, which had memorialized its decision that its restriction did not significantly alter the public use pattern in a letter. Here, as discussed above, deference to the National Park Service is not appropriate.

Comments to the "significant alteration" language in Section 1.5(b) provide:

A permanent closure of a limited area within a park does not require the use of notice and comment procedures, unless it also has the required effect of significantly altering or disrupting use by a [*1039] substantial number of park visitors. In this connection, it should be noted that a particular closure or restriction in a small park unit may require rulemaking, even though it would not if applied in a park with a different pattern.

47 Fed. Reg. 11599-11600.

The record [**56] shows that the closure restricts the last large bluff area of Fort Funston. The closure eliminates the central one of only three access points to the beach. This elimination also poses a potential safety hazard for people on the beach during high tide. Hikers trying to go between the northern and southern access

4/4



Kathleen Moore
42 Tahoe Cir.
Novato, CA 94947

02-01-1B

RECEIVED

JAN 14 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 11, 2002

Dear Person,

I read about the dog-leashing question in the GGNRA in the "Marin Independent Journal" today.

I am on the side of keeping the birds safe. Once a week I volunteer at WildCare, where we care for rescued wild animals (in San Rafael). Our bird population is declining. I am worried about further stress on birds, such as unleashed dogs.

Thank you for considering my view. Truly,
yours truly,
Kathleen

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03-02-18

January 11, 2002

JAN 14 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Mr. Brian O'Neill, Park Superintendent
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123-0022

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

DOGS RUNNING LOOSE DO NOT BELONG IN OUR PUBLIC PARKS!!!!

IF DOGS ARE ALLOWED TO RUN LOOSE AND UNCONTROLLED IN OUR PARKS:

1. What assurances and/or guarantees can **ANYONE** provide that these dogs will not bite or attack others enjoying these parks - and especially those families with small children?
2. If a dog does attack and injure someone in our public parks, will the GGNRA be subject to liability for any injuries sustained?
3. Should the GGNRA be exposing the public to potential injuries sustained by uncontrolled dogs running loose in public areas? Several dogs running loose develop an instinctive "pack mentality", leading to attacks on smaller animals and people, especially small children.
4. If dogs are allowed to run loose in our parks, who is going to clean up after these dogs? Dog owners and dog walkers have heretofore demonstrated total lack of responsibility for cleaning up after their animals, leaving their dogs' excrement all over hiking trails, playgrounds and grassy meadows. If they are not cleaning up after their pets even when currently required to do so while wearing a leash, what can we expect without a leash requirement?
5. **THE HUMANE SOCIETY SHOULD HAVE NO PART IN THIS DECISION!** The Society is **NEVER** impartial in any decision regarding animals. Their sole reason for even existing is for the protection of animals, and they will **ALWAYS** decide on behalf of animals. Their mission has no provision whatsoever for protection of humans, even children, from vicious animals. They have not properly supervised vicious and dangerous dogs who are repeat offenders. The Society cannot be depended on to help protect the rest of us from such animals. There is no "animal control".
6. Even while leashed, certain breeds of dogs still cannot always be controlled by their owners or "walkers". This being the case, certain breeds (pitbulls, rottweilers, Canary Island mastiffs, etc.) should be required to wear a muzzle in any public area. The muzzle will protect the rest of the public from unpredictable behavior of animals, and will not harm the animal in any way. Their territorial instincts cause them to regard any persons unknown to them as threats - then they go on the attack.

7. Dog owners and Human Society officials and employees are trained and experienced in knowing how to handle all kinds of dogs, so may not get bitten or attacked by large dogs. Is it incumbent on the public at large to educate themselves and train themselves how to behave and protect themselves when facing an attack? Despite all the rhetoric about remaining calm and not establishing eye contact, etc., most people will respond with **TOTAL AND UTTER TERROR** when faced with an attacking dog. With the adrenaline rush ("flee or fight"), is that the "fear" that dogs are supposed to smell? Who among us would not be afraid?

8. Before making the decision about to leash or not to leash, please visit one example of dog owner use on the hiking trails around Mount Burdell in Novato, and specifically the trail head at the north end of Simmons Lane. This particular fire road is used by neighborhood dog owners as a dog latrine and has become disgusting with piles of excrement and flies and we must hold our nose and walk this public trail like a mine field, when this trail and open space were meant to be provided for the enjoyment of all. Dog owners tear down any signs requiring them to clean up after their dogs. Dog owners walk their dogs to this trail head mornings and evenings, then let them run loose to "do their duty" right on the trail for the rest of the public to smell, step in and otherwise enjoy. With this demonstration of lack of common courtesy and sense of responsibility, why should they be granted additional privileges to the detriment of the rest of society? With the lack of voluntary responsibility, fines must be levied to enforce common courtesy.


9. As American citizens, we are fortunate to be able to enjoy more freedoms than are citizens of any other country in the world. However, while exercising these rights and freedoms, no one can be allowed to infringe on the rights of others to enjoy these same freedoms. If the behaviors of one small segment of our society infringe on the rights of others to use and enjoy our beautiful public areas, abuse exists and must be curbed and regulated.

10. Please allow us the freedom to enjoy our lovely parks, forests, hiking trails and woodland areas free of fear and free of the filth left in these areas by dog owners and their pets.

Please do not cave in to whomever is most vocal on this issue. Dog owners are very passionate about their pets (one wonders if they value animals more than people). Are we becoming a society that values animals more than people?

PLEASE CONTINUE TO REQUIRE LEASHES & ENFORCE LEASH LAWS IN OUR PARKS!

Sincerely,


J.M. Barbarita
5 Adobe Ct.
Novato, CA 94945
(415) 897-3948

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JAN 14 2002

04-01-1B

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

SUSANNE M. KARCH

295 Los Angeles Boulevard
San Anselmo, CA 94960
415.455.8777

January 14, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

VIA FACSIMILE 415.561.4355

Regarding: Off-Leash Prohibition mentioned in Marin IJ on 1/11/02

As a relatively new dog owner (I adopted my 'friend' one year ago), I am greatly dismayed at the possibility that soon there won't be any places left for us to run and play and enjoy the great outdoors of the bay area.

Within the last year I have been on both sides of the fence on this issue. As a non-dog owner I hated stepping in the doggie-doo that so many owners leave behind.

As a new, first-time dog owner, I *always* carry extra plastic bags to pick up after my dog. In addition, the first thing I did after adoption was to attend obedience class at the Humane Society of Marin. I never leave dog poop for others to step in or clean up and my dog is always under voice control, while I carry a leash with me as well.

The most surprising thing I have realized is that, under the heading of bad dog behavior, there are many dogs (including mine, from time to time) who behave aggressively towards other dogs when one or both of them are *on leashes*. It has been the extremely rare case when I have seen dogs be aggressive while Off-Leash. I have confirmed this with dog trainers and surely you can check that for yourself.

My recommendation? Rather than penalize *all dogs and all owners*, which would require rangers patrolling the areas mentioned in the IJ article, why not have fewer rangers and have them cite only owners who don't pick up after their dogs and/or who let their dogs run into bird habitat areas that have been marked 'off limits'.

Seems to me that a few Bad Owners are causing trouble for all of the rest of us who take dog-ownership seriously. Those of us in the latter category want to be respectful of the environment for birds, other dogs and certainly for people. Why can't we all play together in this beautiful area we call home?

Susanne M. Karch

Susanne M. Karch ε "Bella"

RECEIVED
JAN 14 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

05-01-1B

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention ANPT
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

250 Sequoia Drive
San Anselmo, CA 94960-2301
Jan. 11, 2002

Dear Golden Gate National Recreation Area Board:

I would like to express my opinion on the matter of allowing dogs to run off leash in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I am very much in favor of permitting the dogs to run off leash and permit the owners to have them under "voice control." Please vote in favor of letting the dogs off leash. They need the area to run and it provides exercise for their owners as well.

Sincerely,

Linda Hoch

Linda Hoch

RECEIVED

06-01-1B

1/11/02
93 Gazania Ct
Novato, CA 94945
(415)-897-6868
jimcogan@earthlink.net

JAN 14 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

My wife and I are writing at this time to protest i the strongest possible terms your plan to no longer allow off leash dogs in the GGNRA.

We have no children, our dog is our child, and, frankly, he does far less ecological harm to these areas (and the rest of the planet through his reduced resource consumption) than any adult!

In addition, contrary to the statements of several Advisory Committee members, it is not "illegal" to waik dogs off lease in National Parks.

The extensive public hearings should have long ago created a separate rule for the GGNRA, an oversight which should have been corrected long ago. In fact, NPS promised San Francisco that this would be allowed when the land was given to the GGNRA.

In addition, should pets be banned off leash in these areas, the effect on the few remaining off leash areas would be simply overwhelming.

In short, it's time NOT to rescind the 1979 Pet Policy, but to incorporate it into the special regulations for the GGNRA, which should have been done at that time more than 20 years ago.

Thank you for taking into consideration our views on this matter on which we, and so many of our like-minded pet owners, feel so strongly.

Sincerely,


James and Irene Cogan

PS. As an environmental studies major in college, I DO suport fencing off ecologically sensitive areas, and seeply fining dog owners who allow their pets in these areas.

07-01-

JOHN B. KEATING
ATTORNEY AT LAW
POST OFFICE BOX 620622
2995 WOODSIDE ROAD, SUITE 350
WOODSIDE, CALIFORNIA 94062
FACSIMILE (650) 851-5912
(650) 851-5900

B. O'Neill
Cy: M. Scott
R. Weidman
C. Powell
A. Naar
S. Smith

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JAN 14 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 10, 2002

Mr. Brian O'Neill
Park Superintendent
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Bay and Franklin Streets
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123-0022

Re: ANPR Regarding New Pet Policy Enforcement Activities

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

Here is the note of thanks I intended to say as a preamble to any question I asked at your press conference this afternoon, but regrettably forgot in the rush of the moment.

I and many others appreciate the effort of Superintendent O'Neill and the National Park Service to recognize the importance of off leash dog walking recreation to the public, and to recognize the need for public input on whether to change the off leash dog walking policy.

We look forward to working cooperatively with the Superintendent and the National Park Service to achieve the fair and full public dialogue necessary to reach the best decision in balancing the various desires for use of our limited recreational space.

I do hope that the GGNRA will be able to meet the important goal of achieving public confidence in the process.

Sincerely,

John B. Keating
John B. Keating

08-01-1C

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JAN 14 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Bill Steiner
626 Linden Avenue
Los Altos, CA 94022

January 11, 2002


GGNRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RE: Support for Off Leash Dog Walking

Dear Sirs,

My dog and I have enjoyed off leash activities at Fort Funston for many years. There a few areas available for off leash activity for dogs. None of the off leash areas are as interesting for dogs as Fort Funston. Substituting a fenced off area the size of a football field is not an acceptable alternative. I urge a change in policy to allow off leash dog walking in the GGNRA.

Sincerely,


Bill Steiner

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JAN 14 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

09-01-1C

Jan. 11, 2002

Golden Gate Nat. Rec. Area
Attention ANPR
Fort Mason Bldg 201
SF CA 94123

Dogs should not be allowed to run unleashed on federal park lands (Ocean Beach & other parts of GG NRA)

Dogs are predatory - they hunt & kill native wildlife, they bite and injure other dogs and humans and should be on a leash.

If GG NRA allows unleashed dogs it will set a precedent for other recreational areas

No unleashed dogs
please
W King

10-01-1C

RECEIVED

January 11, 2002

JAN 14 2002

Dear ANPR,

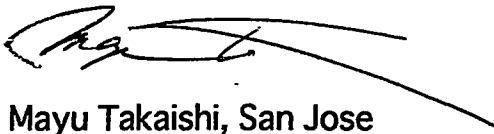
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I think it is a bad idea to allow dogs to run unleashed at GGNRA. It will set a dangerous precedent and also encourage more owners to let their dogs run unleashed at beach parks where the bans are still in effect. Instead, I think they should establish the designated area where dogs are allowed to go unleashed.

I often use beach parks in Half Moon Bay. Despite of the ban, I realized lots of owners let the dogs run unleashed. These dogs are huge and when they hit me, they can knock me down. The huge dogs run into me hard twice last year, and the owners who were throwing the pieces of wood did not say nor do anything about the incidents, either to me nor to the dogs. I felt that the owners did not value the safety of human beings. Once last year, two huge dogs, which were chasing each other, almost knocked me down. When I asked the owners to leash the dogs, they refused to do so, saying, "it won't happen again." How can they know it won't happen again? I felt they did not care about the safety of others nor the rules clearly stated at the gates. There are enough irresponsible owners who are consciously breaking the rules already out there. If the rules are relaxed at GGNRA, I can foresee that some dog owners would start to think that dogs have right to knock down people. That would increase the danger at the beach parks. Thus, I am against changing the rules. However, I can understand that dogs need to run freely. So instead of relaxing the rules, I suggest that the park should assign some areas open to dogs. They should make some areas Dogs Paradise. Then, I can avoid being knocked down by enthusiastic dogs, by not going to Dogs Paradise, while dogs and owners can have fun and run they want. That way, both dogs and human beings are happy.

I strongly disagree with the relaxing of the rules. Instead, I suggest that designated doggie beaches should be established for dogs.

Thank you,



Mayu Takaishi, San Jose

RECEIVED

11-01-13

[Click here and type return address]

JAN 14 2002

January 11, 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason Building 102
San Francisco, Ca 94123

Dear Sir or Madam:

I read an article in the Marin IJ paper, today January 11, 2002 regarding the leash law and dogs on the beach. I want to say that all dogs should be on their leash at all times and would hope that you would put people safety first. Dogs can get very aggressive when left unattended.

Keep the dogs on a leash!

Sincerely,



Lynn Marcotte
Tiburon, CA 94920

12-01-1B

P.O. Box 955
Inverness, California 94937
January 14, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 15 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate NRA:

I would like to express my support for requiring dogs be kept on a leash in public lands. As a responsible dog owner, I keep my dog on a leash so that she will not scare children or startle horses or runners. I have had frightening experiences when my child was in stroller with unleashed dogs running directly up to his face. No physical harm has occurred to us and our pet is certainly a beloved family member.

I support leashing pets on public lands primarily as a human safety issue but I also am concerned about wildlife. Our pets go home to bowls of food, veterinarians, lot's of human care. A wild animal frightened out of it's territory may face starvation, birds flushed during nesting seasons may abandon the next generation of eggs. Keeping pets on a leash reduces the possibility of painful interactions between domestic and wild animals.

Leashing pets is a reasonable way to protect people and wildlife!

Sincerely,



Loretta Farley

13-01-1c

RECEIVED

JAN 15 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

1691 Yale Drive
Mountain View, CA 94040
January 14, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Attention: ANPR

Dear National Park Committee:

We **object to dogs being unleashed in the National Parks**, including the beaches and other areas of **Golden Gate National Recreation Area**. Please **do not change the regulations** requiring dogs to be on leash!!!

The amount of ocean and Bay front that would be open to unleashed dogs is sobering considering the fragility of wild life. Dogs off leash are a detriment to wildlife and also to humans who choose to enjoy the open spaces set aside for those purposes by the National Park.

Last year, before the leash law, we were picnicking at Crissy Field when a loose dog grabbed a sandwich out of the hands of our guest. **It was a frightening experience.** The owner was nowhere in control. Now Crissy Field has been fully reclaimed as a marsh and wildlife area, it makes no sense to allow dogs to roam through nests and frighten birds.

As hikers we have also seen an increasing trend of loose dogs on trails. Recently two dogs tangled while we were hiking, while their owners were out of sight. We humans are expected to stay on the trail while dogs roam freely. The owners explain that their dogs **like** to run free, as if that legitimizes it. If the ban on unleashed dogs is lifted and extends to other National Parks, much more wildlife and many more hikers will be adversely affected.

The dog lovers are a vociferous group intent on black-mailing you if you don't agree with them. **Please hold the line on keeping dogs on leash in the Parks.**

Respectfully yours,

Janet M. Hayter
Janet M. Hayter

R. G. Hayter
Roy G. Hayter

14-02-1B

Dec 12, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 15 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Sirs:

Please retain the law
"Dogs must be on a leash"
for the following reasons:

- 1) People first, dogs second!
When dogs run free they
take over the beach from
people by intimidating
small children and
leaving dog poop on the
beach. "Voire commandé"
is always after a dog has
jumped on a person or
approached a child. Second,
dog owners do not pick
up the poop of their dogs
"off leash". Piles of dog
poop make the beach
unhealthy for people and
children. Even if the dog
poop is eventually taken
by the tide, it is unhealthy
for the environment.

1/2

The "dogs on leash" law

GGMRA000467

14-02-1B

gives Rangers a tool
to control the dogs, and
dog owners. Fines for
breaking the leash law
need to be at least
\$250.00 to be a deterrent.
Enforcement of the law
should reside in the judgement
of the Ranger. The dog leash
law gives Rangers a tool
to control crowds of people,
he does not necessarily
have to use that "tool"
but it should be at his
discretion.

Keep the "dogs on leash"
law!

Rod Noda
4 Cheyenne Way
Corte Madera, CA
94925

2/2

15-01-1B

Subj: Dogs
 Date: 01/13/2002 9:53:54 PM Pacific Standard Time
 From: ODavainis@aol.com
 To: mprado@marinij.com

RECEIVED

JAN 15 2002

Dear Mr. Prado,

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

It is certainly unfortunate that so many of us, and our dogs, may be made to suffer for the irresponsible actions of one couple, namely the people who could not restrain their animal from attacking Diane Whipple.

When I have been out with my dogs, either on foot at Muir Beach or on horseback elsewhere, we have encountered many different dogs, none of them ever a threat. The large majority of dogs are very definitely not. They meet, they socialize, they move on obediently with their owners. Their playful antics more often provide amusement rather than resentment. People with such animals should not be penalized for the actions of a few who cannot or will not control their dogs with vicious tendencies. If one of the human race murders, the rest of us are not locked up!

I realize something has to be done and that you cannot rely on irresponsible people suddenly to acquire a sense of civic awareness simply because they are asked to. But you can impose exceedingly severe penalties on any people who are guilty of allowing an aggressive dog to run wild and let it categorically be known that this will be the case.

The proposed law is unjust. I hope the panel that is going to make the final decision will reach a compromise allowing the areas open to dogs off leash at the moment to remain open to them. Dog parks are NOT the answer. People want to enjoy their surroundings as well as the companionship of their animals.

Yours truly,
 Sheila M. Davainis
 138 Edison Avenue
 Corte Madera, Ca. 94925

✓ Copy: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
 attention: ANPR, Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
 San Francisco, CA 94123

16-01-1A

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JAN 15 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Ayres
3943 26th St
San Francisco
CA 94131GGNRA
Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason

Bldg 201
San Francisco CA 94123
F: 415-561-4355

Dear Sirs,

I strongly support keeping dogs leashed in parks & especially in National Parks. There is so little open space in which birds can nest and seals can be safe in the water's edge. Please maintain current restrictions on dogs so that they (& their owners) do not trample the fragile dune & beach nesting areas.

Thank you,
Caroline Ayres

17-01-1B

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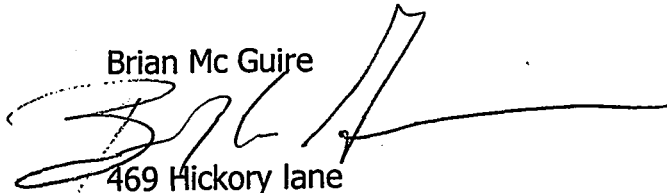
Monday, January 14, 2002

JAN 16 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

We urge you to enforce all laws that require dogs to be leashed. Roaming dogs have chased and frightened children at Rodeo Beach and surrounding areas. **Thank you**

Brian Mc Guire



469 Hickory lane
San Rafael CA.

18-01-1B
RECEIVED

JAN 16 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Blackford / Yearsley

917 Centro Way, Mill Valley, CA 94941

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR,
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

January 14, 2002

Dear Sirs/Madams;

As long time Marin residents and dog owners, we would like to express our support for rules and regulations that would allow areas within the GGNRA in Marin for unleashed dogs under voice control.

This would include at least one of the two beaches (Cronkite and/or Muir).

We respect that other users might object to dogs running free.

Other suggestions to alleviate their concerns might be:

Odd/even days for unleashed dogs in designated areas.
Permits for demonstrated, obedient, dogs (perhaps a fee-based certification program run under the auspices of the SPCA).

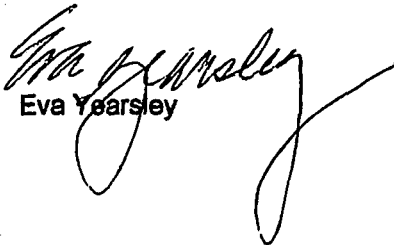
Banning of offensive dogs (three strikes your dog's out).

We would also like increased access to hiking trails with dogs on leash.

Thank you,



Chas Blackford



Eva Yearsley

19-03-1C

RECEIVED Jan. 13, '02

to GGNRA, JAN 16 2011

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I am writing concerning pet management in the GGNRA. I believe that humans must take a stewardship role towards nature that restores some of the extensive damage we have inflicted on the natural world and continue to inflict on it. We have created the problem of vanishing wildlife, we need

to create ways to stop ~~the~~ this problem. One way to do this is to keep pets that can harm wildlife away from wildlife habitats if those pets can not respect the needs of wildlife the way humans are trying to. In other words, if dogs off leashes chase birds and disturb their nesting or migration then dogs need to stay on leashes. If dogs are allowed to relieve themselves and this causes pollution in natural areas

and wildlife are harmed, dogs should not go into these areas. These problems, of course, are intensified when a large human/pet population uses a natural area and rules to control things become necessary. We and our domestic animals will not be harmed if these controls

Working for children for over 50 years, UNICEF promotes the rights of all children to good health, basic education and protection from discrimination and helps ensure that these rights are upheld in times of emergency.

Œuvrant en faveur des enfants depuis plus de 50 ans, l'UNICEF favorise les droits de tous les enfants à une bonne santé, à une éducation de base et à la protection contre la discrimination et s'efforce de garantir le respect de ces droits dans des situations d'urgence.

El UNICEF, que trabaja desde hace 50 años en favor de la infancia, fomenta los derechos de todos los niños a una buena salud, a la educación básica y a la protección contra la discriminación, y contribuye a que todos estos derechos se respeten en tiempos de emergencia.

Matt Gill-Brown * United Kingdom * Royaume-Uni * Reino Unido * Courtesy of Summer Lane Pictures Limited, Birmingham.

For the well-being of the world's children * Pour le bien-être des enfants du monde * Por el bienestar de los niños del mundo * На благо всех детей мира * 造福世界儿童 * لخير ورفاهة أطفال العالم



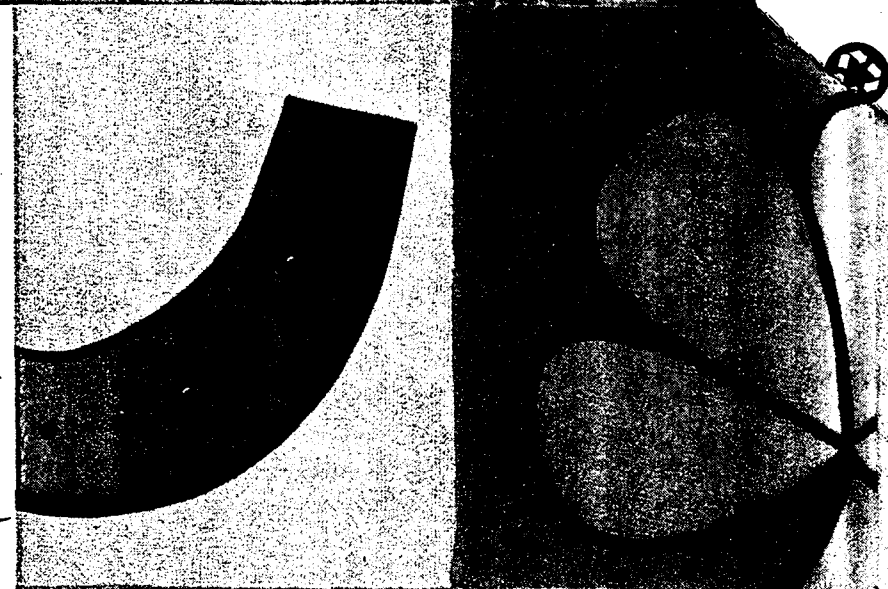
United Nations Children's Fund
Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance

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2/3
are no controls. It is our responsibility as stewards of nature to

are in place
if animals will have
be



protect nature.
thank you,
Nancy E. Edridge

RECEIVED

20-01-1B

JAN 16 2002

1-14-02

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Please no dogs off leash in any
GGNRA. Unfortunately we have dog
owners who are not consistent & have
not trained their animals. Many animals
are not in control by their owners & this
is not acceptable.

Claudia Greenblatt
2 Gregory Dr.
Fountain, Ca 94930

21-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 16 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 14, 2002

GGNRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Subject: Off-Leash Recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area
60 Day Public Comment Period

A leash limits a dog's natural movement and can even cause some dogs to become territorial, protecting the area to which the leash confines them. Off-leash recreation space encourages the development of well- socialized dog populations as well as owners who are responsible. Walking dogs on a leash is not sufficient exercise . It is important for a dog to be provided with natural outlets –to be able to run and exercise and chase things and do as a dog was bred to do.

I have been taking my dogs to "Crissy Field Beach" for 18 years, twice a day, and I do not see any problems at all when dogs are off-leash! In fact, there's a positive social interaction with dogs and dog-walkers as well.

I ask that Crissy Field beach should be kept as an "Off-Leash" recreation area .


Mary Ann Torre

JAN 16 2002

22-02-1B

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Dear Park Service,

I am a native to this area and have always loved going to Rodeo beach, Stinson and all the other beaches.

Unfortunately, I have been attacked by 2 dogs. Luckily one only ripped the entire side of my slacks and didn't bite my leg. The other dog only ruined one shoe. I feel that there are too many dogs running in packs and they are not trained to obey a voice command. Many of the owners are rude and allow their dogs to jump on you and also defecate on the sand.

I won't allow our grandchildren to have the pleasure of wading without tennis shoes or dig in the sand. It is full of dog waste.

Recently, my granddaughter was afraid to go down to the water because of a ploverman. I talked to the owner and she said she had her rights and we could go elsewhere. She said she did not want to discuss the matter. ~~After~~ going we went to the other end of the beach. A half hour later she appeared with her dog which came up to us, walked on our blanket and terrified our granddaughter. She gave us a dirty look, walked away and we had to leave our things. I reported her to a ranger who said it was difficult to talk to many of the dog owners.

At Sausalito beach there was a sign that apparently is never read by dog owners. It

JGNB000927

22-02-1B

one section is not for dogs. They are there with their owners.

Going to the beach isn't as fun as it used to be. It seems that the dogs have all the rights. We used to have a dog that we always leashed. I don't understand what the problem is. If the dogs were leashed and if the owners used the plastic bags, I know my family would once again find the beach a peaceful and beautiful place to relax. Now I find many times I come home frustrated, fearful and angry.

Barbara Levenson

326 Mt. View Ave.
San Rafael, Ca. 94901

2/2

23-01-1B

67 Orchard Way
Novato CA 94947
15 January 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason - Building 201
San Francisco CA 94123

RECEIVED
JAN 16 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

RE: Dogs on GGNRA property

Dear People:

I am a dog owner. I put my small dog on a leash every time he goes out of the house or his "play yard" which is a fenced area inside our fenced yard.

Our neighbors have 2 large dogs – one is very aggressive. The neighbors believe they have "voice control" over their dogs. They do NOT. When a dog does not want to respond, it won't. How many times have you (or someone you know) heard a voice command or suggestion and ignored it? People AND dogs ignore commands when it interferes with what they would rather do.

I take my dog out in our front yard ON A LEASH and when the neighbors let their dogs out loose the aggressive one comes charging over barking, snarling and with hackles raised and WILL NOT heed commands made by his owner. I quickly pick up my small dog and stand stock still until the dog leaves or is dragged away by the owner. I fear one day this tactic will not work and I have curtailed walking my dog in my own front yard, let alone along the street.

I AM FOR ENFORCING A LEASH LAW on GGNRA properties. There are leashes that can be reeled out to a very long length and if the owners want their dogs to have more freedom than on a standard leash, they could use one of these.

I would love to walk along the beach, with or without my dog, but am not comfortable doing so when there are dogs running loose. These dogs could also knock down children and adults while their owners think they are "playing".

This doesn't even cover the 'dog poop' that can be left when the dog is far enough from the owner that they do not clean up the mess.

Thank you,


Peggy Bohler

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24-01-1B

JAN 16 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

1/14/02

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
ANPR
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco CA 94123

RE: Please enforce dog leash laws on beaches and trails

Count me in the group hoping for enforcement of existing leash laws on all public property.

Just last week my husband and I were confronted with 4 threatening off-leash dogs on Drakes View Trail in Pt. Reyes. Dogs are prohibited on this trail, yet there they were, off-leash as well. We had to use pepper spray to make the dogs turn back and the owner had difficulty putting them on leash.

Dogs are always present at Stinson Beach, despite regulations, leaving piles of crap everywhere for the unsuspecting walker, chasing birds, and running through picnics.

Rules don't work if they're not enforced, so please don't bother to make any if there is no intent to cite offenders, and continue to cite repeat offenders with graduated fines.

I have seen very few dog owners who could truly control their animals by voice command, and I don't see that as a solution.

Please don't let the howling of the dog owners drown out the quiet voices of people like me who just want to be able to hike our beautiful park land without being molested by the pets of irresponsible owners.

Thanks.

Marian Huber

Marian Huber
Route 1, Box 244
San Rafael, Ca 94901

1/17/02

RECEIVED

25-01-13

JAN 17 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

RE: ANPR PET MANAGEMENT IN 66NRA

PLEASE ENFORCE THE SYSTEM WIDE NPS
PROHIBITION OF PETS OFF LEASH IN THE 66NRA

DOGS OFF LEASH NEGATIVELY IMPACT VISITORS
AND WILDLIFE/VEGETATION

OWNERS OF DOGS OFF LEASH IN THE 66NRA
SHOULD BE ISSUED CITATIONS. STRICT
ENFORCEMENT WITH SUBSTANTIAL FINES IS
MANDATORY FOR THE PROHIBITION TO BE
EFFECTIVE.

THANK YOU

PLEASE WITHHOLD MY NAME AND
ADDRESS FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.

(b) (6)

26-01-13

RECEIVED
GGNRA

2002 JAN 17 AM 7:29

CONTRACTING

January 15, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: ANPR, Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123


RECEIVED
JAN 17 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

Please be done with this absurd notion of closing down GGNRA space to unleashed pets! There are too many RESPONSIBLE dog owners out there, and our Pet Friendly space is already quite restricted!

Let's enforce the rules more strictly - AND KEEP THIS WONDERFUL SPACE OPEN FOR PETS!

Sincerely,


Mark Winter

From the Desk of
Mark Winter
78 Alta Vista Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

GGNRA000482

27-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 18 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

**Cathy Bones**

ANPR; Fort Mason

Bldg. 201

S.F. CA 94123

Fax 415 561-4355

To Whom It May Concern -

I have lived here in the Bay Area since 1955, either in S.F. or the Northern peninsula (Pacifica for the last 30 years). I have always had dogs-I am a dog trainer and teach classes in the area. I have used Fort Funston as a dog walking area for many years, and what a great place it is! My dogs are under control, not aggressive, and I ALWAYS clean up after them. I would like to see legal, allowable off leash running in at least some part of Funston. Please consider the dog owners who appreciate the beauty of the coast as well as the other users of Fort Funston.

Thank you.

Cathy Bones
430 Channing Way
Pacifica CA 94044

(C)Disney

RECEIVED

28-01-1C

JAN 18 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

202 Washington Blvd.
Half Moon Bay CA 94019
11 January 2002

Dear National Park Services;

This letter is in response to the request in the Mercury News for public opinion regarding leash laws in national parks. I come down strongly in favor both of the law and of enforcement as much as possible.

I live next to a state park, and frequently either ride my bike along a combination bike/walking trail, or walk on the beach. There is a leash law in both of these locations. Although I have not yet been seriously bitten, my experience with dogs off of leashes is quite distressing. I have had numerous near accidents when dogs decide at the last minute to run in front of my bike, despite the fact that I am obeying the rules of bicycle traffic. I have been chased and snapped at by dogs barking ferociously, both on my bike and on foot. I have been jumped on, pawed, and slobbered on. I have observed dogs attack wounded birds, and root through the sensitive habits for the snowy plover. All of this occurs while the owners stand fondly by.

Let me make it clear that I am not a dog-hater. I have owned and loved numerous dogs throughout my life. I choose not to own one in such a populous area, and when there are starving people I can feed rather than dogs. I have become quite frustrated at having my own personal freedoms limited by the dogs of thoughtless owners, through the above-mentioned experiences, endless barking, and numerous encounters with dog waste. I believe that certain areas should be fenced, allowing dogs to romp in that area. Those who do not wish to be attacked or step in dog droppings can then simply not go to those dog parks. Otherwise, we have no choice but to deal with all of these problems.

While controlling dogs is unfortunately the responsibility of their owners, anything the Park Service can do to protect the rights of humans and the environment would be much appreciated.

Thank you.



29-04-1A

Fax Transmission

To: GGNRA
Company:
Fax No:

From: 561-4355

Date:
Pages: 4 (including this page)

Hines

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1/4

29 - 04 - 1A

January 18, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear GGNRA:

Thank you for including me in your Public Comment program. I love San Francisco! Four years ago, my wife and I decided to start a family and to raise our family in San Francisco. I start this letter with that introduction for a reason. Amazingly, a major reason we question our decision to raise a family in the City strongly relates to the negative impacts dogs have on San Francisco's precious open spaces. Not unimportantly, the impact on me, as an avid runner, is also very negative.

Most families with children in San Francisco don't have very large yards, if they have yards at all. As a result, families with children look to the public open spaces to allow their children to run around, play and get closer to nature. There is nothing better for our children than to play in the sand, roll around in grass, walk amongst giant trees or waves, watch birds or seals, or even splash around in muddy rain puddles. Sadly, my wife and I do not bring our children to those areas where dogs are off-leash that seems to represent most of the areas. While I don't know all the rules, our sense is that most open spaces are populated by dogs off-leash with only a few open spaces are free of off-leash dogs.

The reason we don't bring our children to many of the parks with dogs is quite simple. It's just not safe. There are three very real dangers: 1) running, jumping dogs, even if the dogs are "just playing," knock children over, definitely scare them and sometimes hurt them; 2) dogs bite - last August, I was bitten by a dog while literally standing still on Stinson beach; and 3) dog fecal waste. The fecal waste issue is a difficult one to address because people just don't like to talk about dog fecal waste.

I can't tell you how far my heart drops when our children pick up dog fecal matter because they don't know what it is. Under 3 years of age, it looks like something fun to play with on the beach; like rocks or sticks. And with the large number of people visiting opening spaces with dogs, there are days when the odor of dog fecal matter actually becomes oppressive. Fortunately, the wind takes care of this issue most of the time. But the underlying problem is still there. It is surprising to me that dog fecal matter has not been more openly addressed as a major health hazard. Is it simply the unappealing nature of the topic or is because dog fecal matter should not be a concern for those who come in

2/4

29-04-1A

contact with it? I don't know, but just in case, we actively keep our children away from it. That reduces our choice of open spaces dramatically.

There are also problems for adults walking or especially running/jogging in the public areas. I often feel as though I am a big moving target for dogs as I run along the beach or in parks. Dogs just cannot seem to resist "playing with" or chasing runners. Even if dogs are on a leash, they often lunge at me dragging their owner with them until the owner takes control of the situation. Unfortunately, our great innovative ways have exacerbated the problem by allowing leashes to uncoil for seemingly endless distances. Some leashes seem worse than no leash at all due to their length and the ease with which a dog can run away from its owner even "on leash." Uncoiled, these leashes eliminate huge swaths of path forcing people to walk way around the leash line, step or jump over them, and potentially trip or get caught up in the line while an unhappy dog is tied to the end. And while mentioning innovations, I should mention that I am extremely impressed (and simultaneously depressed) by the various means by which dog owners can launch missiles for very long distances. This allows dogs to reach their highest running speeds over long distances and takes up massive recreational areas. It is virtually impossible for children to play when these high tech launchers are being used.

Now onto your questions from the ANPR:

1. Yes, leash laws should remain intact.
2. Additional areas should not be opened to dogs on leash.
3. Additional areas should be closed to dogs.
4. No analysis should be done to justify increases of dog areas.
5. Voice control is not acceptable as a means of controlling dogs.
6. Off leash areas should not include the best areas for humans. Off leash areas should be the places that are less likely to be used by families and people without dogs.
7. Yes, there should be limits on number of dogs.
8. Dividing areas by time or day for off leash should not be a solution. The confusion will effectively lead to an "off-leash all the time" situation.
9. Bonds to cover liability attack the problem too far down the path. Shouldn't we address prevention first. There should be clear limits for dogs that are much more effectively "policed."
10. Same as above. Waivers won't be needed if you don't allow the potential for danger to exist. This isn't a legal issue for citizens, it's a matter of being able to use the great resources of this city without being run off by dogs.
11. Environmental impacts of greater restrictions on dogs are all very positive.
12. Additional mitigating factors should include: 1) more clear signage for dog rules so that offenders can be clearly shown they are offending and 2) more policing of the restrictions so that dog owners become aware of the importance.
13. Owners of dogs need to follow the rules and laws of society just like everybody else.
14. Fencing areas for off-leash dog areas would good as long as the fenced areas don't take away from the current areas for people without dogs.
15. Voice control should not be employed; it's noisy and not effective.

3/4

29-04-1A

- 16. Number of dogs should be unlimited in areas of off-leash dog recreating. Most areas should allow no dogs and some areas should allow dogs on reasonable leashes. Dogs on leashes should not be allowed where people might sit and enjoy an afternoon like at a picnic area or on the beach. Areas where people are moving seem more appropriate for dogs on leashes.
- 17. Everyone should help pay but most of the cost should be borne by dog owners. Maybe every dog allowed in public areas must have a pass and that pass has a fee associated with it.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,



Paul E. Paradis
1476 Pacific Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94109
415 399-6212

4/4

30-01-1A

KRISTINE M. JOHNSON

RECEIVED

JAN 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 22, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention ANPR
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California 94123

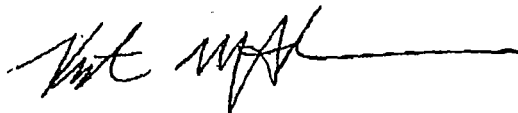
Dear GGNRA:

I am writing in support of your plans to restrict off-leash dog walking in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. My family and I are frequent users of the Presidio, Crissy Field, Muir Beach and the Marin Headlands. We have found that our pleasure in using these beautiful public areas is often marred by the presence of untrained dogs and irresponsible owners. We have been bitten, jumped on, barked at and knocked over by "friendly" dogs. My children have frequently stepped in dog "piles" left in high traffic areas. We have been dismayed to see unleashed dogs chasing migratory birds that have found refuge in the lagoons and beaches of the GGNRA. We would be very grateful to have more options for visiting no-dog zones in the parks.

The use patterns of an urban national park must present many challenges to the Park Service. I recognize that you have many constituencies and objectives that you must try to balance in the park. Dog owners are consistent and frequent users. Most are responsible. I think a policy for *urban* parks and recreation areas could treat dog owners as legitimate users and define certain areas for off-leash walking. It seems that this could be done while protecting other areas for wildlife and people.

Thank-you for your consideration of this important and highly emotional matter.

Best regards,



Kristine M. Johnson

20 WALNUT STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94118
PHONE: 415 409 8989 • FAX: 415 409 9090

31-01-1A

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JAN 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Alison Lufkin
2843 Fillmore St.
San Francisco, Ca 94123
415-292-4830

January 19, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason - Bldg. 201
San Francisco, Ca. 94123

To the members of GGNRA'S Advance notice of rulemaking process:

I am writing to strongly urge you to keep ample space for off-leash dog walking at Crissy Field. There is a room enough for all beings to enjoy Crissy field, and it is imperative to the health and well being of dogs that they have space to be adequately exercised. There is no reason we cannot all share the land, and still respect the rights of all park users.

Please be fair in this very important decision making process, and do not discriminate against the dogs and their needs.

Thank-you for your time.

Sincerely, Alison Lufkin
Quincy, Chloe, and Sullivan

32-02-1A

VERA S. BYERS, M.D., Ph.D. & ALAN S. LEVIN, M.D., J.D.
1847 GRANT AVE.
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133
415-986-2625 FAX 415-986-2690

January 19, 2002

RECEIVED**JAN 22 2002****SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR; Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear People,

We are long time San Francisco residents and dog lover/owners. We regularly walk our two greyhound mixes on the beach. We are both physicians and have had a large practice in AIDS and cancer in the city of San Francisco for many decades. We are writing this to alert you of some of the real values to society in general that dog owners and their pets contribute. Limiting the territory in which dogs are allowed off leash actually reduces the safety and security of the general population. Indeed in this time of war, it would be wise to increase that territory. In addition, we would like to alert you of the very real danger of the growing wild bird population at Crissy Field.

First, the public safety benefits from the running dogs at Crissy Field. Compared to the average non-dog owner who uses the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), dog owners tend to be older, more reliable citizens. They tend to be more affluent and to pay more taxes. They tend to carry liability insurance. If a jogger or a cyclist injures you, chances are the responsible party would not have liability insurance to compensate your injury. If a dog injures you, chances are overwhelming that that the dog owner would have homeowner's or comparable insurance to compensate your injury.

Second, the concern for the safety of birds unwarranted. If the area were truly hostile to the bird population, the bird population would considerably diminish. On any given day there are far more birds than dogs at Crissy Field. The birds are thriving and proliferating at an alarming rate. Unlike the vaccinated domestic dogs, wild birds are often infested with human pathogens. Many of the opportunistic infections suffered by our AIDS patients come from this very bird population. I recommend this counsel look into the hygiene issues regards this large bird population so close to a population of people infected with the HIV virus.

Third, the dog owners and their pets provide incomparable security to the area. We have been faced with a very real threat of terrorism against the Golden Gate

32-02-1A

Bridge and the GGNRA. Dog owners and their pets are on constant patrol of the area from sun up to well after sun down. This group serves as a valuable supplement to the park rangers and law enforcement officers whose patrols are limited in scope. For the sake of security in time of war, like the air raid wardens of WWII the government should actually increase the area that dog owners can patrol with their pets. This could markedly reduce the capacity of terrorists to set up incendiary and explosive devices in the area.

In summary, dog owners and their pets provide a great deal of benefit to the GGNRA in the form of more reliability, improved hygiene and enhanced security against terrorism. The bird population, on the other hand, poses a real threat to individuals with compromised immune systems.

Sincerely,



Alan S. Levin, M.D., J.D.
Vera S. Byers, M.D., Ph.D.



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JAN 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

33-01-1A

As a Dog Owner - I Support the GGNRA Leash Law

I was walking our dog in Mountain Lake Park this morning. While I was there I encountered two other dog walkers, both were allowing their dog to roam loose. I also noticed several dog droppings, one was found upon a large flat rock next to the children's playground.

I support the City of San Francisco, as well as the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Leash Laws. Both laws make sense living as we do in a dense urban environment. However, a significant minority of dog owners do not obey these laws which create a problem for the rest of us. The impact of insensitive dog owners is frequently encountered throughout our urban environment. Anyone who gardens next to a public sidewalks knows the impact of dogs on plant life, concrete walls, metal poles, etc. Where is it safe to allow small children to run and play in the grassy areas in our parks?

The off-leash dog supporters talk about the rights of dog owners. As a dog owner I would like to point out that along with rights there are responsibilities.

- 1) What about licensing those thousand upon thousands of unlicensed pets, as well as spay and neutering.
- 2) What about the rights of plants and animals who's habitat is degraded or destroyed by insensitive people and their pets.
- 3) What about the rights of other human beings who are fearful of dogs or do not want loose dogs running about them.
- 4) What about young children or their parents rights, who don't want dogs running up and jumping in the children's face.
- 5) What about those seeking an experience of being at home and in harmony with the non-manmade world. Having acquired the quality of engaging nature on its own terms, we are open to a peace and serenity that is beyond description. 'Being' emotionally one with the environment, we naturally treat it with utmost care and respect. The devastation and sense of disorder at Fort Funston is very emotionally painful of us to experience.

The fact is, much like any other animal, many park visitors are alarmingly insensitive to their own impact or that of their pet on the living environment. They are simply unconscious of what is suitable behavior when visiting a living, natural preserve. Interestingly enough, their demeanor would be entirely different if they were in an art museum or church. In manmade museums there exists a pattern of behavior that people have come to understand, accept and for the most part observe; as well as security guards in every room to address those who don't. We don't see people playing football in a museum, or will we see litter, cigarette butts and any other signs of abuse. No such prodigal has yet been created for our living preserves. The fact is, sensitivity is a mark of intelligence, and many park visitors lack intelligence and sensitivity. They ought to be sensitized before being allowed into our parks. It is completely ridiculous to realize that nowhere, apart from our living preserves, not in stadiums, theaters, museums, nowhere, are unlimited numbers of people allowed in. Culture implies a growth in goodness, do we experience such goodness in San Francisco? We ought to change our way of thinking from:

LIFE - LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS !

to

LIFE - LIBERTY - BROTHERHOOD

CLEANUPSF

RECEIVED

JAN 22 2002

34-01-1B

Dear Editor:

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area is thinking of taking away the last place that dogs can run free without a leash. They are asking the public, during a 60 day comment period, to tell it what sort of pet management policy there should be especially at Rodeo or Chronkite beach. The many dog lovers and owners in Sausalito should know about all this and get a chance to vote.

Personally I feel very strongly that the dogs should be allowed to run free somewhere. LET THE DOGS RUN FREE -at least once in a while. We all need to run freely or at least walk as fast as we can, once in a while, to stretch our limbs, for aerobic exercise and to get those endorphins working. Please give us ONE beach. When I go to a dog park - often a fenced in dreary piece of land - I often find my dogs and myself and the other owners and their dogs all staring awkwardly at one another. I have little dogs -the kind that don't socialize well and frolic with other dogs. Mine are older anyway and more set in their ways. The only way any of us will get any exercise is to move, walk, run etc.

The beach is my and my dogs' favorite place. Already, there are many wonderful trails and beaches that we can't go to. Please don't take all the beaches away from us. The public and bird lovers are overreacting by calling for a dog-free society. I went recently to a state park and the dogs weren't allowed out of the car -with or without a lease. That's extreme! Sometimes I think people legislate out of frustration. We can't solve the homeless problem but we sure can control those dogs. As the article in the IJ said "GGNRA is a large and diverse park. There is plenty of room to avoid a blanket rule."

..So please take that extra moment of time and FAX to 561-4355 or Write (no email address -that's bad PR) to GGNRA, Attention; ANPR, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco, Ca. 94123...or things will only get worse. Stop the oppression of dogs. Next - we won't be able to walk them around the neighborhood. They will have to wear Burkas and stay home.

respectfully submitted,
Jennie Wasser

c.c. GGNRA and the Marin Scope

Jennie Wasser
203 3rd St
Sausalito, Ca. 94965
(415) 331-6737

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

35-02-1B

Claudia & Geoffrey Saft

7 Gloucester Cove
San Rafael, CA 94901
U S A

Home Phone (415) 482-8432
Fax (415) 482-8432

Golden Gate National Rec Area
ATTN: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
SF, CA 94123

To GGNRA:

It seems like the dogs run the beach areas, specifically at the beach in the Marin Headlands, as well as Stinson Beach. The same seems to be the case when I hike down Tennessee Valley Road (Mill Valley) to the beach.

I have lived in Marin for 8 years and over these years, the takeover by the dogs seems to have gotten worse.

More than once, I have been walking and a strange dog will begin to run over to me. I hold my hand up in the "stop" position and say "stop" and/or "no" but they seem to think I am a playmate. They do not seem to care about what I want and certainly, they are not trained to listen to me. Sometimes, at the beach, the owner is nowhere to be seen.

I have no knowledge of a strange dogs intentions, nor their history with strangers; and so I find this scary. And then, it happened that a dog jumped on my little niece who I was spending the afternoon with, and she got scared and cried and the dog nipped her. Her mother no longer allows me to take her to the beach. Isn't that a shame?

These dogs I am referring to are NOT on a leash.

I have even had owners be nearby and they say "no" or "stop" to their dog but most often the dog seems to be more committed to his idea of jumping on a stranger rather than wanting to be obedient. I know that some owners think their dogs ARE human, but we all must remember that they are not. Dogs do not comprehend that not everybody wants a strange dog to be jumping on them. Some of the owners seem to also not comprehend this.

I have many times seen dogs that ARE on a leash, yet when the dog gets excited about going over to where he wants, some owners seem to have little control over their dog.

35-02-1B

I now take pepper spray with me when I go for a hike or to the beach. I sometimes also carry a baseball bat or golf club. It is most unfortunate that we must be prepared to protect ourselves when all we want to do is to enjoy our beaches.

PLEASE ENFORCE LEASH LAWS !!!



Geoffrey Saft

36-02-1B
RECEIVED

1-17-02

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

G.G. Nat. Rec. Area
Attn. ANPR

Dear Folks -

Finally - Finally you are going
to maybe control the dogs @
Ft. Cronkite - Stinson - Muir Beach etc.
My wife and I and our senior
friends quit going to Cronkite. Tired of
getting knocked down by DOGS - Tired of
having my lunch and fishing gear
pissed on - and laying on Dog shit!
You can count on one lady almost
every day with her large dog pissing
on anything on the Beach.

Also if I ever see a Ranger on
Cronkite patrolling OR giving citations
to unleashed DOG owners I will
applaud him and send his name
PRES. BUSH for an award.

GGNRA000497

36-02-1B

These DOGS scare all the Bird Life
on the Beach but but DOG owners
have more power than Non-DOG
owners. I will go beyond the
Rangers and their superior, to the
Dept of Interior or whatever
it takes to be able to enjoy
the Beaches on MARIN. I have
written in the past with no or
little response I hope you get
those Rangers down to patrol soon
I won't hold my breath.

Sincerely

Phil Columbus

415 479 7849

RECEIVED

37-01-1B

JAN 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

February 18, 2002

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, California 94123

From: Barbara Stauffacher Solomon
30 Bellair Place
San Francisco, California 94133

Dear Sirs:

I am a native San Franciscan, a property owner who pays taxes, and a San Francisco Arts Commissioner.

The most pleasant thing I do in my life is own a dog and walk him daily at Crissy Field Beach. He is a big dog, a golden retrieve who needs to run off-leash. So do I. There is room at Crissy Field for birds, ducks, and off-leash dogs. Putting a leash around his neck is leashing me.

I was raised in the Marina by parents also born in San Francisco. They loved this city because here they were free.

I am a designer with a Masters of Architecture. In that capacity let me say that remodeling Crissy Field, cutting down trees, and removing every plant that doesn't fit with the landscape architects plan should not include cutting down the spirit of the people who loved and used that place for the last fifty years. And they love that place because they love being there, with their dogs, off-leash.

Sincerely,

Barbara Stauffacher Solomon

GGNFA000499

38-01-1B

RECEIVED
JAN 22 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

205 BAYVIEW DR.
SAN RAFAEL, CA.
94901
1-15-02

GGNRA
ANPR
FT MASON
BLDG 201
SAN FRANCISCO, 94123

DEAR SIRs:

I AM A 3 YR OLD, VERY WELL BEHAVED,
OBEDIENCE TRAINED, SMART GERMAN
SHEPHERD DOG. MY OWNERS AND I LOVE
TO ROMP ON STINSON BEACH. I ALWAYS
COME WHEN I'M CALLED AND I LOVE
OTHER DOGS, KIDS + PEOPLE.

I LOVE TO DROP MY TENNIS BALL IN THE
OCEAN + RETREIVE IT AGAIN, ALL WASHED OFF.
MY OWNERS, WHO WROTE THIS FOR ME,
ALWAYS CLEAN UP AFTER ME, THERE, + ON
TRAILS.

PLEASE ALLOW THEM, + ME, THIS CONTINUED
PLEASURE + JOY.

SINCERELY,

IVAN COLEMAN, G.S.D.
Cayla Coleman LCSW
Jerry Coleman LL.D., ESQ.

39-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 15, 2002

ANPR
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Bldg. 201
Fort Mason
San Francisco Ca 94123


To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in response to the request for comments on "off leash" dog areas.

I am a 55 year old women who was born and raised in San Francisco. During my childhood we always had dogs in our family. It taught us responsibility and love. As a adult I have always had dogs in my life. It is very important, for many reasons to have space in which your dog may run free. One is that it makes for healthy well adjusted animals and socializes them with other people and other dogs. Another reason is it is good for the older adult who has a dog, as it provides a way of exercising themselves and the opportunity to socialize with other adults. Older people are often lonely and need the companionship of others. If there were not areas they could take their animals they would not have this opportunity.

I feel there is space in San Francisco for all types of open areas. Some for off lease dogs, some for leashed dogs only and some for "no dogs allowed". I'm sure we can accommodate everyone.

I hope the decision to leave Fort Funston as a "off lease area" is passed. It truly will be for the benefit of the people of our city. Thank you for your time.


Judith LaRosa
109 Escanyo Drive
South San Francisco Ca 94080

40-01-1A

Dave Wentley
547 23rd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

RECEIVED
JAN 22 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 18, 2002

Superintendent
Attention: ANPR
Golden Gate Recreation Area
Building 201
Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing in response to your advance notice of proposed rulemaking concerning off leash pets.

I think that you should reopen the off leash areas in the GGNRA that you have closed to dog owners. I find it absurd that you no longer honor the 1979 pet policy. You have violated the public trust with land closures at Fort Funston and you excessive and heavy handed closure of traditional off leash areas. I think that we need to reopen these areas so that the impact is spread out. I would be willing to pay an annual fee to help offset the costs to the GGNRA.

Keep off leash area open!!!!

Sincerely,

David Wentley

RECEIVED

JAN 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

41-01-1C

Angie P. Steiner
626 Linden Avenue Los Altos, CA 94022

January 11, 2002


GGNRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RE: Support for Off Leash Dog Walking

Dear Sirs,

My dog and I have enjoyed off leash activities at Fort Funston for many years. There a few areas available for off leash activity for dogs. None of the off leash aeas are as interesting for dogs as Fort Funston. Substituting a fenced off area the size of a football field is not an acceptable alternative. I urge a change in policy to allow off leash dog walking in the GGNRA.

Sincerely,



Angie P. Steiner

42-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 15, 2002

GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

I would like to express my support for allowing leash-free dog walking in certain areas of the GGNRA. San Francisco remains one of the last dog-friendly cities in the nation, and to make new rules that make it illegal for responsible dog owners to allow their dogs to run leash-free will be a tragedy and truly change the character of a great city.

I am a property owner in San Francisco, and though I currently live in Los Angeles I plan to move back to San Francisco in the next year. Like many dog owners, in my five years in the city I enjoyed taking my dog to Crissy Field and Fort Funston for walks on the beaches. They are beautiful places for both humans and animals to get exercise. In my hundreds of daily visits to these beaches, I never saw one situation or altercation that would make me believe dogs should not be allowed off leash.

To create a new law that criminalizes dog owners for allowing their dogs to enjoy these open spaces would be a real step backwards in park enforcement. Living now in Los Angeles, I cannot find one beach where my dog can get exercise and swim, as there are no beaches in Southern California where this is legal. Most do not even allow dogs to be walked on-leash. It is a very sad sight. Anyone who has ever owned a dog knows that it is impossible for a dog to remain healthy without plenty of exercise-- and it is impossible for dogs to get plenty of exercise without being allowed to run off-leash. Few humans can run fast enough to give their dogs this type of exercise!

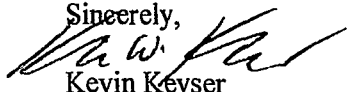
The GGNRA should assume responsible dog ownership first, and only punish those dog owners that do not pick up after their dogs or do not control them. By assuming irresponsible ownership, the GGNRA makes truly sad assumptions about dog owners in the Bay Area, which are not backed up by any facts, studies, or reason. San Francisco hasn't banned driving cars (which can be a true nuisance and detriment to quality of life) in the city yet, but they do ticket those drivers who break the law.

I have been continually impressed with the level of responsibility I see in dog owners I meet at both Fort Funston and Crissy Field. When I first started going to these beaches, I quickly learned that it is unacceptable to not pick up after your dog, and that other dog owners quickly make this known, usually in a kind manner! I have also been impressed by groups like the Fort Funston Dog Walker's Association, who hold regular Saturday meetings to clean up the mess that the relatively few irresponsible dog owners do leave behind. Why do we need new laws when there is no problem here?

Please remember that these areas are Urban Parks, and the GGNRA should not try to manage them like they are pristine parts of our national wilderness. The GGNRA is not Yellowstone! Urban parks should meet the needs of all of the citizens in that area, and the GGNRA should not criminalize large groups of responsible dog owners in a misdirected effort to make the parks more pristine.

Please don't turn San Francisco into L.A.!

Sincerely,



Kevin Keyser
8966 Crescent Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90046

Property Owner of:
2130 Leavenworth Street #11
San Francisco, CA 94133

Phone:
323-656-0309

43-01-1A

James Draper
544 21st Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

RECEIVED
JAN 22 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 17, 2002

Superintendent
Attention: ANPR
Golden Gate Recreation Area
Building 201
Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing in response to your advance notice of proposed rulemaking concerning off leash pets.

I am a dog owner, local homeowner and obviously a taxpayer. I fully support the off leash area and the reopening of Ocean Beach, Baker Beach, Lands End, Chrissy Field, and all other area according to the 1979 pet policy. Which are listed on page 1425 3rd paragraph in your notice.

I understand that you must consider all visitors that visit these parks but by clearly marking off leash area conflicts will be minimized. I also proposed that local residents could pay a yearly fee to offset the extra cost of enforcement and cleanup. Also ticket should be written for those who refuse to clean up after their pets. By reopening these area the impact will be spread out and stress on the parks lands could be minimized. In your letter you also mention about other municipalities and their leash laws. My mother used to say to me "just because your neighbors want to jump off a bridge doesn't mean you have to, be original and think for yourself. I urge the GGNRA to listen to people and not the special interest groups. We use the parks daily they probably have never been here. When you were voted in to manage these parks the off leash practice was in place and has been for 20+ year since you guys have taken over management of GGNRA. If you can't manage the parks the way the public wants maybe you should reconsider your careers as "public servants".

I am still upset about your underhanded and sneaky job of fencing in Joey Hill at Fort Funston. I used to look up to the park service but such behavior has made me rethink whom you guys are serving.

These parks are not nature preserves they are urban recreation areas, and we use them every day that part of the reason we live here. I don't want my parks framed with your fences and prohibited areas and activities. In closing I am fully in support of reinstating the areas of off leash defined in the 1979 pet policy. Created revenue from use of this land and remember who uses it, the people of the bay area not the special interest groups. Whom I feel you listen too and react with more than us, I hope that we can come to a common ground.

Sincerely,



James Draper

.....

44-03-1A

RECEIVED
JAN 22 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 18, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear GGNRA:

Thank you for including me in your Public Comment program. I love San Francisco! Four years ago, my wife and I decided to start a family and to raise our family in San Francisco. I start this letter with that introduction for a reason. Amazingly, a major reason we question our decision to raise a family in the City strongly relates to the negative impacts dogs have on San Francisco's precious open spaces. Not unimportantly, the impact on me, as an avid runner, is also very negative.

Most families with children in San Francisco don't have very large yards, if they have yards at all. As a result, families with children look to the public open spaces to allow their children to run around, play and get closer to nature. There is nothing better for our children than to play in the sand, roll around in grass, walk amongst giant trees or waves, watch birds or seals, or even splash around in muddy rain puddles. Sadly, my wife and I do not bring our children to those areas where dogs are off-leash that seems to represent most of the areas. While I don't know all the rules, our sense is that most open spaces are populated by dogs off-leash with only a few open spaces are free of off-leash dogs.

The reason we don't bring our children to many of the parks with dogs is quite simple. It's just not safe. There are three very real dangers: 1) running, jumping dogs, even if the dogs are "just playing," knock children over, definitely scare them and sometimes hurt them; 2) dogs bite - last August, I was bitten by a dog while literally standing still on Stinson beach; and 3) dog fecal waste. The fecal waste issue is a difficult one to address because people just don't like to talk about dog fecal waste.

I can't tell you how far my heart drops when our children pick up dog fecal matter because they don't know what it is. Under 3 years of age, it looks like something fun to play with on the beach; like rocks or sticks. And with the large number of people visiting opening spaces with dogs, there are days when the odor of dog fecal matter actually becomes oppressive. Fortunately, the wind takes care of this issue most of the time. But the underlying problem is still there. It is surprising to me that dog fecal matter has not been more openly addressed as a major health hazard. Is it simply the unappealing nature of the topic or is because dog fecal matter should not be a concern for those who come in

contact with it? I don't know, but just in case, we actively keep our children away from it. That reduces our choice of open spaces dramatically.

There are also problems for adults walking or especially running/jogging in the public areas. I often feel as though I am a big moving target for dogs as I run along the beach or in parks. Dogs just cannot seem to resist "playing with" or chasing runners. Even if dogs are on a leash, they often lunge at me dragging their owner with them until the owner takes control of the situation. Unfortunately, our great innovative ways have exacerbated the problem by allowing leashes to uncoil for seemingly endless distances. Some leashes seem worse than no leash at all due to their length and the ease with which a dog can run away from its owner even "on leash." Uncoiled, these leashes eliminate huge swaths of path forcing people to walk way around the leash line, step or jump over them, and potentially trip or get caught up in the line while an unhappy dog is tied to the end. And while mentioning innovations, I should mention that I am extremely impressed (and simultaneously depressed) by the various means by which dog owners can launch missiles for very long distances. This allows dogs to reach their highest running speeds over long distances and takes up massive recreational areas. It is virtually impossible for children to play when these high tech launchers are being used.

Now onto your questions from the ANPR:

1. Yes, leash laws should remain intact.
2. Additional areas should not be opened to dogs on leash.
3. Additional areas should be closed to dogs.
4. No analysis should be done to justify increases of dog areas.
5. Voice control is not acceptable as a means of controlling dogs.
6. Off leash areas should not include the best areas for humans. Off leash areas should be the places that are less likely to be used by families and people without dogs.
7. Yes, there should be limits on number of dogs.
8. Dividing areas by time or day for off leash should not be a solution. The confusion will effectively lead to an "off-lease all the time" situation.
9. Bonds to cover liability attack the problem too far down the path. Shouldn't we address prevention first. There should be clear limits for dogs that are much more effectively "policed."
10. Same as above. Waivers won't be needed if you don't allow the potential for danger to exist. This isn't a legal issue for citizens, it's a matter of being able to use the great resources of this city without being run off by dogs.
11. Environmental impacts of greater restrictions on dogs are all very positive.
12. Additional mitigating factors should include: 1) more clear signage for dog rules so that offenders can be clearly shown they are offending and 2) more policing of the restrictions so that dog owners become aware of the importance.
13. Owners of dogs need to follow the rules and laws of society just like everybody else.
14. Fencing areas for off-leash dog areas would good as long as the fenced areas don't take away from the current areas for people without dogs.
15. Voice control should not be employed; it's noisy and not effective.

44-03-1A

16. Number of dogs should be unlimited in areas of off-leash dog recreating. Most areas should allow no dogs and some areas should allow dogs on reasonable leashes. Dogs on leashes should not be allowed where people might sit and enjoy an afternoon like at a picnic area or on the beach. Areas where people are moving seem more appropriate for dogs on leashes.
17. Everyone should help pay but most of the cost should be borne by dog owners. Maybe every dog allowed in public areas must have a pass and that pass has a fee associated with it.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,



Paul E. Paradis
1476 Pacific Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94109
415 399-6212

#45

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

45-01-1A

I SUPPORT OFF-LEASH DOG WALKING
AT FORT FUNSTON AND CRISSY FIELD
AS PER ¹⁹⁷⁹ CITY POLICY WHEN THESE
AREAS WERE HANDED OVER TO GGNRA.
THESE ARE EXCEPTIONAL AREAS THAT
ARE UNIQUE IN THE NATIONAL PARK
SYSTEM. LET THE DOGS RUN FREE.

William Klingelhoff
1-17-02



Mr. William Klingelhoff
1638 18th Ave
San Francisco, CA 94122-3413

RECEIVED

January 18, 2002

JAN 22 2002

Golden Gate NRA SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123



STANFORD UNIVERSITY
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA 94305

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
PHONE: (650) 723-3956
FAX: (650) 725-6471

46-01-1C

Dear Park Service:

I'm writing to comment on the proposed rules about pets in the GGNRA. I am very much concerned that off-leash dogs disturb wildlife. They are also very disturbing to many people -- especially because many dogs are quite disorderly. My wife, for example, will not walk in areas with off-leash dogs. In my view, the present rules ought to be enforced. And in especially sensitive areas, dogs should be prohibited entirely.

I favor expanding the numbers of areas where dogs are prohibited entirely. In part, I take this view because there is a very high rate of disobedience among dog owners, and this makes it even more difficult to enforce a leash law. It is probably easier to enforce a complete prohibition in sensitive areas.

I do not favor setting aside any GGNRA areas for off-leash dog use. I think you should have a much more consistent policy than that, and should enforce it. I might take a different position if dog owners showed a high rate of conformity to leash law rules. But in fact they do not conform to such rules. Any uncertainty about whether a rule is in place -- and such uncertainty would obviously be created if you have some areas where off-leash dogs are permitted -- will provide more excuses for disobedience to the rules. Many dog owners will violate the rules under the pretense that they didn't understand the rules. Until you get consistent conformity to basic leash law principles, you should keep the rules themselves simple and consistent.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John W. Meyer".

John W. Meyer

PS Note that for the protection of wildlife, loose and feral cats are also a major problem.

47-01-1A

Shannon D. Dolan
2875 Jackson Street
San Francisco, California 94115

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

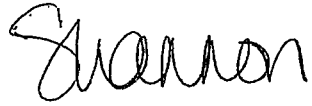
January 20, 2002

Dear Sirs:

This letter is to voice my strong opinion that Crissy Field should remain an area for off-leash dogs. People who live in San Francisco need a local place to walk dogs off-leash, Crissy Field has always been that place. The people who frequent Crissy Field, especially those who are dog owners are responsible about having dogs off-leash in this area, this should not be taken away. In over 12 years of regularly visiting this area as a runner, walker and for the past year a dog owner, I've never seen an incident that indicates to me dogs and dog-owners should have this right taken away.

There is room for all park users in this space including people, children, walkers, runners, bikers and dogs. Dogs need a place to run and Crissy Field is the perfect place. All of this has and should continue to happen while respecting the natural resources of this area.

Regards,



Shannon D. Dolan

January 18th — 200

GGNRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

48-02-1B
RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Re: Proposed Rulemaking: Pet Management in GGNRA

Please add this letter to your Public Comment file.

Based on encounters with dogs and dog owners during my two decades of hiking, running, biking and horseback riding on GGNRA lands in Marin and San Francisco Counties, I wholeheartedly support proposed rules that would require all dogs on GGNRA lands to be on leash at all times.

Further, I support the appropriate restriction of dogs to only those GGNRA properties and areas whose habitats and native species are not adversely impacted by the presence of dogs.

My reasons for supporting a "on-leash only" policy are:

- Protection of wildlife.
- Improved safety and quality of visitors' experiences.
- Reduction of user conflicts.
- Ease of enforcement and improved adherence to rules.

I have personally observed unleashed dogs chasing and killing wildlife on GGNRA lands. Most recently (January 2002) I saw a "voice-controlled" dog plunging down forested hillsides in Oakwood Valley in pursuit of a bobcat. This was moments after I had myself observed another bobcat, undisturbed and unconcerned with my presence, at close range. The loose dog's owner called in vain for many minutes without obedience from her canine.

In a recent chasing incident on a (non-NPS) trail in Mill Valley, the dog's owner claimed that since his dog was too slow to catch the rabbit, no harm was done. I didn't bother to explain that the stress and exertion of the chase may have put the rabbit at greater risk from its natural predators, such as coyotes.

As an equestrian on southern Marin trails, I find most dog owners to be courteous and cooperative. Nonetheless, there have been in the recent past several incidents in which a loose dog would not cease heeling a horse. In one case, the dog actually latched on to the nose of the horse, causing a runaway situation that fortunately was well-handled by the rider. The danger in these cases is both to the dog, who may be fatally kicked, and the rider, who may be thrown. Trail horses and trail riders are generally comfortable with dogs that are conditioned to horses. Unfortunately, such dogs are rare in our semi-urban environment.

While on another horseback ride, I encountered two people with a pair of Basenjis off-leash. The gentleman, apparently not their owner, started immediately toward the dogs to collar them, but the woman warned her companion to approach very slowly as abrupt motion might provoke these African hunting dogs to attack. Need I comment further?

Most dog owners are not particularly savvy to the natural instincts of their own dogs: pack-oriented predators with strong territorial and sexual behavior patterns. Last October, a good friend, walking her male Aussie Shepherd off-leash on Marin County Open Space District land, encountered another large at-liberty male dog. Both owners and both dogs were bitten in the ensuing fight, which was reported to the Marin Humane Society and the Sheriff's Department.

GGNRA000512

The 'other' dog was known to its owner and the MHS as a troubled animal which had recently been adopted. This incident was ultimately resolved, but leashes would have prevented it in the first place.

Voice control is a mythical ideal that only seems to work when the situation and consequences are trivial. Every dog owner believes that their dog is a Good Dog. Many dog owners assume that you will want to meet their dog and exchange greetings, including muddy feet and wet muzzles. "He's friendly! He won't bite!" means "please enjoy my dog's attentions whether you want to or not." A leash allows the dog to be any kind of dog it chooses, up to a six-foot radius.

Some dog owners regard their dogs as protection. But professional dog trainers know that a guard dog is a guard dog, with the same inherent hazards as a loaded gun, while a companion dog is lousy personal protection unless one is threatened by squirrels. If it is a guard dog, it should certainly be tethered to its well-trained handler.

The numbers of dogs being exercised on our lightly-patrolled park lands is rapidly increasing... as are the number of negative incidents involving other dogs; other users; and the native fauna... Uncontrolled ranging by dogs is no longer acceptable. Current GGNRA regulations are not fully enforced, and the inconsistency of rules across agency boundaries exacerbates this. The number of problem owners (there are no problem dogs) is a small **percentage** but a large **number**; neither education or nor peer pressure is likely to reach them.

The Marin Humane Society opposes dog restrictions, claiming that some dogs' need for exercise is greater than on-leash walking can satisfy. However, there are off-leash dog run areas provided around Marin County for dogs with excessively high exercise requirements. The great number of dog-walking services that have arisen indicates that people are buying pets that demand more time than their owners wish to personally invest. I hope that animal welfare organizations will continue strong education efforts regarding appropriate breed selection and compatibility between pet and owner lifestyles.

The MHS also states, "People who walk with dogs off-leash ... gain freedom and security, companionship and exercise while enjoying the beauty of Marin. People accompanied by a dog off-leash are given physical and emotional motivation to recreate and socialize." I fail to see how a dog ON-leash impedes these benefits in any way.

The MHS claims that statistics don't support more restrictive rules. Since the incidents I've related above were not officially recorded, the statistics are not telling the whole story. If my experiences are multiplied by the number of other regular GGNRA visitors, it's clear the numbers would be significantly greater.

Finally, the MHS suggests that under more restrictive regulation, the good would be penalized for the irresponsibility of the bad. This is no more rational than claiming that door locks inconvenience and penalize the honest because of the thievery of a few. As population increases, we all endure a variety of impositions on our individual freedoms. We can choose to live here and accept certain limits—or we can move to Afghanistan where all dogs run free.

Thanks for the time and energy that GGNRA staff brings to this most serious problem.


Robert Eichstaedt

67 California Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941
415-389-9045
re@well.com

49-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

Melissa Lippi Ornstil
3639 Divisadero Street
San Francisco, CA 94123
Tel (415) 931-8081

January 18, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: Off-leash dog walking at Crissy Field

Dear Madam or Sir:

I am writing to make a suggestion for designating a limited area for off-leash dog walking at Crissy Field. I believe a compromise would help resolve the matter rather than requiring a leash law everywhere or off-leash everywhere at Crissy Field.

How about designating as an off-leash area the big beach after you cross over the foot bridge as you walk in a Northerly direction towards the Golden Gate Bridge? Another area you could designate an off-leash area is a portion of the new, enormous grassy field (the former air strip). That way dogs can get the exercise necessary to remain healthy, socialized dogs in San Francisco by using the designated recreation areas.

Where heavier foot traffic exists elsewhere at Crissy Field (footpaths, parking lot, small beach nearest parking lot & San Francisco Yacht Club) the dogs could remain on leash.

I think it is important for everyone involved, dog owners and non-dog owners, to be able to enjoy the beauty and full use of Crissy Field. I believe that preserving the beautifully-restored habitat is first and foremost in everyone's mind. At the same time, if dogs must remain on leash everywhere at Crissy Field it would cause Crissy Field to be a place it was not meant to be, at least not to its full potential.

If Crissy Field requires a leash law without any special area for off-leash recreation, there will be practically no place to run your dog off-leash in the city of San Francisco. I believe that would be extremely detrimental to the well-being of all involved because the dogs will not be socialized and receive adequate exercise.

Many dogs are water dogs and their owners enjoy the use of the large beach and water mentioned above. Everyone is responsible and picks up after their dogs. In the same vein, I believe dog owners/families will respect the designated off-leash area(s) as a reasonable accommodation.

I enjoy walking and running with my dog at Crissy Field, especially now that the natural habitat is being reintroduced and nurtured. He is on voice command and since he was born we have and will continue to practice obedience training. I feel I am a responsible dog owner and want to enjoy the use of the public area at Crissy Field within reason. I was born in San Francisco and have lived in the Marina all my life. I understand the interaction between walkers, runners, picnickers, windsurfers, dog owners and park management.

Please consider creating one or more limited areas for off-leash exercise of dogs for the good of all. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Melissa Lippi Ornstil
Melissa Lippi Ornstil

50-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Eric Arons
410 Elizabeth St. #4
San Francisco, CA 94114

GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

I am writing to express my deepest concern regarding possible closure of parts of the GGNRA which are currently open to off-leash recreation for dogs and their owners. These areas provide a wonderful opportunity for the over 100,000 dog-owning citizens of San Francisco. If you have ever visited one of these areas, you certainly would notice how well these areas serve a large portion of the urban community. Concern has been voiced that off-leash policies limit access to these areas by those afraid of dogs. I can certainly understand that concern, but I truly believe that given the increasingly limited spaces available to dog owners for recreation, and the existence of virtually identical spaces where dogs are entirely prohibited, this argument seems to place the whole city at the mercy of a few. The hysteria resulting from the recent attack in San Francisco has been used to justify the removal of dogs from public spaces. But this argument is also disingenuous. Dog attacks are in fact declining greatly, and the danger of facing a dog attack is far less than being killed by a fellow human. These spaces are so precious to me, and are a large part of why I've chosen to remain in the Bay Area. Please do not take these areas away.

Sincerely,

Eric Arons

RECEIVED

JAN 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
SF CA 94123

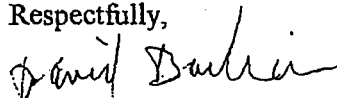
January 18, 2002

To whom it may concern,

I strongly support efforts to maintain off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA. Crissy Field, Fort Funston and Baker Beach offer dogs an opportunity to experience the freedom that we humans take for granted. Healthy dogs promote general well-being not only among owners; but also among those that have the opportunity to observe their behavior. The GGNRA provides an appropriate environment for this activity and we should all support this endeavor. Dog owners who bring their canines to the GGNRA are responsible individuals and we should credit them with the ability to supervise their pets.

Thank you for your anticipated responsiveness!

Respectfully,



David Baskin, Ph.D.
1377 Gough #205
SF CA 94109
Tel # 440-0001
Email address: baroq123dmb@yahoo.com

Cc: Gavin Newsom

52-01-1C
Our thoughts,
exactly. JMH
RGH

Mr. Roy Hayter
1691 Yale Dr.
Mrs Janet Hayter
Mountain View, CA 94040

RECEIVED

JAN 22 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Don't loosen leash laws

I am a dog owner and love dogs. However, I am also strongly opposed to any loosening and removal of dog leash laws in parks — local, state or federal (Page 1B, Jan. 11).

There are just too many opportunities for bad things to happen when dogs are off leash, such as danger to small children, unfriendly encounters with other dogs and hostile interactions with adults. Although my dog is a small one (under 20 pounds), he is by nature aggressive with other dogs, regardless of size. If big dogs are running loose, then my ability to control him, even on the leash, is compromised.

I enjoy walking for exercise (by myself or with my dog) in peace, and I cannot do so in an area where dogs are running.

Tim Shueck
San Antonio

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2002 PAGE 9B

San Jose Mercury News

Opinion

53-01-1B 1/19/02
To GGNRA

We support responsible off lead opportunity
for dogs.

I am Sf born. Always had a well
behaved "off lead" dog. Now have a
sweet 2 yr. old black lab that is obedience
trained and trustworthy.

Suggest you put emphasis on owner training
w/ their dog. The Humane Society offers many
courses. Voice control or hand signals work!

Glad you are reconsidering.

RECEIVED
JAN 23 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Sincerely

Betty H. Oakey Ph.D.

54-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

As a Dog Owner - I Support the GGNRA Leash Law SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I was walking our dog in Mountain Lake Park this morning. While I was there I encountered two other dog walkers, both were allowing their dog to roam loose. I also noticed several dog droppings, one was found upon a large flat rock next to the children's playground.

I support the City of San Francisco, as well as the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Leash Laws. Both laws make sense living as we do in a dense urban environment. However, a significant minority of dog owners do not obey these laws which create a problem for the rest of us. The impact of insensitive dog owners is frequently encountered throughout our urban environment. Anyone who gardens next to a public sidewalks knows the impact of dogs on plant life, concrete walls, metal poles, etc. Where is it safe to allow small children to run and play in the grassy areas in our parks?

The off-leash dog supporters talk about the rights of dog owners. As a dog owner I would like to point out that along with rights there are responsibilities.

- 1) What about licensing those thousand upon thousands of unlicensed pets, as well as spay and neutering.
- 2) What about the rights of plants and animals who's habitat is degraded or destroyed by insensitive people and their pets.
- 3) What about the rights of other human beings who are fearful of dogs or do not want loose dogs running about them.
- 4) What about young children or their parents rights, who don't want dogs running up and jumping in the children's face.
- 5) What about those seeking an experience of being at home and in harmony with the non manmade world. Having acquired the quality of engaging nature on its own terms, we are open to a peace and serenity that is beyond description. 'Being' emotionally one with the environment, we naturally treat it with utmost care and respect. The devastation and sense of disorder at Fort Funston is very emotionally painful of us to experience.

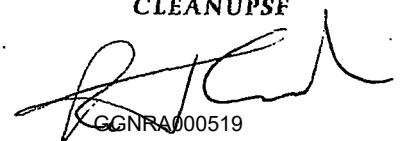
The fact is, much like any other animal, many park visitors are alarmingly insensitive to their own impact or that of their pet on the living environment. They are simply unconscious of what is suitable behavior when visiting a living, natural preserve. Interestingly enough, their demeanor would be entirely different if they were in an art museum or church. In manmade museums there exists a pattern of behavior that people have come to understand, accept and for the most part observe; as well as security guards in every room to address those who don't. We don't see people playing football in a museum, or will we see litter, cigarette butts and any other signs of abuse. No such prodigal has yet been created for our living preserves. The fact is, sensitivity is a mark of intelligence, and many park visitors lack intelligence and sensitivity. They ought to be sensitized before being allowed into our parks. It is completely ridiculous to realize that nowhere, apart from our living preserves, not in stadiums, theaters, museums, nowhere, are unlimited numbers of people allowed in. Culture implies a growth in goodness, do we experience such goodness in San Francisco? We ought to change our way of thinking from:

LIFE - LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS !

to

LIFE - LIBERTY - BROTHERHOOD

CLEANUPSF



CGNRA000519

55-01-1A

David Perry & Family
2134 46th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116

January 19, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: Pet Management in Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to express my support for the continuation of dog voice-control recreation, which has not been allowed "in error" for the past two decades, for responsible dog owners.

The devastating beauty of the Fort Funston – wrought from centuries of pounding surf and relentless winds – offers human beings vistas of unmatched beauty and settings of peaceful tranquility not easily achieved elsewhere in San Francisco. Yet, do to the harsh conditions of the area, hardly anyone chooses to visit the park – unless they are walking their leash-less dog or hang gliding. In fact, if it is a day of any kind of wind, fog or cold, there is no human beings enjoying the park – other than dog walkers.

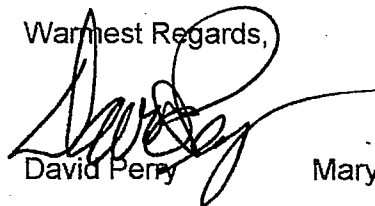
My unscientific feeling is that the proposed rulemaking changes to eliminate leash-less dogs are not supported by any true scientific measurements, but are, in some way, retribution. Retribution against human beings who use the recreational park to not only enjoy the immeasurable health benefits that the vistas and serenity provide, but also to enjoy a healthy stroll, walk or run with their canine companions.

Although the main utilities I received from my recreation in the park are tranquility and serenity -- I must comment that I have never encountered a more caring, considerate and delightful group of canine walkers than those at Fort Funston.

I fear, however, that this hidden agenda against the canine walkers will have the unsatisfactory consequence on other recreational users of the park – such as more and more acreage being eliminated from human use. Please do not deny me the freedom of movement, wonder of the vistas and peace of mind that the recreational park's serenity provides me four to five times a week.

Thank you for your attention, and I urge you, please do not allow rules that prohibit leash-free dog walking.

Warmest Regards,



David Perry

Mary Conley

Sarah Perry

Noel Perry

Cc: Mayor Willie L. Brown, Jr; Nancy Pelosi

56-01-1A

Superintendent
Attention: ANPR
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 17, 2002

Superintendent,

I am writing to ask you to PLEASE allow areas such as Fort Funston and Crissy Field to remain off-leash areas to dogs by creating a special rule to allow off-leash dog recreation in the GGNRA.

I have been a resident of San Francisco for three years and for the past two and a half, I have been a happy dog owner. Had it not been for areas such as Fort Funston, I doubt I would have had the heart to own a dog in the City. Dogs need areas to run; they need a physical outlet just as humans do. Running while on-leash does very little to improve their state of mind, health, sociability, and aggression. It is well known by canine experts that dogs become *more* aggressive when restrained and leashed. They need the freedom to run and to be social with other dogs.

If the leash law at Fort Funston and other GGNRA areas is enforced and the special rule is not made, we are going to have a city full of pent-up, unhealthy, aggressive dogs. We are going to lose a large chunk of revenue of dog owners who will leave the City to move to areas where dogs can roam.

On the point of canine aggression, I feel emotionally obligated to address a point brought up in the ANPR document.

"Also in January 2001, a 32-year-old woman was mauled to death by a dog in San Francisco.

Although this incident occurred outside the park boundaries, it underscored the danger of dogs in the local community to local users."

I find it unconscionable that this point was brought into the debate. The case of Diane Whipple rocked to the core not only the Bay Area, but specifically dog owners. The animals involved in the attack were BY NO MEANS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO DOG POPULATION. These dogs were most likely trained to attack, abused, and lord knows what else. Yes, there will always be statistical outliers and those who vastly deviate from the norm. But the entire SF dog population cannot be punished for the gut-wrenching actions of two dogs and their deranged owners. That would be like telling the entire San Francisco population that they are not allowed to drive because some people have been known to be irresponsible and aggressive drivers. It just doesn't make sense.

Another of the arguments against allowing dogs to be off-leash is that it might preclude non-dog owners and children from visiting these GGNRA areas. I have often come across parents with small children at Fort Funston who have brought their children there *specifically* to socialize them with dogs. I have also spoken to several people who cannot, for whatever reason, own dogs themselves but they come to Fort Funston to be around animals that they enjoy. Fort Funston is known to be a dog area and many residents of this city, dog owners and non-dog owners alike, appreciate its value to the community.

I am asking you to please recognize the rights of dogs and their owners to have a designated area for our dogs to be dogs. Without it, the human/canine problems will only increase in the City. Our community needs this designated area to remain a healthy and harmonious place where dogs and people can co-exist with compromise.

Sincerely,



Carolyn Law

57-01-1B

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Re: whether to let dogs run loose in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area or not.

My vote is "NO." The reason is a dog that was not on a lease bit my daughter. We were fortunate that the owners show us the dog's medical records: shots.

My daughter and I are now very afraid of dogs. True, there are gentle dogs. However, since we are not familiar with the dogs, we may not know whether a dog is gentle and friendly with people or not. To be safe for all, I vote for dogs on leashes.

Betty
Betty

RECEIVED
JAN 23 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

58-01-1B

RECEIVED

1-21-02

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear ANPR,

Please allow dogs off leash in the GG NRA.

I live in Sausalito. I have lung & orthopedic problems. It is impossible for my dog to get adequate exercise on leash because my health limits her running. But she gets me out to exercise!

She is well controlled, & I pick up the poop.

Happy, healthy dogs contribute to the happiness & health of humans. Please let us continue!

Joan Saxton
10 Alexander Avenue
Sausalito, CA 94965
415-332-7552

Thanks,

Joan Saxton

GGNRA000523

GGNRA

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Bldg 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Sirs;

I am strongly against dogs off leash in GGNRA. Loose dogs cannot be under voice control in all instances. I am a dog owner and a past dog obedience training instructor. Many dogs, which are generally well behaved, will not obey if a squirrel, deer, or a group of gulls on the beach present themselves. That chase instinct is ever present. It is not fair to risk damage to wildlife. Dogs have been domesticated for thousands of years. They can be perfectly happy if given adequate exercise on leash.

Sincerely,

Helen Bodington
Jan 21, 2002

Helen Bodington

59-01-2A

60-01-1A

January, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Loia
559 Miramar Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94112

61-02-1A

Paul & Barbara Pacak
1755 21st Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

January 19th 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Center
ANPR
Fort Mason, Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA. 94123

To Whom It May Concern:

As regular users of Fort Funston with two dogs, we strongly support the continuation of off-leash dog walking at Fort Funston. Please note additional comments.

1. Your report of 54 dog bites during the 3 yr period as mentioned in your paperwork relative to the actual number of people and dogs using the facility actually seems to imply an extraordinarily safe situation at Fort Funston. I would find it easy to believe that more people are bitten by aggressive *on leash* dogs *daily* on the streets of any comparable large metropolitan area including San Francisco. It's also reasonable to assume that many of those 54 dog "bites" were of a "subjective nature" reported by people who may have over-reacted. A few were probably not bitten at all.
2. People willing to drive their dogs to Fort Funston for exercise are the type of responsible dog owner who have socialized their pet. Rarely is there an incident at Fort Funston, even between dogs. Your own report seems to reinforce that statement.
3. I personally believe your "JAVMA" Vol. 218, #11 comment "*unrestrained or free-roaming dogs do pose a substantial threat to the public*" is completely out of context with the reality of the situation at Fort Funston and should be disregarded during the analysis of the any Fort Funston policy. 7
1-2
4. Virtually all dog walkers in our experience are respectful of the environment using the recommended paths, most of which are asphalt. This, of course should be encouraged. A few prominently posted signs should be more than adequate.
5. The users of Fort Funston are extremely conscientious in regards to the cleaning up of their pets droppings and a majority of users will actually clean up any other inadvertently abandoned droppings.
6. Policy makers should be made aware that there is virtually no trash or litter at Fort Funston due to the majority of off leash dog walkers policing themselves. This situation could change drastically for the worse if the visitors who care most about Fort Funston are forced to find an alternative for their pets off leash exercise.
7. Many non-pet owning people frequently visit Fort Funston exclusively for the enjoyment of observing happy, frolicking off-leash dogs.

61-02-1A

page 2 of 2

In closing, the analysis of any alternatives should be measured from the long standing policy allowing off-leash dog walking at Fort Funston.

Your due consideration to these comments is appreciated.

Paul M. & Barbara L. Pacak

62-01-1B

January 18, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Golden Gate National Recreation Area,

I strongly urge you to maintain your policy of allowing dogs off leash under voice control in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I am the owner of a friendly, well-trained dog who loves running on the beach with other dogs. It provides wonderful exercise and socializing opportunities for both of us. We have spent many happy hours on Rodeo Beach and Muir Beach, and I have never seen a problem arise involving a dog. It is one of the joys of Marin County to have a beautiful area where dogs and people can come together to enjoy the outdoors. Please don't take this away from us.

Peggy Ruffra

Peggy Ruffra
20 Nova Lane
Novato, CA 94945

63-01-10

January, 2002

RECEIVED
JAN 23 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Francisco J. Lopez (signature)

Francisco J. Lopez (name)

170 SELBY LANE (address)

ATHERTON, CA 94027

64-01-1C

1 Hibbert Court
Pacifica, Ca. 94004

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA. 94123

To whom it may concern:

I am strongly against making Fort Funston dog owners keep their dogs on leashes. It has been an off leash area for decades, and nobody has complained until recently. This recent objection to off leash dogs is clearly an attempt by the anti-dog people to take advantage of all the hysteria engendered by the mauling incidents of the last year.

Should we ban people from the park? They've committed more violence than dogs have.

I'm writing in hopes that you will leave the rules as they are. Fort Funston is one of the only places left in our urban environment where you can actually take your dog for a much needed run. I thoroughly enjoy taking my dog there and would be deeply wounded if I couldn't let her run to her hearts content. I use the park several times a week.

The National Park Service already denies most of its beautiful hiking areas to dog owners who want to bring their best friends along; dog owners who pay taxes like everyone else and are cheated out of their right to enjoy the parks. Don't make your oppressive policies worse by extending them to Fort Funston.

Sincerely,


Dan Gerson

65-04-1B

Dogs in Parks and on Beaches

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Jan 20, 2002

I am writing to express my feelings regarding dogs on the beaches and open spaces in the Bay Area.

I think dogs should be allowed to run free on at least some of the beaches and open spaces. If some spaces were designated as such, all people could be happy. Dog owners would not worry about offending those folks who are frightened of or dislike dogs. We all could get some great exercise.

Naturally dog owners would have to be responsible in terms of waste management. Aggressive dogs would not be welcome. Those are generally rules that are noted in dog parks.



Amy, Howard and Tasha, the standard poodle, Knight
6 Aries Ln.
Novato, Ca 94947

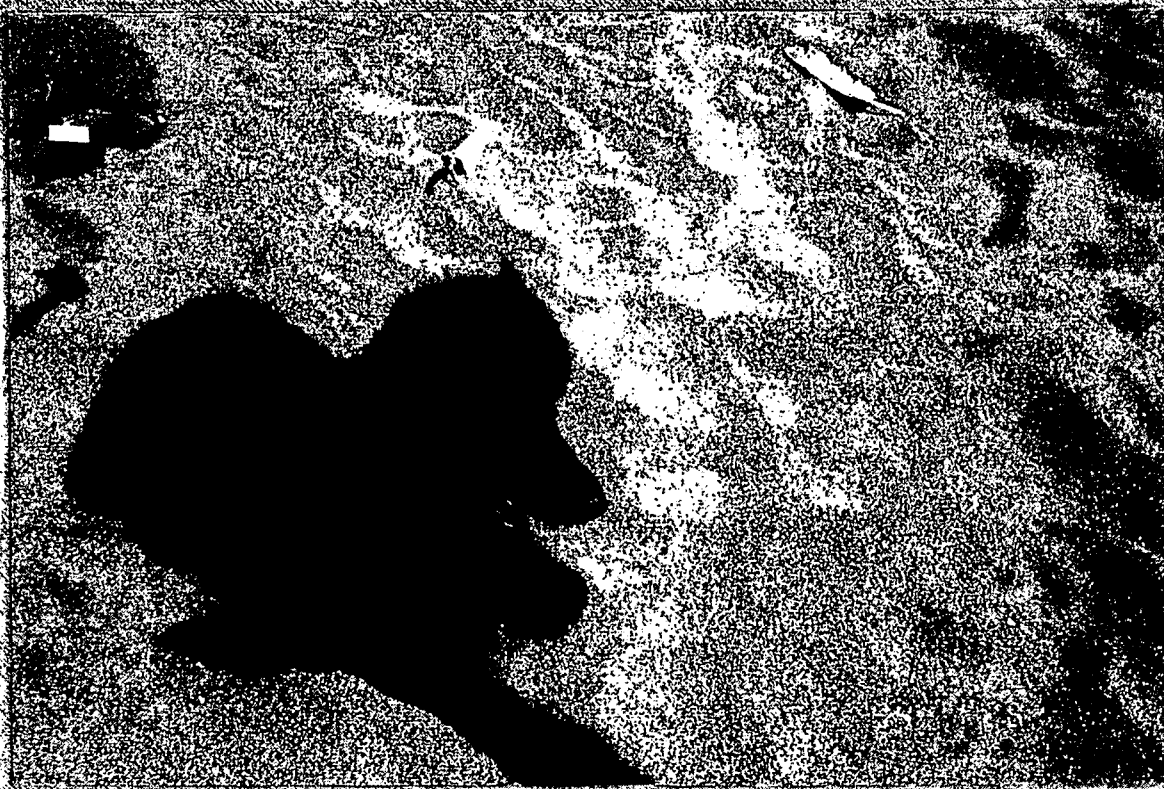
65-04-1B



65-04-1B



65-04-113



LANA HURTEAU
6148 Laird Avenue
Oakland CA 94605
Phone: 510 632 8151

RECEIVED
JAN 23 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 21, 2002

Attn: ANPR
National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to voice my concern over the proposed rulemaking on pet management in the GGNRA.

I have lived in the Bay Area for 12 years now, and like many other mid-western transplants, I have deep cravings for open space. Despite its super-dense landscape, San Francisco's accessibility to the rugged coastline makes it a unique city, and it helps us "transplants" re-ground ourselves in nature and gives us a way to shed the confines of our cramped ultra-civilized urban living.

It's about feeling free.

And though I don't own one, I would miss watching dogs romping in the surf on those rare but precious outings. I would miss the shrieks of joy emitted by my toddler son when a rambunctious but well-behaved dog gets anywhere near him. It would be a shame to take away the few places the City's dogs, their owners and us big-sky loving people can all play together in freedom and in bliss.

Sincerely

Lana Hurteau

Lana Peak Hurteau

Cc: Crissy Field Dog Group
2435 Divisadero Street
San Francisco, CA 94115

67-01-1A

Jean Edwards
541 21st Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 18, 2002

Superintendent
Attention: ANPR
Golden Gate Recreation Area
Building 201
Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing in response to your advance notice of proposed rulemaking concerning off leash pets, and I wish to keep my comments out of the public record.

I am not a dog owner firstly, and I wish to fully support the expansion as well as reinstatement of the historical off leash areas. GGNRA is a recreation area not a nature preserve. Not only do I think that you should return all the traditional off leash areas back to off leash areas but I firmly believe that you should open all of the GGNRA parklands to off leash pets. I find that you as a park service you have acted shamefully and not in the public best interest. I think closing off area to public is ridiculous. I think you as park officials have forgotten the recreation word in the Golden Gate Recreation Area. Do what right give the parks back to the dogs.

Sincerely,

Jean Edwards

68-01-1A

CAROLYN ZECCA FERRIS

99 Telegraph Hill Blvd.
San Francisco, CA 94133
Phone: 415 989 0189 Fax: 989 0192
E-mail: calzecc@attglobal.net

RECEIVED
JAN 23 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 21, 2002

Attn: ANPR
National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

To whom it may concern:

As a San Francisco native and dog-owner, I am writing to voice my concern over the proposed rulemaking on pet management in the GGNRA.

Land's End, Ocean Beach, Crissy Field – these extraordinary open spaces serve as meccas for a city of people with tiny property lots and strong yearnings for a good romp on the beach. We, our children, and our dogs need exercise to stay healthy and happy. As responsible residents, we deserve to relax when enjoying our local recreation areas, and this right should be afforded to our well-behaved, voice-controlled canine companions as well.

Our family has been walking our dogs at Crissy Field for years and we have never had, or caused, any trouble. Dogs running and playing in the sun and surf is one of the charms of this unique urban shoreline, and we submit that San Franciscans can be trusted to keep the park enjoyable for all, as we have been doing for years.

Sincerely



Carolyn Zecca Ferris

Cc: Crissy Field Dog Group
2435 Divisadero Street
San Francisco, CA 94115

69-01-1B

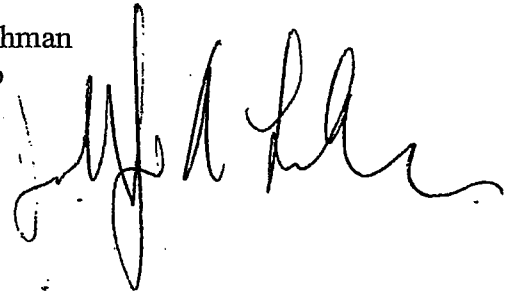
RECEIVED
JAN 23 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 18, 2002

Dear Golden Gate National Recreation Area,

I strongly urge you to maintain your policy of allowing dogs off leash under voice control in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I am the owner of a friendly, well-trained dog who loves running on the beach with other dogs. It provides wonderful exercise and socializing opportunities for both of us. We have spent many happy hours on Rodeo Beach and Muir Beach, and I have never seen a problem arise involving a dog. It is one of the joys of Marin County to have a beautiful area where dogs and people can come together to enjoy the outdoors. Please don't take this away from us.

Jeff Lehman
Novato



70-01-1B

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Re: Leash law

January 21, 2002

I would like to take this opportunity to express my support for relaxing the dog policy on the GGNRA lands. I support the development of zones where dogs are permitted, or are not. Dogs can be well mannered, on or off the leash; voice control should be permissible. We do not tolerate disorderly individuals in public spaces and dog owners should also be responsible for their dogs behaviors.

I feel very strongly that dogs should be allowed to run off leash in certain areas, under voice control of an individual. One area which should be as such is Rodeo Beach in the Marin Headlands.

Dogs, Dog Owners and non - dog owners, bird lovers, horse folk can all coexist in open space. The parks are for all of us together. I recognize your decision is pending: please do not restrict dogs from the GGNRA areas and permit them to be off leash if under voice control.

Thank you for your consideration,



Jane Hook
15 Atwood Avenue
Sausalito, CA 94965

I

71-01-2

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 19, 2002

Golden Gate Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

To Whom It May Concern;


I am in great hopes that GGNRA will decide to relax it rules regarding dogs running unleashed on the beach. There are so few places dogs may 'run' in the Bay Area.

I have three small dogs that love the beach! Their attitude at the beach is so care free, it's like no-where else. All the other dogs I meet on the beach act the same way. I believe it is because none of these dogs consider the beach "their territory". When you meet a dog in his neighborhood, he may feel the need to 'protect his turf'. I do not find that this ever happens at the beach.

The dog guardians I have encounter on our walks along the ocean's edge appear to be very responsible. We all carry our 'poop bags' and leashes. I realize we are liable as dog guardians. However, speaking for myself, my dogs are a part of the family. They get the love and training they need and are thus, very mindful, recognizing my husband and myself as the "alphas" of our pack.

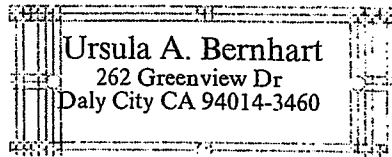
Please let dogs romp, play, and swim in the ocean while in the sights/protective hands of their humans.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Weaver
747 W Sixth St
Gillroy, CA 95020

72-01-1C



RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Jan. 22, 2002

Golden Gate Nat. Rec. Area
Attn. ANPR
Fort Mason Bldg 201
San Francisco 94123

I am writing in support of stringent restrictions on dogs in National Parks / monuments / Recreation Areas. If allowed, they must be leashed at all times and under the owner's control.

It should not be up to selfish, uninformed or narrow-minded dog owners to decide where and if in public parks they can let their dogs roam free.

There are many problems with dogs in parks and other areas open to the public, including threats to wildlife, intimidation and attack on people, annoying barking, defecation, lack of control by owners, to name some of the most obvious ones.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I look forward to implementation and enforcement of regulations curtailing presence of dogs and requiring them to be leashed where permitted.

Sincerely, Ursula Bernhart

73-07-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

HOW TO COMMENT

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

BY MAIL OR FAX TO: Golden Gate National Recreation Area; Attention: ANPR; Fort Mason, Building 201; San Francisco CA 94123. Only comments received by March 12, 2002 will be considered, so be sure to get your comments in as soon as possible.

If you write a letter of comment, the Crissy Field Dog Group would appreciate receiving a copy. Please send a copy to: Crissy Field Dog Group; 2435 Divisadero St.; San Francisco CA 94115

IN PERSON: Comments will be accepted at public meetings to be announced. For meeting dates and locations, please call 415-561-4728.

WHERE TO GET OR SEE A COPY OF THE ANPR

You can see a copy of the ANPR at GGNRA visitor centers, including the Presidio Main Post Visitor Center [415-561-4323] or the NPS Pacific West Information Center in Building 201, Fort Mason [415-331-1540]. Copies are also on reserve at San Francisco Public Library Branches. You can also get a full text of the ANPR on the internet, at www.nara.gov/fedreg/

For more information from the GGNRA, call Christine Powell at 415-561-4728.

For more information, including how you can help, contact the Crissy Field Dog Group at Crissyfielddog@AOL.com or call 415-346-5934.

at age 79 I am not able to give much support. However I am a dog lover and firmly believe that dogs need the space to run unleashed. Good luck.

Evelyn Mullen

*2295-14th Ave.
S.F. Ca 94116*

74-01-1A

January 22, 2002

Golden Gate Recreational Area, Attention ANPR
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear GGNRA,

We are responsible, considerate, and active dog owners. Some people fly kites, play football, or cycle, some windsurf or wade in the water. At Crissy Field, people do all these things and more. We like to play sport with our dogs. In the grassy field, we play fetch. At the shore, we challenge them to brave the waves. We obedience-train them. We bond with them, and we bond with a community of dog-owners and all enthusiasts there who share our love and respect of the park.

Like many, many people, we anticipated for some years the re-opening of Crissy Field. Like everyone who visits there, we adore the place and laud the outstanding end of all your efforts to clean it up, rebuild it, and to maintain and preserve it now. We read the historical stations, take interest in the bird-life, adore the fact that you installed a water fountain for dogs, and collect ourselves there as citizens, with a feeling that our city is like no other.

We take pride in Crissy Field. We clean up after ourselves and our dogs. We maintain verbal connection with our dogs and remain in control of them. We share responsibility with cyclists to avoid accidents. We gently but firmly police other dog owners, who might have overlooked the mess or misbehavior of their dog. We do not allow our dogs into restricted areas, and we never allow them to act aggressively toward other dogs or toward people.

Yes, there are other off-leash walks in the "Bay Area," but we want to stay in San Francisco, buy a hot chocolate or a gift at The Warming Hut at Crissy Field, swing by Fireside Photo to get some film developed, or enjoy a slice of pizza from Orgasmica after our walk. In other words, we want to patronize the businesses in San Francisco, and, in San Francisco, Crissy Field is the best, our favorite, off-leash park because it is not ringed by roads.

That is why we ask you to please keep Crissy Field an off-leash park, where we can give our dogs the active playtime they need for their bodies and their temperaments and don't have to drive across a bridge or dart through traffic to do so.

In our honest opinions, parks are not worse, but better places for having alert, attentive dog-owners and friendly, accessible dogs as one in a variety of park-users. Friendly dogs are a great way for children to learn how to interact with all dogs, and we know that more than one alert dog-owner has saved a child from running through a parking lot.

Think of it this way: you have a great resource of interested, organized citizens. Harness it. Help us organize special clean-up days for the park. Remind all dog-owners of their responsibilities. HELP US HELP YOU keep Crissy Field a great park for ALL your citizens - even your four-legged ones.

Paris Morgan
Paris Morgan
110 Divisadero Street
San Francisco, CA 94117

MH
Mark Hyland
110 Divisadero Street
San Francisco, CA 94117

75-02-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 19, 2002

**COMMENT REGARDING PET MANAGEMENT IN THE GOLDEN GATE
NATIONAL RECREATION AREA**

**SUBMITTED BY: TERI LOREN GOODMAN
2290 VALLEJO STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123**

Proposal:

Grant a specific GGNRA off-leash permit to individual dogs who have passed a required obedience test and whose guardian has paid the fee established for the permit, which is renewable annually. The permit would be in form of a brightly-colored dog collar with the number of the permit and date of issue prominently displayed on it.

Potential Administrative Format:

Obedience testing could be done on a regular schedule, perhaps twice per month, at a designated area, either within the GGNRA or at a facility such as the SPCA or San Francisco Animal Care & Control. In the first phase of implementation, this schedule would most likely need to be more frequent.

Dogs failing the obedience test could be directed to training classes already offered at San Francisco Animal Care & Control and the San Francisco SPCA.

Granting of the permit could potentially and ultimately be administratively related to the granting of a San Francisco city dog license.

The number of permits could be limited to a certain percentage of the dog population of San Francisco.

Cost of administration would be covered by the annual permit fee.

Volunteers who are animal behavior specialists could be enlisted to provide the evaluation service, saving administrative costs.

Presence of dogs with permit collars could be limited to specific days in specific locations.

A trial run of the system is suggested prior to final legislation and implementation. The trial run might be underwritten by an animal welfare organization, given the high degree of interest in this issue in the community.

TS-C2-1A

Enforcement:

A heavy fine would be imposed in the case of any dog seen off-leash without the permit collar.

A fine would be imposed in the case of any dog or guardian observed not adhering to the published dog behavior code of the GGNRA; e.g., refrain from digging, pick up the dog's waste, avoid trampling endangered plant species, avoid tormenting wildlife, etc.

The permit would be rescinded in the case of any dog committing a serious breach of conduct.

76-01-1A

January 21, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention ANPR; Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco CA 94123

To GGNRA:

I want to express my sincere desire that you continue to allow the off-leash area for dogs at Crissy Field. I live in San Francisco in an apartment and have two Labradors. Dogs need exercise and an area where they can run free and get their energy out. They *require* exercise and for many of us.... dogs are our family.

We pay taxes too and it is only fair that we have a FEW areas in SF that we can exercise our dogs and play with other dogs. Crissy Field is excellent in that the beach is off behind the walk-way...the beach is very in-hospitable to people (rocky and steep shelf drop off in water make it impracticable for children) and it is a relatively small space but the dogs get great exercise and socialization by running on the sand and in the water.

It is critical that dog owners have some place, some outlet and with that...we can respect ALL THE OTHER parks in SF that prohibit dogs or require leashes.

Thank you for your help on this critical matter.



Karen Richardson & Jon Rubinstein
611 Washington, Apt 2104
SF, CA 94111

Cc; Crissy Field Dog Group
2435 Divisadero St.
San Francisco CA 94115

GGNRA000546

77-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 21, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
Attn: ANPR

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a frequent visitor to the Fort Funston Park in San Francisco.

I feel dogs should not be leashed because it gives them a chance to interact with all breeds of dogs. Since I have been going to Fort Funston I have not seen any dogs be aggressive towards people or other dogs. All of the dogs are well behaved and having a good time.

While you are walking your dog you meet people of all ages and races. It's not only good for the dogs, but the owners get a chance to meet new people as well.

Fort Funston is very clean and maintained very well, the owners pick up after their pets.

It would be ashamed if this park would change its practice's now. There should be one place that the dogs are able to run free and safe.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. and Mrs. Rice
Pet Owner

78-01-1A

1906 Leavenworth St.
San Francisco, CA 94133
January 19, 2002

RECEIVED
JAN 23 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sir or Madam:

Although I am not a dog owner I support off-leash dog walking at Crissy Field. There may be on-leash rules for dogs at national parks. However, Crissy Field is not a typical national park. It is part of a city where there is a large dog population and where dogs are cherished as man's best friend by most people. Such rules should not apply here.

Crissy Field is one of the few spacious areas in San Francisco where dogs can run and play with their masters and with other dogs. It is a delight to watch them chase balls and sticks on grassy fields, along the beach and into the water and to chase after each other in friendly play. Dogs need this type of exercise and activity.

The dogs at Crissy Field do no harm to anybody or anything. They interact with people and each other in a positive way while off leash, for they do not feel threatened by inability to protect themselves as they sometimes do while under restraint. They do not chase birds, for a stick, a ball, or another dog is more intriguing to them. Just watch them on a weekend morning. Any bird that can't fly away from a dog is doomed for failure anyhow.

Although the expression "mean spirited" is overused, I believe that this effort to curtail dog and people frolicking is a mean spirited exercise not only directed at dogs but their masters as well. It is hard to believe that there are people representing our government who support this intrusion into animal lovers and their pets lives. How can these people be so inflexible that they would pursue their unpopular quest to impose unwanted restrictions at Crissy field rather than attempt to make an accommodation? This big arm of government is inconsistent with democratic values.

Please rethink a dictatorial policy that does not fit the circumstances. One size doesn't fit all, and I hope your group will take this to heart.

Yours truly,

Shirley Bates

Shirley Bates

79-03-1A

1/3

January 20, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

CL. COMPTON'S OFFICE



Labrador ©1998 Retriever

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Advance Notice of Rulemaking Process

From: Stuart Odell
2263 Clay St
San Francisco, CA 94115

Re: OFF LEASH DOG ISSUE

I am writing to express my deep concern over the limitations being imposed on off leash dogs at Crissy Field. I have been taking my 6 month old Labrador retriever, "Cali", to Crissy Field ~~every~~ every week since she was 12 weeks old to play in the water and run off leash. It is important to her health and well being that she be able to exercise, and Crissy field has plenty of room to accommodate everyone including off leash dogs like Cali

79-03-1A

P2/3



Labrador ©1998 P. S. S. S.
Retriever

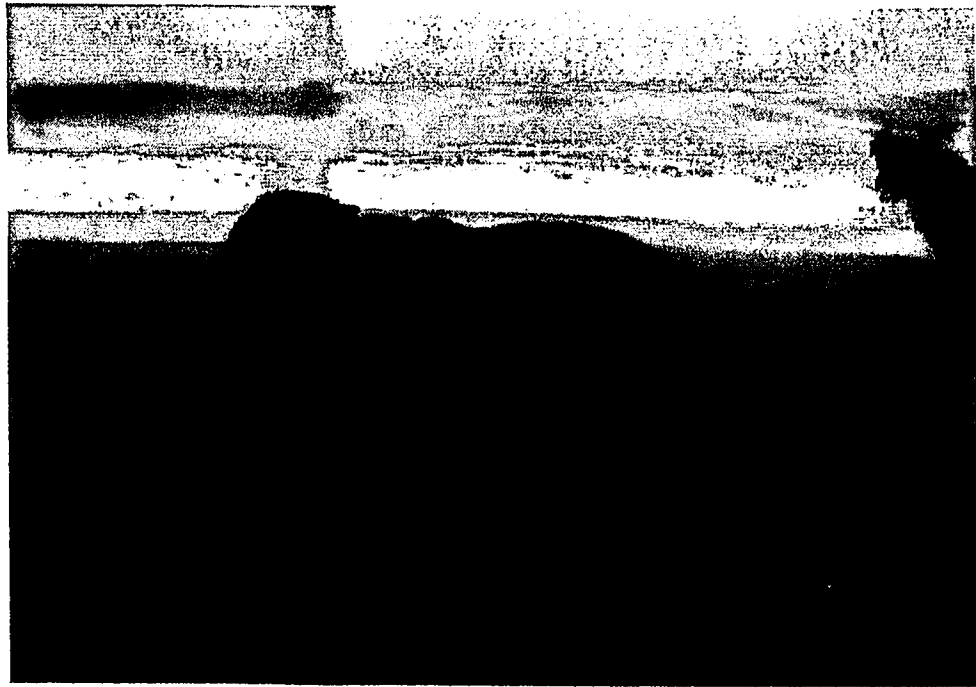
and others. As a dog owner
in San Francisco, I am very
aware of the need to
protect the environment and
from everything I have seen at
Crissy Field over the past 3 months,
the dog owners are extremely aware
& considerate of the environment.

Thank you in advance for realizing
that ~~allowing~~ dogs off-leash at Crissy
Field should be allowed and that
the facilities were meant to accommodate
everyone, including off-leash
dogs, like Cali.

Shunt Cole

79-03-1A

3/3



80-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Alison Lufkin
2843 Fillmore St.
San Francisco, Ca 94123
415-292-4830

January 19, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason - Bldg. 201
San Francisco, Ca. 94123

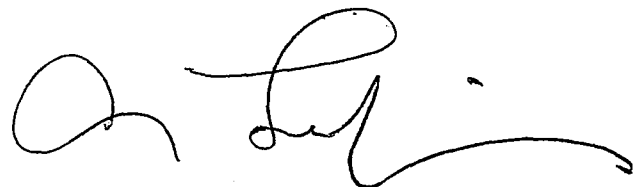
To the members of GGNRA'S Advance notice of rulemaking process:

I am writing to strongly urge you to keep ample space for off-leash dog walking at Crissy Field. There is a room enough for all beings to enjoy Crissy field, and it is imperative to the health and well being of dogs that they have space to be adequately exercised. There is no reason we cannot all share the land, and still respect the rights of all park users.

Please be fair in this very important decision making process, and do not discriminate against the dogs and their needs.

Thank-you for your time.

Sincerely, Alison Lufkin
Quincy, Chloe, and Sullivan



81-01-1B

RECEIVED

January 20, 2002

JAN 23 2002

GGNRA, Att: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, Ca 94123

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

Our entire family, wife, kids, grandkids and dog, are park users. We have practically stopped taking our retriever on our approximately monthly (or more) visits because of the very restrictive (no dog or leash only) regulations within the park.. This letter comes as a request for more reasonable pet access.

We have observed very low park usage on our weekday visits. There are few if any vehicles at North or South beach, or various trail heads. It is not uncommon for us to encounter no one on our many park excursions. The one place North of the light house that always seems to have activity is Kehoe Beach (leash only), and this location is obviously more popular than McClures (no dogs) and Abbotts Lagoon (no dogs) both in the same area. Candidly, from the standpoint of encouraging park visitation, dog areas appear to do more for attendance than anything we have observed occurring in the park. It is easy to sympathize with Park Staff and Volunteers who might feel less is good when it comes to park use, but the Park owners (us) feel improved access and recreation is the key to making a better Park., and better experience for its' owner users.

We therefore suggest the following:

1. Dogs on leash be allowed access to all Park trails and beaches. Locations deemed too environmentally sensitive to allow leashed dogs on trails should be posted - no dogs. Requiring dogs on leash and on trail or beach should protect most sensitive areas.
2. One beach area and one inland area in each of the North, Central, and South areas be designated Off leash dog zones for dogs under full voice command. Should a Park representative so request an owner must show voice control to that representatives satisfaction.
3. If areas adjacent to trails or beaches are too pressured or sensitive for dogs then post them as such and cite violators.
4. Park representatives should have the authority to demand a dog owner and pet leave the park anytime the behavior of either is outside park regulations or their conduct is such they are a hazard, or nuisance to other visitors and animal inhabitants

Perhaps a simple name and address list that is posted in employee /volunteer common areas , of those asked to leave the park , would serve to make sure repeat offenders are cited.

Yours Truly
Joe and Cindy Alvey
649 Trumbull Ave
Novato, Ca 94947
415-897-0840

82-01-10

GGNRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Fax: (415) 561-4355

RECEIVED
JAN 23 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area:

I visited Crissy Field yesterday and I was surprised to see all of the unleashed dogs there, some of which were running free on restricted beach areas near Fort Point. I did see, however, several people picking up dog poop, although one man covered up the mess his dog had made on the beach with sand. It appeared people were aware, at least on one level, that the public wasn't going to tolerate dog POOP!! But putting dogs on leashes is another issue which needs to be addressed.

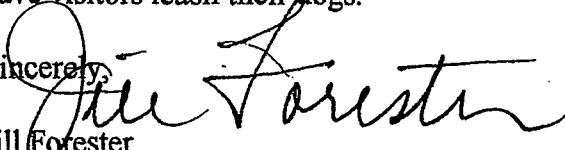
The GGNRA Ranger we met explained to us in detail the controversy between dog owners and the Park service. She emphasized that the current regulations required that all dogs be leashed in all areas where dogs were allowed. She was most informative and encouraged us to explore GGNRA using the many trails throughout the Presidio.

I want to comment on the issue of pets: I feel that all pets need to be on leashes at all times, as is the current regulation, and that pet owners need to be held responsible for leashing their pets. How this is accomplished is a problem. Possible solutions might be to: 1) have more signs in the area /along the walking trail stating that there will be a fine if they do not comply with the regulation. 2) a clearly designated area for dogs to run without a leash, 3) distinctly recognizable volunteer patrol to remind people of the leash regulation (not to enforce/issue citations as this can be potentially a threat to their safety), 4) school children in San Francisco could make posters to place around the park as a "gentle" reminder to the public that there is a leash law in GGNRA.

In closing, I would like to say the Ranger I met at Crissy Field was respectful of dog owners, but was concerned for the safety and enjoyment of people visiting the Park. She was most informative and helpful.

From my perspective as a teacher of young children, who are by nature inquisitive and fearless of animals, it will be a matter of time before a child is severely bitten. The results of this will end up in the court of law if GGNRA is not more aggressive in their efforts to have visitors leash their dogs.

Sincerely,


Jill Forester
P.O. Box 370354
Montara, CA 94037

83-03-1B

PATRICIA J. CUMMINGS

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

CGN RA

I would support the most restrictive dog policy. Leashes where dogs are allowed and very few areas where dogs are in the park. I have a dog and like to use parks where they are allowed. But there are too many dogs (and people) in the Bay →

1/3

83-03-1B

Area - not enough parks. People with dogs and no place to take them should
① reconsider their pet choices or ② be willing to contribute ^{money or volunteer time} to more public space that is convenient, free access, where dogs can roam and play - but federal parks are not the place for dogs or bikes - certain areas, yes, but overall, please be restrictive.

2/3

Nor Cummings

83-03-1B

Friday, January 18, 2002

Roger C. Grossman, Publisher
Jackie Kerwin, Executive Editor

EDITORIAL

Time to unleash ideas on dogs and GGNRA

THE GOLDEN GATE National Recreation Area is asking the public to tell it what sort of pet-management policies should be enacted at the park.

That's an impressive departure from the direction park officials were headed when they were ready to begin enforcement of the park's written, but largely ignored policy, requiring dogs to be kept on-leash.

There should be room for compromise between the National Park Service's leash law and people who enjoy running their dogs on the expansive park.

Certainly, the park service can make a good case that there are places where dogs should be kept on leash. There are environmentally sensitive areas where dogs shouldn't be allowed to roam or run around. Those areas should be protected.

But the GGNRA is a large and diverse park. There is plenty of room to avoid a blanket rule.

Enforcement of a federal one-

size-fits-all rule that dogs be kept on-leash would be a disservice to people who treasure the GGNRA for its recreational opportunities.

There may be room for park officials to tighten up the 1979 rule that allowed dogs to be off-leash as long as their owners had "voice control" over their pets. But perhaps the park service should also designate special leash-free areas or beaches.

A park-wide prohibition on letting dogs run leash-free would deter from the recreational opportunities that people find at this "urban" recreational park.

The park service has started a 60-day comment period and it's definitely time for the public to give officials their opinions and specific recommendations. Letters should be mailed to the GGNRA, Attention: ANPR, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco 94123.

There's plenty of room for a middle-ground approach to this problem.

GGNRA000557

3/3

84-01-2A

Dear Representative of the National Park Service,

First let me say, I do not have a dog or a hare, I am a member of the Audobon Society.

I walk at Ft Funston 5-7 days a week. And I walk there because of the dogs and their owners. Ft Funston is the cleanest and safest park in the San Francisco area because of the dogs and their owners. In your statement you say the Park Service must manage park resources - in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. Yet you have dreadfully neglected this area not only allowing erosion by neglecting the existing drainage ditches and roadway drains but by actually increasing erosion by pulling up plants that protect the fragile area sand dunes.

It has only been in the last two weeks that any prevention has been done - in maybe 4 years.

When I voted to add this area to the GGNRA it was with the understanding that this recreation area would remain as currently was being managed. If it is your intention to prohibit voice control of dogs, and I believe it is because I believe you have no interest in the public using Ft Funston - then you have once again lied to the users. I believe in any case the GGNRA has proven a poor custodian and the city of SF can and should remove the area from your control. Distant bureaucratic decisions do not serve the citizens of the SF Bay Area. You have betrayed your trust and already allowed severe damage.

I am opposed to requiring dogs on leash.

Barbara Fugate

GGNRA000558

85-05-1B

RECEIVED
JAN 24 2002
SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

81 West Shore Road
Belvedere, CA 94920

January 21, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR, Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: Off-Leash Prohibition of Dogs at Rodeo Beach

To Whom It May Concern:

My wife and I have enjoyed running our dog at Rodeo Beach since we moved to Belvedere from San Francisco 45 years ago. As taxpayers we strongly favor accommodating dogs at the beach and at the same time protecting the environment.

In all the hundreds of times we have run our dog, she has always been "under control," never taken off leash until the ocean shoreline reached, her feces always picked up, and lagoon area totally avoided.

We recall only one instance of a dog not under control. The owner was indifferent when her large dog attacked me and my small West Highland White Terrier who by that time was in my arms. The incident was reported to a ranger but by the time we found him the woman and dog had left.

We consider the principal problem at Rodeo Beach to be dog feces left in mounds all over the sandy beach. No dog owner should be allowed to let this happen. We have several "Mutt Mitt" stations in Belvedere where dog owners can pick up their dogs' feces with the "Mutt Mitt" while on a walk. This has greatly reduced the problem in our parks and streets. Such stations at the bridge and north end near the rest rooms at Rodeo Beach would help solve the problem. Any violation should be subject to a large fine.

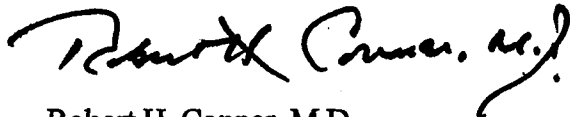
We also believe that dogs should be allowed off-leash only in an area limited to 50' within the ocean shoreline. Continuation of 1979 approval allowing unleashed dogs under "voice control" should be continued. Then Labradors and other dogs could continue to chase balls into the surf and get the exercise they so need and cannot get while on leash.

January 21, 2002
page 2

Perhaps a leaflet on "Your Dog at Rodeo Beach" outlining restrictions and the reasons why, where dogs can be off leash, etc., could be placed at stations near the bridge and the rest rooms. Fines for violations should be clearly indicated.

There is no reason why dog owners and non-dog owners, all taxpayers and supporters of Rodeo Beach, cannot reasonably accommodate each other and enjoy the beach, its beauty and environment.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Conner, M.D.

Enclosure: "Mutt Mitt" Description and Sample



Mutt Mitt



- Shop Online
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- Dispenser
- Email List
- How To Use
- Flexi USA



Thank you for being concerned enough about the environment to use the Mutt Mitt! The mess that comes with dog ownership effects the owner's home, yard, neighborhood, and community. Typically, the issue of mess, or "poop" as it is called in scientific circles, is addressed in public by simply denying access— **No Dogs Allowed!** We know that pet owners will be responsible if clean up is convenient. If clean up is inconvenient the pet owners tend to leave the mess behind.

Technically, the Mutt Mitt is known as a disposable collector/container. It was designed for the medical profession as a way to collect and contain contagious and infectious waste without contamination. Pet waste is also infectious, so similar procedures for infection control is essential to the health of both

the pet owner and the pet.

The Mutt Mitt is a simple bag; sized for the human hand, 9 inches by 13 inches with a deep bottom gusset. The user's hand is inserted into the mitt with the thumb and forefingers straddling the gusset and forming a pouch on the bottom of the mitt. This pouch has a capacity of about two and one half quarts. The gusseted area is constructed of two plies and permits movement between the layers. This controlled movement provides added insulation and helps it resist tearing from abrasion, yet maintains the tactile dexterity of the human hand.

The film used for the construction of the Mutt Mitt is degradable. Exposure to sunlight, microorganisms, or heat, individually or in combination, will result in the degradation of the film. A Mutt Mitt deteriorates about as quickly as a leaf when exposed to similar conditions.

85-05-1B

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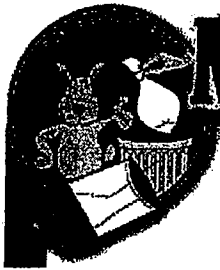
The Nature Calls Kit



PICKUP MITTS

P. O. Box 626 10,000 Lower River Road, Burlington, KY 41005
859-68989-7200 800-697-6084 859-689-5511 (Fax)
www.pickupmitts.com ipi@pickupmitts.com

85-05-1B



Mutt Mitt



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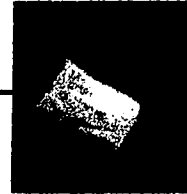
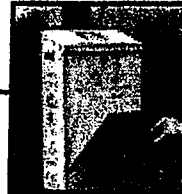
Dispenser

Email List

How To Use

Flexi USA

PARK DISPENSERS



FOR MORE INFO!

www.pickupmitts.com

5/5

RECEIVED

86-02-1A

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 21, 2002

TO GGNRA Superintendent:

There was a very lengthy and informative packet sent to me for comment regarding off-leash dog walking.

I agree with the SPCA portion naming the benefits to both people & dogs. I am also sensitive to fears of people, protection of wildlife, etc.

Therefore, I support declaring a well-posted area set aside for off-leash dogs or a series of such areas. They need NOT be fenced, but well noted with signs so that those who are fearful may avoid those areas. No time or day restraints please

In terms of paying for such an area, that should be treated no differently in funding as any other area for recreation. Dogs, dog owners, those who enjoy dogs, etc. should be considered part of the general public.

It would be a mistake to do away

GGNRA000664

86-02-1A

with the freedoms of one population
to satisfy i.e. those phobic of dogs,
Audubon society members, etc. We
all have a right to enjoy nature, incl. dogs

With brilliant people with creative
ideas, this matter should be solved
so that we all may enjoy some
portion of the GG NRA some of the time.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jerna Shaheen
1600 Vallejo Street #1
San Francisco CA 94123

415-771-3544

87-01-2.A

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear GGNRA.

I am not a dog owner but I feel
That dog owner need to have the
off leash laws kept in place. Dogs need
off leash areas to run.

Keep our parks
Off Leash

Ed S/yr

88-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

JOHN HOWARD SWAIN
700 Vicente Street
San Francisco, California 94116

23 January 2002

To Whom It May Concern:

It seems to me that GGNRA is creating exactly the sort of situation a government agency would want to avoid — turning a good area into a bad area.

Have you ever been to Fort Funston or Crissy Fields lately? They are both peaceful, congenial place where not only dogs but humans interact in a very peaceful manner. And both places are very clean. Twenty years ago they weren't like that. Twenty years ago they were both havens for drug dealers and a crash pads for the homeless.

How hard is that to calculate? Either let the people bring their dogs to those places and keep them orderly and nice for however wants to use it or make the dog owners lease their dogs (and therefore fewer and fewer dog owners will want to go) and have those places return to the dumps they were twenty years ago.

Who do you want there? Responsible pet owners (and voters) or drug dealers?

Duh?

One of San Francisco's Voting Pet Owners,


John Howard Swain

89-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Elizabeth R. Manteuffel
272 Eureka Street
San Francisco, California 94114
1/24/02

Dear Sir,

I am not in favor of a dog leash policy at Crissy Field or Fort Funston or Baker Beach.

I want to be able to continue to walk my dog off leash. It is important for dogs to have

place to be able to run free and exercise. It makes them better adjusted and

socialized. There is no better place to do this than at the beach. There is enough

room and enough time in the day that everyone should be able to use the park and still

respect the need of other park users. Thank you.

Sincerely,



90-01-1B

Jan. 24, 2002

RECEIVED
JAN 24 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

In response to GGNRA
Leash Law:

Allow dogs off-
leash in GGNRA.

In sensitive en-
vironmental areas,
restrict use to certain
areas, ex: No dogs pass
this point.

Thank You,
P. Perry
Marin County

91-01-1A

SAN FRANCISCO PROPERTY MANAGEMENT CO.

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 23, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
ATTN: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, Ca. 94123

Gentlemen:

A very large percentage of the people using the Crissy Field area on a regular basis are dog owners.

Dog owners have been walking their dogs off leash for many years in this area with apparently no problems with the other users of this area.

The goal of having an Urban National Park is to have its use compatible with urban uses would certainly include off leash dog walking.

The rules relating to national Parks use must differ according to the various uses of the park. One rule does not fit all parks.

KEEP OFF LEASH DOG WALKING AVAILABLE FOR A LARGE PORPORTION OF THE PARK USES.

Very truly yours,



DONALD SWEET

DS/kmvs

Cc: Crissy Field Dog Group
2435 Divisadero Street
San Francisco, Ca. 94115

92-01-1A

RECEIVED

1.18.02

GGNRA,

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT

As a disabled person Cansby Field is the only place I can run my dog off leash. Please don't let this change. I have been taking my dog there for the last 3 yrs. and have never seen any problems with dogs, families, and runners all getting along. Let our dogs run free!

Wendy Tarvyd
2032 Larkin St. #5
SF CA 94109
415-921-6906

RECEIVED

93-01-1A

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Tuesday, January 22, 2002

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand that the GGNRA is considering the implementation and enforcement of making Crissy Fields a leash only park. I think this is a mistake.

I absolutely enjoy beginning each day walking along the Crissy Fields Park; I think I almost enjoy it as much as my dog. San Francisco is a beautiful city but there are very few places where one can go with their dog and not be plagued with the fear of traffic. The majority of San Francisco's parks are bordered by streets many, busy. But, the Crissy Fields walk way provides a safe and beautiful place where people and their pets can enjoy the city and its views without constantly worrying about CARS and TRAFFIC. It is really one of the most relaxing areas of the city. The walk way is also flat making it more accessible to all kinds of people who need to exercise their pets.

Beyond the tranquility of no cars Crissy Fields is one of the few safe and clean parks in San Francisco. I actually live very close to Golden Gate Park and the Pan Handle and choose to drive to Crissy Fields as Golden Gate Park is full of homeless drug addicts who use the park as their bathroom. The Pan Handle in particular is full of human excrement and a very unpleasant place to visit! Ironic that I pick up my dogs waste but there is human waste abound in public parks, disgusting. One must wonder and be cautious as to what and / or who is behind, in, or under every corner, bush, and tree; it is very disheartening. As a woman I have very few choices of places where I am safe and my dog can get real exercise. Crissy Fields is unique as it is clean, safe and uncluttered for my pooch and myself.

I understand that there is much fear surrounding canines in the wake of the recent mauling and many non-dog owners have embraced a dog phobia. This fear is very reactionary and stems from a single but extreme case of violence. I believe this fear will fade as the news story fades. It seems this leash requirement is punishing a community for the irresponsible acts of a few.

The Crissy Fields path is very pleasant and I have never observed an off-leash pet act aggressively toward a human. In fact, dogs on leash tend to be significantly more aggressive than dogs off-leash as they feel they need to defend the 'territory' defined by the leash and protect their owner. Please spend some time at Crissy Fields and observe the behavior of the runners, bikers, walkers and dogs at Crissy Fields before making this judgment. I think you will find that all seem to get along quite well.

During my daily visit at Crissy Fields I have also noticed that despite a large number of pooches running around the landscape is well maintained and relatively unaffected. Owners who visit the park tend to be responsible pet owners and pick up after their dogs.

I have lived and been a taxpayer in San Francisco for 6.5 years. I grew up in the Bay Area. I have watched this area experience many changes many for the worse. I have seen a very open, liberal and livable place become more and more restrictive and lose sight of what makes the San Francisco Bay Area a great place to live. Imposing such strict rules regarding dogs and leashes seems like a dramatic reaction to a few very unfortunate instances. As well as additional unnecessary restrictions on how people in San Francisco can live their lives.

Please consider my words when making your decision. I very much urge you and your committee to continue to allow dogs off-leash in Crissy Fields.

Thank you,


Coley McBride
San Francisco Resident

GGNRA000572

94-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 22, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

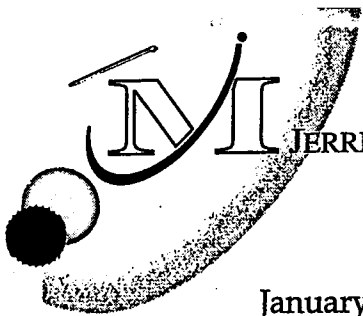
Dear GGNRA,

I am writing to ask that off leash dog areas become park policy. I own a small dog and enjoy walking with him in the parks. I am a responsible dog owner and have trained my dog with "voice control". I understand the reason dogs should be restricted from areas. I just ask you consider off leash areas. Fort Funston has been known as a friendly off leash dog area in the years I have lived in San Francisco. Please consider large fenced areas for dog owners.

Thank you,



Eric Skiver
362 Noe # 8
San Francisco, CA 94114



JERRI K. MEACHAM

95-01-1B

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 23, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

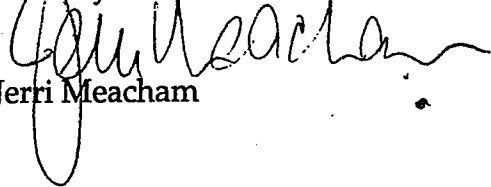
Re: Dog Leash Policy

Dear GGNRA:

I'm a resident of Marin county and have enjoyed many areas within the GGNRA for the past 20 years. I'm also a responsible dog owner and have especially enjoyed the freedom my dogs have experienced at some of your sites. They are better behaved and more socialized as a result of having places where they can run free.

I understand the many sides of the issue you are currently dealing with. I would hope that you could arrive at a reasonable solution that would satisfy most people (and dogs). I encourage you to consider allowing dogs to roam free in designated areas, both beach and land.

Thank you.


Jerri Meacham

117 Richardson Drive

Mill Valley, CA 94941

415.381.6622 Phone

415.381.3761 Fax
GGNRA000574

Arlene Gemmil
861 Clayton Street
San Francisco, CA 94117
(415) 759-1925

96-02-1A

RECEIVED

18 January 2001

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Mr. Brian O'Neill
Superintendent, GGNRA
Bldg. 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123
Re: ANPR - Pet Management in GGNRA

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I support the most stringent enforcement of the NPS rule requiring that "all pets, where allowed in national park sites, be crated, caged or restrained at all times".

Continuing to allow pets on-leash is not working and is seriously detracting from GGNRA's stated purpose of "protecting natural, historic, scenic, cultural and recreational resources for public use and enjoyment".

The NPS rule needs enforced within the entire GGNRA, the most heavily used park in the national system and where conflict between humans, wildlife habitat and pets is escalating.

As a bird watcher I have watched helplessly the last two years as off-leash dogs continue to harass birds at Ocean Beach in vicinity of the Rivera stairs; despite clearly posted signs requiring that canines be leashed. Roaming dogs at Ocean Beach also make it unpleasant to sunbathe or eat lunch on the sand.

96-02-1A

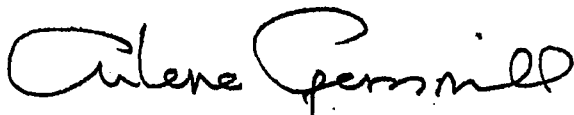
As a taxpayer I do not want any more of my money having to be spent enforcing the leash law against chronic and willful violations. My tax dollars would be better spent in education and habitat restoration.

As one of the hundreds of volunteers who donated hundreds of my hours of time to make Crissy Field happen, I watch helplessly as off-leash dogs jump into the tidal inlet, swim under the bridge and get into the marsh itself. Wildlife will not be safe in the marsh vicinity as long as pets are allowed out of cage or crate on the Promenade.

As well, I am disgusted at seeing Crissy's white sands being used as a giant dog litter box and having to dodge the dog fights that erupt. Crissy is just a lot less fun with domestic pets there.

Please enforce the NPS rule banning all pets, unless crated or caged, from all areas of the GGNRA. This is the only way to ensure protection of our national natural and cultural resources and of visitor safety.

Sincerely,



Arlene Gemmill

cc: Representative Nancy Pelosi
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer

97-01-1A RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear GGNRA,

Jan 21
2002

Please keep our right
to walk dogs off leash.

For those who live in the
city in a densely populated
area this is the ONE place
we can still be free (taking
responsibility) with our dogs
children & family. Please don't

take away this wonderful
San Francisco tradition.

It would be tragedy to
end this freedom.

Thank you Wendy Birghen

98-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January, 2002

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Darnell Tircuit (signature)

Darnell Tircuit (name)

555 Miramar Avenue (address)

San Francisco CA 94112

99-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January, 2002

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

C Elliott

(signature)

Cynthia Elliott

(name)

555 Miramar Ave

(address)

San Francisco, CA

100-01-1A

RECEIVED
JAN 24 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January, 2002

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

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I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Mayer (signature)

PRISCILLA MAYER (name)

129 Jules Ave (address)

San Francisco CA
(owner)

Susie Davis
46 Wreden Ave
Fairfax, Ca 94930

101-01-1B
RECEIVED

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Jan 11, 2002

To Whom it May Concern

Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I can't recite much of the Declaration of Independence by heart, but those words are with me always. As a nature and animal lover, I understand the need to protect wildlife from disturbance by domestic dogs. Yet, I can tell you that some of the most beautiful interactions that I have ever had with an animal have been with my dog on one of the beaches in Marin. To watch a beautiful animal playing in the waves and with others of it's kind, feeling her contentment and excitement, and then interacting with her on a meaningful level is one of the true pleasures of a my life. To think that this pleasure, this right to experience a kind of happiness that is important to me, may be taken away from me in my own back-yard is very saddening. If my "pursuit of happiness" doesn't harm anyone or anything in turn, then I feel it is an inalienable right. Is not the whole idea of America the protection of that right? Surely there must be a way, to protect the areas that need protecting and leave portions of beaches, or certain beaches open for use by off-leash dogs and their owners.

Susie Davis

Susie K Davis

103-01-2A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA
Building 201
Fort Mason

Dear Superintendent O'Neil

I am firmly in favor of the off-leash areas in the bay area. These areas have always been off leash areas and are needed for the dog owners and their dogs. Ocean beach has been recently closed to off leash pets and I find that ridiculous. The area between the cliff house and stairway 22 has historically been off leash, I understand all about the snowy Plover but the have miles and miles of beaches. This area was hardly 1 mile long. Baker Beach, Fort Funston, lands end, crissy field and all the other areas you guys have been slowly and quietly closing is maddening. When you had public comment of off leash area how any people showed up for support of the off leash laws HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS. I find that you don't listen to anyone and you have a prearranged agenda.

In closing I support of reopening of historically off leash area and expansion of new area for off leash pets.

Mark McGongagle

104-01-1A

[REDACTED] (b) (6)
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Fax

San Francisco, CA 94109-4533

Date: Friday, January 25, 2002

Total Pages: 1

Subject: Pet Management

RECEIVED
JAN 25 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Name: GGNRA

Company: Attention: ANPR

Voice Number:

Fax Number: 5614355

Note: Request you withhold my name from public disclosure.

I favor the following: Analysis be measured from current baseline of no off-leash dog walking.

Areas open to off-leash at certain times of the day

Conditions should be required of owners

Yearly nominal (\$10) permit fee

Voice control should not be employed

I favor the rulemaking to identify ways to address off lease use within the park. For instance, area within Baker Beach close to shore.

(b) (6)
[REDACTED]

San Francisco, CA 94109-4533

1/25/02

RECEIVED
JAN 25 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco, Ca. 94123

Fax 415-561-4355

To Whom It May Concern:

There is more than sufficient "public will" to want to continue the off-leash recreation for our dogs in the GGNRA.

Dogs are family members. Dogs do not thrive without fresh air and a run. It is cruel and inhumane to completely restrict their exercise space at Ft. Funston and other SF areas.

I strongly want Ft. Funston and other areas to keep the policy of "much needed recreational open space for urban environment and planning" as was agreed upon when SF gave you the land to preserve for recreational use.

I am not against compromise, but we already compromise, since the dogs now use only .5% of the 74,000 acres in question. Why are you even doing this? There is enough land set aside for bird sanctuaries and whatever else you need to study. Let well enough alone. This is San Francisco, after all, and we are used to having rights here. We believe you're stepping on ours.

Joanne Fanucchi
Daly City, Ca.

106-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/24/02
To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vera Weiler (signature)

Vera Weiler (name)

1916 Panorama (address)

St. ca 94131

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

107-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1.24.02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janet Lou (signature)

Janet Lou (name)

442 Calif. St (address)

San Francisco

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

108-01-1D

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/23/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Suzanne McKaig (signature)

Suzanne McKaig (name)

4631 Dolores Ave (address)

Oakland, Ca 94602

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

109-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/24/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mike Roper (signature)

Mike Roper (name)

4042 California St. (address)

San Francisco

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

110-01-1D

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1-23-02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Richard Schoopke (signature)

Richard Schoopke (name)

1514 Nimitz St. (address)

Alameda, Ca 94501

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/23/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Donahue (signature)

Patrick Donahue (name)

55 Cumberland St, CA 94110 (address)

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

112-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: January 23, 2002
To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ellen Stewart (signature)

Ellen Stewart (name)

1926 Palou Ave (address)

San Francisco, CA 94124

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

113-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/23/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lance Walden (signature)

Lance Walden (name)

3626 Vicente (address)

SF CA 94116

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

114-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1.20.02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Cheun

(signature)

KATHY CHEUN

(name)

4250 21ST ST

(address)

SF, CA 94114

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

115-01-1C

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/20/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kim Citrino (signature)

Kim Citrino (name)

931 Geilert Blvd. (address)

Daly City, CA 94015

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

116-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFF

Date: 1/21/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123


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Thank you.

Sincerely,

 (signature)

JEFFERSON CURRY (name)

338 HIGHLAND (address)

SF, CALIF 94116

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

117-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/21/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julian Bilotte (signature)

Julian Bilotte (name)

829 Moutrie (address)

San Francisco, Ca 94110

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

118-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/23/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

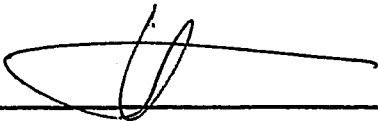
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Thank you.

Sincerely,



(signature)

Chuck Zettle

(name)

329 Bryant St

(address)

SF, CA 94118

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

119-01-1B

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/23/02
To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National Park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Birgit Alton (signature)

Birgit Alton (name)

626 Robin Dr. (address)

Port Madara, CA 94925

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

120-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1.24.02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeff Chase

(signature)

Jeff Chase

(name)

4042 California St.

(address)

SF, CA 94118

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

121-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/24/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tammy Hilbrich (signature)

Tammy Hilbrich (name)

320 Lake St, #1 (address)

SF, CA 94118

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

122-01-1A

Mr. Brian O' Neill
Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201, Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123

Emily Hatch
2465 Chestnut St #203
San Francisco, CA
94123

RECEIVED

January 23, 2002

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Mr. William Long,

I am writing to express my opposition to the leash-only policy proposed for the federal parks in San Francisco. I live, pay taxes and vote in San Francisco. I moved to the city about 8 months ago. I have two very energetic and athletic Vizslas that need to get out and run for an hour or more EVERY day, rain or shine.

Being new to San Francisco, the ability to walk with my dogs off leash in the state parks has enabled me to provide my dogs with the necessary amount of exercise the breed needs on a daily basis. In addition, it has enabled me to explore and enjoy the beauty of San Francisco as well as meet new friends, which has been important since I'm fairly new to the area. Being able to walk my dogs off leash is critical to my dogs' physical and mental health! If my dogs don't get enough exercise they'll become unruly and impossible to handle on a leash! And I say this despite the fact my dogs are VERY well behaved and have received training at the Marin Humane Society and back in New Jersey where I previously lived. The breed just needs a lot of exercise!

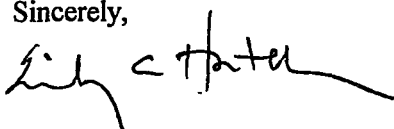
The restrictions of a leash would adversely impact my San Francisco experience and leave me few options to provide my dogs the exercise they require. There already are so few places in the city that us dog owners I can take our dogs and allow them to exercise off-leash! I understand and appreciate that wildlife and sensitive habitat preservation is important. Dogs are already restricted in those areas. My dogs were bred as bird hunters and I am extremely sensitive and cautious in potentially sensitive areas and often leash the dogs even in areas where it is not required out of consideration and respect for the environment.

Off-leash walks provide better exercise for my dogs, allowing them to cover more ground. Exercised dogs are better behaved, less anxious and high-strung, and bark less. My dogs are actually more wild and hard to control on-leash than they are off-leash! The more exercise they get, the better behaved they are! Why punish responsible dog owners like myself? Doesn't it make sense to explore other options? Why not place more trash bins and plastic bags in the parks and perhaps rope off the more sensitive areas? Why not require all dogs to pass an obedience exam at the SFSPCA and receive a pass that allows them off-leash in city parks? There are so many other ways to solve the problem than going to the extreme measure of banning people with dogs off leash to use the city's parks.

Please, I beg you, do NOT implement a leash-only policy in the parks. I honestly believe that it will create more problems in San Francisco and city apartments than it will solve for the few who have complained.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Emily Hatch

123-01-1A

Anne Widerstrom
275 Arkansas Avenue
San Francisco CA 944107

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 23, 2002

Superintendent Brian O'Neill
GGNRA Building 201
Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:


As a resident of San Francisco and a devoted dog-owner, I am writing to urge you to proceed with the rule making process with the aim of amending the leash rules for dogs to make exceptions for Fort Funston and Crissy Fields to allow dogs there off-leash.

My dog is a border collie/shepherd mix who came from the SPCA. She is six years old and a wonderful companion, as you might imagine. As a herding dog, however, she requires lots of exercise. Although I walk her regularly on leash around town, she needs time and space daily to run unfettered and to play with other unleashed dogs.

Therefore, I am asking you to do your best to get exceptions from the federal rules to allow San Francisco dogs some freedom for natural exercise, as has been possible up to now thanks to your enlightened policy of enforcement.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Anne Widerstrom

RECEIVED - 124-01-1A

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 24, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Attention: ANPR

To whom it may concern:

We write to oppose any restriction on off-leash dog walking at Crissy Field and elsewhere in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

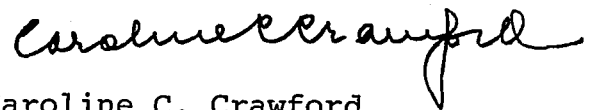
We have lived on the first block of Seventh Avenue, north of Lake Street, first as renters then as owners, since 1970. Our home at 67 Seventh Avenue backs onto the dog run area of Mountain Lake Park. We routinely walk in Mountain Lake Park and the GGNRA property that runs along the north end of Seventh. We occasionally walk at Crissy Field. We take delight in the many encounters we have with the great variety of dogs and dog walkers in those areas. It would be a shame to diminish the joy of such encounters by requiring dogs to be leashed.

Gun toting Park Police already mar the atmosphere in the GGNRA. The prospect of GGNRA employees citing dog walkers for walking their dogs off-leash is almost Orwellian.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas H. Crawford



Caroline C. Crawford

RECEIVED

125-01-1A

San Francisco, 01.23.02

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I support the present National Park
management policies concerning pet
management. Dogs should be on leashes in all
areas of the GGNRA and should be restricted
entirely from areas of special concern to pro-
tect wildlife and endangered plants.

Barbara Kockerools 628 Lough St. San Francisco Ca. 94131

126-01-1A

RECEIVED

Patrick A. Villano
2350 Fulton Street
San Francisco, CA 94118

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

REGARDING: GGNRA POLICY ON OFF-LEASH DOG WALKING

Dear GGNRA members:

I am writing this letter to sincerely urge you to decide in favor of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA lands.

I have regularly visited Fort Funston with my dog (and often accompanied by fellow dog-owner friends) for several years now, and we feel that it is a necessity for the well-being and happiness of our dogs. It is one of the few places left where we can let them off-leash to run and get the exercise that can't be had anywhere else. In a city like San Francisco, with such a large dog population, there are so few places left to exercise our dogs off-leash. The GGNRA lands are basically our last hope. If you do not allow for off-leash recreation here, as it has been for the last 22 years, there will be adverse effects on our city parks and neighborhoods. It has been my experience that even those who come to these areas without a dog enjoy the presence and play of the community of canines.

In addition to all the benefits for our dogs, it is also a very social and enjoyable activity for dog owners to go out and congregate with their friends. Professional dog-walkers use it daily, and should not be penalized for giving these wonderful animals a chance to run freely. It gives us such great pleasure to see our dogs having such a wonderful time, and we want to continue to experience our recreational areas in this manner. I feel that there can be fenced-off areas to protect the migrating birds and various plant life, as well as extensive off-leash space, as is the current situation. The two can co-exist, and this is being proven.

Please hear our voices and let us continue to use the GGNRA lands for off-leash dog recreation.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

127-01-1B

307 Highland Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94901
January 23, 2002

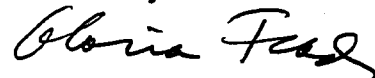
GGNRA
attention:ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

re leash laws.

I was delighted to hear that National Park Service's leash laws were going to be enforced. It is a sorry commentary when dogs needs are more important than people. I love to hike and feel compelled to carry mace with me to deal with annoying and frightening dogs. Their owners feel justified in not even having a collar on their dogs. When I request that they control their dog as I go by, frequently they insist they are harmless and take no action. And if I do not want dogs sticking their noses in my crotch, this is considered by their owners to be a totally harmless, unobjectionable activity.

I believe people should be free to roam in our national parks without being harassed by other people's pets. I have pets at home, but do not impose them on other people. I am 100% behind your enforcing leash laws. If there is a specified area for dogs that I can avoid, that would be acceptable to me, but only if the space is one that is narrowly confined and does not interfere with people being able to enjoy our national park system free of harassment by animals.

Sincerely,



Gloria Fraser

Gerald Fraser

128 - 01 - 1A

William C. Diebel
2471 Chestnut Street
San Francisco, California 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 22, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sirs:

This letter is to voice my strong opinion that Crissy Field should remain an area for off-leash dogs. People who live in San Francisco need a local place to walk dogs off-leash, Crissy Field has always been that place. The people who frequent Crissy Field, especially those who are dog owners are responsible about having dogs off-leash in this area, this should not be taken away. In the years of that I have daily walked my dog at Crissy Field, I have never seen an incident that indicates to me that dogs and dog-owners should have this right taken away. Add to that, the proposed change of use to eliminate off-leash dog walking at Crissy Field does not take into account the fact that the off-leash dog constituency is clearly that largest user constituency.

There is room for all park users in this space including people, children, walkers, runners, bikers and dogs. All of this has and should continue to happen while respecting the natural resources of this area.

I would hate to see the GGNRA kicked out of San Francisco, but the Board of Supervisors has made it clear to the GGNRA that it will exercise its right to take back the Presidio as city property if there is any further change of recreational use, especially if off-leash dog walking is rescinded. I urge you to consider the serious implications of your threatened decision.

Sincerely,

W. C. Diebel

William C. Diebel

RECEIVED

1 24 02

JAN 25 2002

129-01-1A

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Please note the
pleasure people
take in running
and playing with
their dogs at
Crissy field

Marianne

RECEIVED

130-01-18

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

25 Jan 2002

To whom it may concern:

Regarding policy on dogs in GGNRA

The problem, for there is a problem, is not dogs, but their owners.

I take hikes in the GGNRA at least twice a week, and there has never been one hike when I have not seen dogs running around without leash.

As I am an elderly person, I find it frightening to be, at times, confronting ~~my~~ dogs, in an area where dogs are, supposedly, on leash.

Some owners even have 2 or 3 dogs, and consider it their right to have their pets free to roam, wild life be damned.

So, unless there is a way of making owners responsible (i.e. - fines) I do not know that some of us who enjoy peace, silence, & beautiful places, can ever find it without feeling either afraid or threatened.

Thank you

G. Davis

Mrs Clark Davis

305 Carrera Drive

Mill Valley, CA 94941

Tel 388-5594

RECEIVED

131-01-1A

JAN 25 2002

23 January 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn.: ANPR: Fort Mason, Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sir,

I am writing to argue in favor of keeping off-leash recreation space for dogs available at Crissy Field and wooded areas of the Presidio.

The current ANPR appears to want to ban ALL off leash dog activity, and this is wrong, arbitrary and punitive to a public that has used these areas for decades.

For 18 years I have run two generations of my dogs at Crissy Field daily, along with dozens of my fellow canine guardians. I have never witnessed any damage done to property or harm come to human, dog, or wildlife. In fact, exercise and play help to prevent aggression and destructiveness by keeping the dog healthy, active and well socialized.

The Presidio is a huge area and Crissy Field is a long beach. My friends and I tend to recreate our dogs along a few hundred yard stretch, for an hour a day....and then we go to work while our dogs remain confined until we come home and take them out for another hour or so.

We are responsible pet owners who clean up after our dogs, and frequently even clean up after others less responsible!

There is a huge dog owning population in San Francisco. Keeping off-leash recreation areas at Crissy and in the Presidio is vital to our health and well-being and does not interfere at all with the rights of others who also use these spaces for their activities.

Sincerely,



Drew A Saitta
3518 Geary Blvd
San Francisco, CA

To whom it may concern: 132-03-1D

Writing to you seems my only chance at this point to affect the outcome of what I deem a very important decision: to keep Cuiry Field an off-leash area that dogs and people can enjoy together. The places that remain where people can take their dogs to get good exercise, to socialize (dog and people), and to nuzzle at the beauty we call home, are dwindling rapidly. To preserve the beauty and ecological balance at Cuiry Field, it is not required to ban all off-leash dogs. One does not mean the other. Dog owners and dog lovers know that these loyal, loving creatures

need space to roam and sniff and explore. These people also know that their right to come to places like Cuiry Field is under constant reevaluation, and are responsible to that they can continue to come back. The last time I was at Cuiry Field, my well-behaved off-leash dog garnered many smiles, started many conversations, and engendered good feelings all around - mostly from non-dog people. Don't take this option away from not only those of us with dogs, but from those living in a city that isn't for the people who don't have one, but

would if they could. It IS
possible to have off-leash
parks that are well maintained
and achieve the goal of being
a place that is good for
everyone. Give us the chance
to show that this can work
it would be a travesty to take
this away before it is shown
(and who says it would ever be?)
that it cannot. Please consider
keeping Crissy Field open to
all of us. Thank you for your
consideration.

Adolphe-William Bouguereau (French, 1825-1905)

Bohémienne, 1890

Oil on canvas, 42 x 59 in.

The Christina N. and Swan J. Turnblad Memorial Fund 74.33

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Printed in Korea

JAN 25 2002

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133-01-1A

24 January 2002

Please!

Let Scout run at Crissy Field!

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE



William Brown
2448
S.F.

William Brown

134-03-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

LINDA D. MENICUCCI, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychologist

112 Dorchester Way

San Francisco, California 94127

Telephone: (415) 665-0960

23 January 2002

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: ANPR

As a psychologist, I am well aware of the beneficial and therapeutic effect dogs have on people. Being near a dog can reduce your blood pressure, help you heal and generate responses in autistic children.

Dogs alleviate loneliness, help depressed people to smile and bring comfort to the elderly and bereaved.

These are only a few of the positive effects dogs have on people.

As a researcher, I am aware of the pain and intense suffering inflicted on dogs in the name of science and medicine. Dogs and other animals suffer experimentation

GGNRA000615

and death to help us understand disease. Some experimentation is not so noble and dogs are caused much pain and suffering for cosmetics and other non-essential products.

Dogs ask little of human society - food, companionship and exercise. And in turn we have given them little - food that causes illness, uncontrolled population or puppy mills and confinement to small houses or backyards often for endless hours of the day. A society is judged by how it cared for the helpless - children, the elderly and the dependant animals we have brought into our lives.

We can repay our canine companions here in L.A. by maintaining an off leash area at Fort Funston - as required in the original agreement. Certainly we can maintain a post for

our loyal companions. Anyone who has ever seen a dog run and jump for joy in the sand dunes at Fort Funston would know how much it means for the dog and how little it would cost us as a society. My happiest moments are walking at Fort Funston with my three year old rescued cocker spaniel. The joy in her being brings a smile to everyone's face. Honey is also a therapy dog for the 47 LPCT. Fort Funston belongs to her as much as to the birds. Please keep all or part of this wonderful place open and off leash for the pleasure of dog and people alike.

Sincerely yours,

Linda Mencucci #11

135-01-1B

RECEIVED

JAN 23 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

1212 El Cide Court
Mill Valley, CA 94941
January 23, 2002

Attn: ANPR
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason - Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RE: Rodeo / Muir / Other S.F. and Marin Beaches of GGNRA

Dear Representatives for Mr. O'Neill:

I am a dog-owner, who has enjoyed the outdoors at the above venues far more since I got my dog. Some say that dogs interfere with other wildlife at the beaches. Rather, it seems to me that we who are out there so frequently become additional guardians for all the wildlife. I can't count how many times my dog-friendly associates and I have called the Marine Mammal Society, Wild Care or the Marin Humane Society about sick or injured animals. We have been active in our daily routines -- from untangling fish line wrapped around a struggling cormorant to protecting an injured pelican until help arrived. From helping a beached salmon get back in the creek water at Muir Beach to calling about sick or injured beached seals/sea lions. We not only pick up after our dogs, but we pick up other trash on the beach. Of course, dog animals should not be allowed to disturb a fragile ecosystem being restored, but dogs romping along the water's edge and in the surf do not harm the environment. The ocean is strong enough to handle that activity of humans and dog animals.

Please continue to have leash-free beaches with dogs under voice control. Dogs who can't be controlled shouldn't be there, but most dogs are well-behaved and get along well with other dogs and us humans at these public beach areas.

Thank you for taking the time to get input. I hope that this reasonable approach will prevail. Please call if you have questions/comments. 415/383-3065.

Yours truly,



Christina DeRockere



TO whom it may concern

JAN 25 2002

1/21/02

One of the greatest joys of life
for a dog owner is to be outside
enjoying our beautiful county
with the dog off leash and
running, jumping, socializing &
exercising. Dogs & people need this!

Our county is so large, we have
so many trails, little beaches,
fire roads, parks - surely some
compromise can be made for areas
to be dedicated to off-leash
animals. Those that don't want to
be there can go elsewhere. There
has got to be some way to share
our open space. (Places where wildlife
is not endangered). Hoping for the best!

ZOE STERNBERG
8 Monte Vista Ave
Larkspur, Ca. 94939

137-02-1A

January 24, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreational Area
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

To whom it may concern,

Historically, Fort Funston of the GGNRA has been a multi-use recreation area where horses, dogs and their owners can exercise and play relatively unimpeded by strict guidelines. It is a San Francisco tradition that sets Fort Funston apart from the rest of the GGNRA. This is the legacy of Fort Funston and I, for one, would like to see this be the park's future.

There are two issues at odds however: the reality of Fort Funston as a de facto off-leash dog park and its inclusion in the GGNRA, which allows for leash-only areas. Fort Funston fulfills a vital need for dogs and their owners who live in the San Francisco/Northern Peninsula area. It is a well known fact that off-leash interaction is vital for dogs' physical and mental health and it is just as well known that off-leash recreation areas have dwindled to almost nothing. A solution must be arrived at that can balance the needs for safety, preservation and recreation at Fort Funston.

It is important to note that the operative word in the GGNRA is Recreation, not Conservation. I am a concerned environmentalist, but let's face facts: Fort Funston is not pristine wilderness and will never be as long as it is open for recreation. It is extremely important to leave areas of Fort Funston closed to foot traffic in order to protect certain species, but to limit movement in the park in general—whether by shoe, hoof or paw—is counter to the recreational nature of the park. Requiring dogs to be on leash at all times at Fort Funston severely limits the recreational nature of the area.

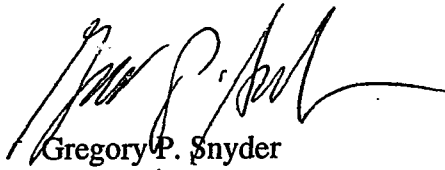
Safety is also an important consideration and although the Park Service and Rangers have a responsibility to help insure the safety of GGNRA visitors, the primary responsibility rests with the visitors and their common sense. It is true that the cliffs, for example, present a hazard for walkers and animals, but the cliffs are far greater hazards for the hang gliders that swoop low and fast over and past their edges. As for dog attacks, the only sure way to prevent bites is muzzling, which would be overkill. As a dog owner who has been visiting Fort Funston for over 2 years, I have yet to see anyone bitten or even knocked down by a dog. In fact, the dogs that run at the park are some of the best socialized anywhere in the Bay Area.

137-02-1A

One solution for tighter control of dogs—short of leashing which is counter-productive to their exercise and socialization—might be to limit the number of professional dog walkers or the number of dogs they are allowed to walk at a time. It must be difficult for one person to control a number of dogs and pick up after them at the same time. I wouldn't be surprised if many discipline and waste problems are caused by a lack of proper pet supervision. If we are to regulate any aspect of dog movement at Fort Funston, professional dog walking might be a realistic and effective area to do so.

Dogs and their owners are the primary visitors to Fort Funston and if leash restrictions are enforced, the spirit of the place will be drastically altered. In short, let's not take away a treasure of San Francisco, a piece of wilderness in an urban setting where the needs of animals and their owners can be met in just a few minutes of unbridled playtime.

Sincerely,



Gregory P. Snyder
2270 43rd Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94116

Gregor@pixar.com

138-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

PLEASE allow dogs to run free
at Crissy Field + Ft. Funston,
even if you restrict the hours
or size of the area. It is so
important to all of us who love
animals. Those who object have lots
of other places to go in the area.

Thank you (A Registered Voter)
Sandra Reynolds

139-01-1A

465 - 27th Street
San Francisco CA 94131

January 26, 2002

RECEIVED
JAN 28 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco CA 94123

ATTENTION: ANPR

Dear Staff:

I'm begging you to allow us to continue to walk our dogs off leash at Crissy Field. Crissy is an ideal spot for dogs to run and play freely. Dogs brought to this area are not "fighters" or attack dogs - just household pets and members of our families.

Rosiedog runs on the beach at Crissy at least once a week, and probably twice a week at Fort Funston. We need this space!

San Francisco is unique in that we probably have more pets than children and, thus, we need an accommodation to meet this need for "pet space." Our dogs do not vote, but you can be sure that we, their owners, do and will vote and take action.

Thank you for considering my plea

Sincerely,

Carolyn Cambre
Carolyn Cambre

RECEIVED**JAN 28 2002****SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

140-01-1A

REGARDING: GGNRA POLICY ON OFF-LEASH DOG WALKING

I am writing this letter to sincerely urge you to continue to allow off-leash recreation in the GGNRA lands, as it has been for the past 22 years.

I have been going to Fort Funston on a daily basis with my dog for the past two years and it is an absolute necessity for the well-being and happiness of my dog. It is such a beautiful place and everyday I'm there, I see people with dogs, families with children, people without dogs and older people interacting with each other with no problems whatsoever. I believe that the claim that more people would come to the parks if dogs were allowed only on-leash is absurd. If the leash law is strictly enforced, the number of people that would stay away from the parks because they have to leash their dog would far outweigh the number of people that would go there because of this. Our dogs need to be exercised off-leash so they can run and play freely with their friends. In a city like San Francisco, with such a large dog population, there are so few places left to exercise our dogs off-leash. The GGNRA lands are basically our last hope. You cannot expect our dogs to get nearly enough exercise from running them in small enclosed pens. This notion is completely ridiculous. You really must go out to a place like Fort Funston on a beautiful weekend day to understand what I'm talking about.

In addition to all the benefits for our dogs, it is also a very social and enjoyable activity for dog owners to go out and congregate with their friends. It gives us such great pleasure to see our dogs having such a wonderful time and almost instantly all the troubles of our sometimes hectic lives seem to melt away. The people here are always so friendly and it's one of the few places in the city where total strangers feel comfortable saying hello to one another.

Please hear our voices and let us continue to use the GGNRA lands for off-leash dog recreation.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Kenny Deyl
1301 Walter Street
SF, CA 94117

M41-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Kathleen Fong
265 Dorantes Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116

January 28, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Association
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sir or Madame:

I would like to join the list of supporters of off leash dog walking in the GGNRA, especially the tract known as Fort Funston.

Many citizens, including my husband and myself, use this area for recreational walks with our dogs. Six years ago when we acquired our two pets we sought out sites that were open to off leash activity in order to give our pets the fresh air and exercise they require for their well being. Before this time we had never used the Fort Funston facility and if required to leash our pets, would not in the future. This would be a devastating loss for us. We enjoy our walks along the bluff and seeing our dogs chase balls and socializing with other dogs. It is our opinion that off leash dog walking should be allowed at this site.

I do not believe that this interferes with another citizen's quiet enjoyment of this area. Dog walkers are respectful of other walkers who do not have dogs and do not walk their dogs where hang gliders gather to engage in their sport. As a group, dog walkers have made a tremendous effort to schedule clean up days to ensure that dog walking does not interfere with any other park uses.

I have also read in the news and web sites related to this issue that off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA. If the GGNRA determines that the longstanding tradition of off-leash recreation is not in the interest of the "public will", I would be in strong support of the property being returned to the jurisdiction of the City and Country of San Francisco.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Kathleen Fong

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

142-01-1A

REGARDING: GGNRA POLICY ON OFF-LEASH DOG WALKING

I am writing this letter to sincerely urge you to decide in favor of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA lands.

I have been going to Fort Funston on a daily basis with my dog for the past two years and it is an absolute necessity for the well-being and happiness of my dog. Our dogs need to be exercised off-leash so they can run and play freely with their friends. In a city like San Francisco, with such a large dog population, there are so few places left to exercise our dogs off-leash. The GGNRA lands are basically our last hope. If you do not allow for off-leash recreation here, as it has been for the last 22 years, the effects on our city parks and neighborhoods will be devastating.

In addition to all the benefits for our dogs, it is also a very social and enjoyable activity for dog owners to go out and congregate with their friends. It gives us such great pleasure to see our dogs having such a wonderful time and almost instantly all the troubles of our sometimes hectic lives seem to melt away. The people here are always so friendly and it's one of the few places in the city where total strangers feel comfortable saying hello to one another.

Please hear our voices and let us continue to use the GGNRA lands for off-leash dog recreation.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Steve Robinson
159 Parnassus Avenue
SF, CA 94117

143-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Craig Smith
San Francisco, CA

January 24, 2002

Superintendent
Golden Gate Recreation Area
Building 201
Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing in support of expanding off leash areas in the GGNRA. Long before you guys came to town there were off leash areas at Crissy field, Lands End, Ocean Beach and Fort Funston. Now you guys feel the need to close these areas to off leash dog owners, and I am thoroughly against it. I think if you have economic concerns charge dog owners an annual fee and the dogs wear a marker on their collars showing they paid for the right to go off leash in these areas. Clearly mark off leash areas and enforce clean up rules. After all the R in GGNRA stands for recreation and I don't any nature preserve in your title. The national forest service has no leash laws that I know of why do you? I wish you would listen to the general population and not the special interest groups. I came to the first hearing at the presidio and there hundreds if not thousands of people in attendance. Who are we...only the public tax pays of the bay area. Yet you still write tickets, post signs on Ocean Beach close off portions of Fort Funston. I think that you guys need to rethink what you are here for..to promote recreation in the GGNRA not a nature preserve.

EXPAND OFF LEASH AREAS AT GGNRA!!

Sincerely,

Craig Smith

144-01-1A

1/26/02

GGNRA
Building 201
Fort Mason
S.F. CA 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

SEC. TREASURER'S OFFICE

Dear Superintendent O'Neill

I am quite shocked that you are proposing leashing dogs at Fort Funston, Chassy field, Lands and etc. I am looking at 1979 pet policy about off leash dogs. We have off leash pets here for over 75 years! You guys come to town and think you can tell us to change what is ours. Stop it!

I say either we keep our dogs off leash or you guys should leave

Dave Gardner
San Francisco

GGNRA000628

Brian Morton
San Francisco, CA

145-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 25, 2002

Superintendent
Attn ANPR
Golden Gate Recreation Area
Building 201
Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neil

I have been quite upset about how the park service has violated the public trust and been running on it own private agenda. In 1979 we adopted a pet policy for land within the GGNRA and now you have decided that this policy is invalid!!! There has been off leash dog walking in these areas for over 75 years. Then you guys decided to change tings Close Ocean beach, lands end, crissey field, fort Funston and others. The public has shown an extremely loud and specific cry against these actions, yet you put up signs in our parks. I vote not only to reopen traditional off leash area but also to increase them as they are needed and wanted.

I

Sincerely,



Brian Morton

146-01-1A

2730 15th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94127

January 21, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED
JAN 28 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

RE: Off-Leash Dog Walking

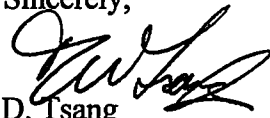
Dear Sir or Madam:

I've recently relocated to the San Francisco Bay area for my job. My immediate perception of San Francisco was how dog-friendly the city is, especially, in parks around town. I was so delighted to see how people can readily share their parks with dogs, that I immediately went out and adopted a rescued dog. That was five months ago. Traveler, my dog, is doing well and enjoying his new life. I take him to Crissy Fields every weekend morning where he can run FREE and PLAY with his friends.

The off-leash play allows my dog to exercise and have fun in a safe environment. It is very satisfying and therapeutic for me to watch him play with no worries. It is life's simple pleasure that makes it all worthwhile.

Crissy Fields is such an exceptional place, where all can enjoy and share in the fun. There's plenty of room for all of us if we all take care of our resources and respect each other's rights to enjoy the parks.

Sincerely,


D. Tsang

Cc: Crissy Field Dog Group

147-02-1A

January 26, 2002

Attention: ANPR
Building 201
Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

Last year after Diane Whipple was killed I talked to Rich Weideman and he advised me to send a letter concerning my feelings about leash rules to the ANPR. I did write that letter. Since then I have received The Advanced Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking for Pet Management and because it asks that the public respond I will take the opportunity to reiterate my concerns.

I am a new mother in the Marina District and have lived here for seven years now. The fact that no leashes are required on dogs at Crissy Field and other parts of the park has always bothered me. I feel this situation is progressively getting worse and because of it I am using this beach less frequently these days. Crissy Field is one of the few parks that doesn't enforce leashes so it seems that everyone comes here to let their dogs roam free. I have had dogs startle me by running up to me and my baby. I find this intimidating especially since I don't always know if it's in a friendly manner or not.

I am in complete support of Golden Gate National Recreation Area enforcing a law that would require leashes on dogs. I feel it is only natural to want to protect the general public. I think the National Parks have been put in a nasty situation. I am so tired of hearing the dog owners complain about having to put their dogs on a leash. Dogs are not people and we cannot always predict their behavior. They are going to have to realize that their dogs are not human beings.

Unfortunately, we don't have laws that prohibit the public from owning certain breeds of dogs that prove to be violent. If there are going to be dogs like this in the city of San Francisco then one safety measure we must take is to make sure that these dogs are on leashes. Not everyone has the family friendly golden lab. I realize this would affect the gentle and friendly dogs out there but it's better to be safe than sorry.

If the no leash law stays in effect I will have to discontinue going down to Crissy Field which infuriates me. I always dreamed of taking my child down to the beach to play and walk in the sand. I will be sick if the city does not support The Golden Gate National Recreation Area in their desire to enforce this rule. It is the city's responsibility to protect the children and general public. It is not fair for humans to have to miss out on enjoying this beautiful beach due to dog owners that feel it is so important for their dogs to roam free. **Parks are for people first!**

147-02-1A

I support the Golden Gate National Recreation Area on attempting to make and enforce this much needed law and I appreciate the fact that they are trying to take active measures on protecting the citizens, unlike certain politicians and fellow neighbors.

Thank you,

Monica Drito
3256 Octavia Street
San Francisco, CA 94123

2/2

148-01-1A

Ronald H. Ott
2257 15th Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Greetings:

I am a dog owner who lives in San Francisco and takes advantage of the outdoor recreational areas with Rudy my 6 year-old Jack Russell Terrier. I moved initially to the Lower Haight in the spring of 1995 and adopted Rudy from a couple in the Marina. He grew up and was trained at a local dog training facility and had the opportunities to socialize with other well-mannered dogs in Duboce Park. There and up at Alimo Square the dogs played well together. Occasionally a dogfight would break out but owners always intervened promptly and I've never been witness to any sort of neglect in these areas by dog owners. I think these fights were usually at high peak park times when there were lots of dogs and people together in a small, confined area.

With in the past few years I began taking Rudy to the Golden Gate National Recreation areas like Fort Funston and Crissy Field. It is my understanding that this park area is intended for off leash dog walking. These are beautiful areas on the coast that give us a chance to spend some quality time together. It's where we bring visitors from outside the state, other dog friends without transportation, and my parents for long strolls along the Pacific. It's setting is relaxed, serene, and spacious. Sometimes we don't see other families or dogs for a 15 minuet stretch. It gives us a much needed nature break in the middle of our gorgeous city. There is plenty of room for everyone, with or without a dog.

I understand that leash laws protect a cities citizen as well as the dogs and dog owners themselves. In San Francisco I have the privilege to bring my well-trained terrier into open spaces where there is lots of room and landscape for them to enjoy. The city can be a tough place on an animal especially during the week when I work 40 hours and can't socialize Rudy beneficially. On weekends Ft. Funston promises fresh air, other dogs and people to connect with make him a happy, well-adjusted city dweller. I believe that dogs should be trained to "come" on command and if these dogs cannot abide by that command then they shouldn't be allowed off leash. I think dogs should be licensed and accounted for so we don't have stray untrained dogs interfering with people's enjoyment of our landscape. I do think these are things a park ranger could enforce. Checking for a license and issuing citations for those w/out and those dogs that can't behave.

I want to use Ft. Funston and Crissy Field in the future. And I will note that I have never witnessed a dogfight at either local. Dogs have more room to run and socialize in open space free from life in the city on leash 90% of they're lives. It's a San Francisco institution that I cherish. Off leash dog walking is an intended part of these parks recreational activities and it is much needed open space for a balanced urban environment. Please keep these areas for us responsible dog owners. It's an absolute treasure that simply enforced can benefit the whole city.

RHO

149-02-1B

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR

January 24, 2002

Fort Mason, Bldg 201
San Francisco, Ca. 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

From: Dorothy E. Gibson
429 1/2 Johnson St.
Sausalito, Ca. 94965

Thank you for seeking public comment on the subject of Pet management regulations in GG NRA. I have been wanting to communicate my views on the subject; as, about twice a week I walk on GG NRA lands for relaxation and exercise. I am familiar with both lands in Marin and San Francisco Counties; and, to some extent, San Mateo. I walk both hills and valleys and beaches. My view on this subject is after considerable thought and concern as well as experience. Here is my position (principally as it applies to dogs):

Dogs should not be allowed on beaches - any beach (whether on or off leash or voice controlled).

This is because:

1) they tend to run enthusiastically ^(becoming) ~~becoming~~ a hazard to humans young or old (knocking them down, tossing sand on them, CONRAD 000000 inserting their belongings & well-being)

- 2) They are inclined to urinate and defecate frequently; and, their owners seldom pick up after them, this then, is a health hazard.
- 3) They chase birds and generally disturb any form of wild life in the area
- 4) Some dogs are inclined to be aggressive and unpredictable thereby being a threat to humans - frightening and potentially harmful.

It is my belief that QGNRA lands are set aside as areas preserved for the following reasons: first & foremost: to protect the land and wildlife within them.

Second: to serve as a buffer zone around a metropolitan area

Third: for the relaxation & recreation of human beings

Unfortunately, dogs contribute (constructively) to little of the above.

Dogs need a place for their recreation - but not at the expense of the QGNRA itself.

Thank you,

Wooty E. Gibson

150-02-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Peter von Lukanovic
1361 46th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
January 25, 2002

GGNRA
Attention ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

To Whom It May Concern:

I recently received a copy of ANPR titled "Pet Management in Golden Gate National Recreation Area", and I was very disappointed by what I read. It seems very clear that the GGNRA management does not welcome people with dogs, and information passed by the GGNRA is clearly designed to leave the reader with a negative view of dogs. I have broken down this letter into section for comments and suggestions.

Comments:

GGNRA does not have room for people who want to walk their dogs without leashes, even with over 75,000 acres. Currently only .5% of this land is available for people to walk their dogs without leashes. By my own observations over 95% of the people who come to Fort Funston come to walk their dogs without leashes, and some people without dogs come to see the dogs. The Management of the GGNRA claims that Fort Funston is overcrowded with dogs, but that is because GGNRA has greatly reduced the areas that dogs can be walk without leashes (Remember Ocean Beach).

- The Management of the GGNRA would like to forget that when it took the land from San Francisco, it was promised that the land would continue to allow all prior recreational activities including have people be able to walk their dogs without leashes. Breaking this promise clearly means GGNRA has no further obligation or intention to keep any promises. GGNRA tries to justify its new policies by saying in the ANPR that other park systems in the area are restricting dog use, but how many of those parks systems got their land by promising to allow people to walk their dogs without leashes???

The ANPR document is very strongly biased against people who walk the dogs off leash and dogs in general. Anyone who has not been to Fort Funston would think based on ANPR document that its unsafe place where seniors and minorities are under constant threat of being bitten, and endangered species when available are hunted down for sport. Further the rangers are constantly rescuing people and dogs from falling off the cliffs (I guess I missed something in the news).

- The Management of the GGNRA who wrote the ANPR seems getting their information from extreme sources. It seems very clear that the information gathered was not from anyone who actually goes to Fort Funston. I have been going to Fort Funston for the past 2 years in that time I have only seen 2 rangers both times driving on the paths, 0 dog bites or attacks, 0 fights and 0 threatened seniors. In fact both of my parents go to Fort Funston, as do many other seniors. Further many of these dog people that the GGNRA demonize in ANRC document volunteer to cleanup Fort Funston.
- The ANPR document claims that dogs chase the wild life and ever worse endanger species as well, so far I have not seen it, but Management of the GGNRA should have rangers walking around letting people know about the rules and where wild lives to avoid problems. Also the ANPR document makes no mention of any other problem besides dogs that effect the wild life or park conditions (that's very unfair, shame on the GGNRA, for being so miss leading.)

151-01-1B

GGNRA
ATTN: ANPR
Fort Mason- Building 201
SF, CA 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 15, 2002


Dear AANPR,

It is my greatest hope that we can find a way to make it okay to walk a dog off leash in our lovely public lands. I have enjoyed walking my dog at Fort Cronkite and Stinson Beach. Dogs are never happier when they run at the beach. We are a society that values our pets and we also care about wildlife. I see the shore birds and I know they need rest, especially during storms. But I haven't seen there numbers decrease and I've lived at Stinson on and off for twenty years.

My belief is that even people walking the beach disturb the resting birds. During storms, there aren't many people or dogs on the beach anyway. When an environment proves dangerous to wildlife, they avoid the danger. It seems to me a fact of life that people and dogs on public beaches are going to prevent birds from normal activities there. Just like the fact that many environments are dangerous for humans such as alligator territory in Florida, shark infested shores of the Farralone Islands and jungles of Costa Rica filled with poisonous snakes. My point is, there are so many dog owners in the Bay Area. Could we have the few public beaches for our use and leave the other local coastline (like the entire Point Reyes National Seashore) for the beautiful shorebirds? I love the birds. I continue to see them in numbers every year. I have seen the pelicans increase in numbers and that makes me very happy.

I am from Marin County. It has been very difficult to see the influx of people here but it is a simple reality. What is difficult to handle is that because of the growth, our freedoms continue to get restricted. I know it is necessary and I keep my chin up and continue to enjoy our beautiful county. But I feel strongly that our right to walk our good and well behaved dogs has already been restricted enough. Lets opt for good public education signage at the beaches. Perhaps allowing a harrassing dog to chase birds without correction could be a ticketable offense. It will be a sad day for the Bay Area if we can't have our dogs off leash at the beach.

Sincerely,


Elizabeth Cross
POBox311
Stinson Beach,CA 94970

152-02-1B

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

To whom it may concern:

My wife and I both agree with this recent editorial that appeared in the Marin Independent Journal. It seems that there must be some compromise in this situation and certain areas in the GGNRA should become available for off-leash activities even while others are posted as "on-leash only".

Please enter our opinion as "Pro Off -Leash" when you are measuring public opinion in the decision making process.

Thank You !!

Jim and Evie La Haie
83 Marin Avenue
Sausalito, CA 94965

Friday, January 18, 2002

152-02-1B

Roger C. Grossman, *Publisher*
Jackie Kerwin, *Executive Editor*

OP

EDITORIAL

Time to unleash ideas on dogs and GGNRA

THE GOLDEN GATE National Recreation Area is asking the public to tell it what sort of pet-management policies should be enacted at the park.

That's an impressive departure from the direction park officials were headed when they were ready to begin enforcement of the park's written, but largely ignored policy, requiring dogs to be kept on-leash.

There should be room for compromise between the National Park Service's leash law and people who enjoy running their dogs on the expansive park.

Certainly, the park service can make a good case that there are places where dogs should be kept on leash. There are environmentally sensitive areas where dogs shouldn't be allowed to roam or run around. Those areas should be protected.

But the GGNRA is a large and diverse park. There is plenty of room to avoid a blanket rule.

② Enforcement of a federal one-

size-fits-all rule that dogs be kept on-leash would be a disservice to people who treasure the GGNRA for its recreational opportunities.

There may be room for park officials to tighten up the 1979 rule that allowed dogs to be off-leash as long as their owners had "voice control" over their pets. But perhaps the park service should also designate special leash-free areas or beaches.

A park-wide prohibition on letting dogs run leash-free would deter from the recreational opportunities that people find at this "urban" recreational park.

The park service has started a 60-day comment period and it's definitely time for the public to give officials their opinions and specific recommendations. Letters should be mailed to the GGNRA, Attention: ANPR, Fort Mason, Building 201, San Francisco 94123.

There's plenty of room for a middle-ground approach to this problem.

153-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

January 27, 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason - Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Attn: ANPR

Dear Sirs:

There is no question as to the unique nature of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Encompassing over 75,000 acres of land and water, covering twenty-eight miles of coastline, and positioning itself within an exceptionally large urban area, this Park is truly special. As a result, the National Park Service is obliged to exercise exceptional reason, originality, and compassion when addressing the issues of utilization and preservation. Not the least of which is setting aside a small portion of this 75,000 acre park for off-leash pet exercise. To do less is to deny an entire community of people an opportunity to enjoy this wonderful resource.

For 35 years I have started and ended each day at Crissy Field watching my various four-legged companions enjoy the sun, sand, and surf. I have always been a good steward of the environment and respected the rights and feelings of others. Certainly with all this expanse of land and coastline there is room for all to enjoy the pleasures of the Bay Area. Consideration needs to be made in setting aside particular sections (including beach area), looking into specific use days or even designating hours. Dog owners are responsible and reasonable members of the community and the National Park Service needs to look beyond what has always been "on the books" and consider what is fair, reasonable, and compassionate for all.

Very truly yours,

Catherine K Gettman

Catherine K. Gettman
26 Rossi Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94118

ccs: Crissy Field Dog Group
Supervisor Gavin Newsome
Gail Norton, Dept. of Interior

154-04-1B

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Sirs/Ms's:

As a San Francisco native and lifetime Bay Area resident and dog owner I would like to cast a vote for CCRRA land to remain leash-free so those of us responsible dog owners may continue to exercise our dogs alongside of ourselves whilst appreciating some of the most beautiful views and landscapes in the world and thanking God we live here and are able to do so regardless of race, creed or socioeconomic level. A "happy good" dog is a tired dog and running, whether after a ball,

v4



154-04-1B

stick or other dogs is the best way to
exercise our dogs for those of us who are
unable to run, jog or bike ride with them.

Sincerely,

Maureen Gamma

THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

2100 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

Two Kittens, Painting by Lesley Harrison
© 2001 Lesley Harrison/Hadley Licensing

2/4

154-04-113

My 2 dogs enjoying a walk on
Open Space Land in Marin
County where I walked them every
day they were alone without 1
incident (off leash)

3/4



155-01-1A

3055 23rd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94132-1533
415/681-0957

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

National Park Service
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Attention: ANPR

Re: Pet Management

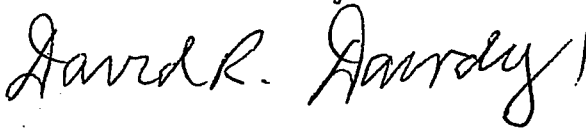
Given that most dogs do not respond to voice control, owners do not deserve special consideration.

As to future policy, it should be the same throughout the National Park system. A park should be a safe place to walk; in San Francisco there is no such place. It is not even safe to walk on a sidewalk. There are far too many dogs in the city. If we are deprived of dog-free places to walk in Golden Gate National Recreation Area, we are without any place to walk for recreation in San Francisco.

Thanks for this opportunity to respond to your concerns,



Doris Ostrander Dawdy



David R. Dawdy

156-01-1A

Date: 1/28/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED
JAN 29 2002
SUI SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

As a response to the National Park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

 (signature)

Gretchen White (name)

2289 46th Ave (address)

San Francisco, CA 94116

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

157-01-1A

BELINDA GREGORY-HEAD BDS. MS.

PROSTHODONTICS • MAXILLOFACIAL PROSTHETICS • IMPLANT DENTISTRY

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA
Attention ANPR
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco CA 94123

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing regarding the proposal to leash pets at both Crissy Field and Fort Funston.

I am a recent migrant the Bay Area having moved here from England 6 years ago. For four of those years I visited these sites without pets, I am now the owner of two small and very well trained dogs. I have enjoyed these sites at all times and I bring my overseas visitors to them. They are always amazed at the beauty of the sites and the responsible use of them by the "dog people".

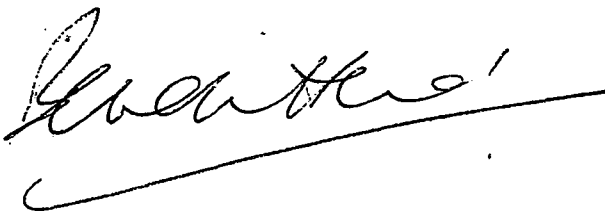
As a pet owner myself I have taken to time to train my pets, and spent money on classes to learn how to responsibly assimilate them into the urban environment. I believe the ability to exercise them off leash once in a while is nothing more than a right I have as a tax payer and lawabiding citizen.

I have read the ANPR brochure mailed to me. The arguments for both sides are valid, but on balance I can only conclude that the "off-leash" policy must continue. Responsible pet ownership in the city is fostered by having such sites.

I also am astonished that the ANPR brochure even mentions the awful and inflammatory incident of the dog mauling death last year. It is clear this has nothing to do with the question at hand.

Please mark my comment down as being for continued "off leash" and against any change in policy and increased enforcement.

Sincerely,



158-01-1C

1081 Hanover Street
Daly City, Ca. 94014

January 27, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate NRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, Ca. 94123

To Whom It May Concern:

There is sufficient public will to continue the longstanding tradition of off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area! Make no mistake – I am at Fort Funston every Sunday morning with hundreds of other folks who are thrilled to let our dogs socialize and play.

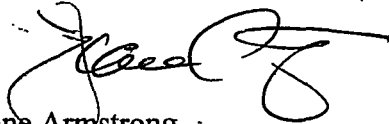
Children come there, too. Most of them have dog friends or family members with them. Singles, couples, and families—we don't take a huge amount of room and there is plenty left over for the hang-gliders, nature walkers, hikers and bike riders.

Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco gave its beaches and bluffs to the GGNRA. Changing the rules after the grant was made is unfair and a slap in the face to those who made the grant in good faith and expected tradition to be continued under GGNRA stewardship.

If a test of public will is money for the NPS, then I am prepared to take out a permit to use the area and pay an annual fee. You can find a way – if you want to – to preserve this off-leash area for the people and pets that need a local place to romp and exercise and enjoy nature. There is lots of room in the 75,000 acres that comprise GGNRA for everyone to enjoy a little bit of it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Jeanne Armstrong



RECEIVED 159-02-1A
Ms. Karen Southwick

JAN 29 2002
179 Mangels Ave
San Francisco, CA 94131-2832

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

*Please don't use my name
publicly!*

*I would like to support
continued off-leash use of
Fort Funston by well-
behaved dogs. There should
definitely be enforcement
against dogs that mis-
behave, including harassing
other dogs or people or
wildlife. However, there
are so few options in a
crowded urban city for dogs
to run and frolic, we need
urgently to keep the ones
we have - like Fort Funston.*

1/2

(over)

159-02-1A

allowing dogs to run and play off-leash results in better-socialized, happier animals. Please do not curtail this.

However, I can understand why some people might prefer to visit Fort Funston when dogs were leashed. If necessary, a compromise could be worked out where certain times of the day (i.e. 12 noon to 5 p.m.) were designated on-leash. This would have to be prominently posted.

Sincerely,
Karen Southwick

2/2

100-01-1A

~ M L E ~

RECEIVED
JAN 27 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 26, 2002

GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear GGNRA:

A long-time dog owner, I urge you to keep Fort Funston and Crissy Field off-leash for those with obedient and voice-controlled canines. The city and the Peninsula region has a strong and widespread need for park areas where folks and their dogs can freely enjoy the outdoors together.

My dog Shasta walks quietly by my side when on leash, but when she is off-leash she gets 100 times more exercise and joy! My off leash walks with Shasta provide great enjoyment for the both of us, as I'm sure other thousands of other tax-paying people with canine friends at Fort Funston and Crissy Field experience as well. I look forward to my walks with Shasta at Fort Funston every week.

If you take away this popular right given to us by the city of San Francisco, the government will effectively be taking away this wonderful joy and freedom that thousands and thousands of individuals with dogs in the area enjoy on a daily basis.

I know we can all work together on an **EDUCATION** campaign to make off-leash rules and regulations acceptable to all parties, and ticket those who do not comply with unruly dogs that dig and destroy the environment, are not under voice control and are a nuisance to wildlife. I'm sure all of us in the dog community are more than willing to help bring such issues to light with the general public as well as to new members to the dog-owner community.

I urge you to keep the off-leash area for dogs at Fort Funston and Crissy Field.

Thank you.

Millie Lee

Millie Lee
3141 Franklin St. #7
San Francisco, CA 94123
mkl@millielee.com

RECEIVED

161-01-1A

JAN 29 2002

SUPPLEMENTARY OFFICE

Yes, Indeed Dogs
are welcome to Run
Free in the Parks &
Beaches.

RECEIVED

162-01-1A

JAN 29 2002

SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

Date: 1/28/02
To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Detsy Twaddell (signature)

DETSY TWADDELL (name)

600 DUNEAN ST (address)

SAN FRANCISCO 94131

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

163-01-1A

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/28/02
To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anette Bailey (signature)

ANNETTE BAILEY (name)

2289 46th Avenue (address)

San Francisco, CA 94116

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

KATE'S CAT & DOG SALON

164-03-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

SUBORDINATE'S OFFICE

1/28/02

Good morning,

My name is Joe and I am writing regarding Off-Leash Dog Walking at Crissy Field and elsewhere in the GGNRA. I work at a dog grooming salon in S.F. I live in S.F. as well, and run my own Business here in the Afternoon & Evenings. It is extremely important, that I and others like me have a place, in which we can run our dogs free off leash. Dogs need to exercise for health purposes. Also, ~~the~~ running off-leash in an appropriate place, diminishes the pent-up energy that our pets have, that if not allowed free play may otherwise be directed in a less appropriate way. I petition you ~~to~~ (NPA)

To create a Section 7 special rule

for off leash recreation in the GGNRA
This will bring the general ~~to~~ (over)



1333 Fulton St.
(At Divisadero)
415-563-KATE

GGNRA00655



Regulation into compliance with the

GGNRA's enabling statute "to provide for

the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning."

While I seek a special rule for off-leash recreation, I also petition the N.P.S. to stop aggressively enforcing the general regulation in the parts of

the Golden Gate National Recreation Area identified by the 1979 GGNRA Pet Policy as Allowing off-leash recreation. ~~I~~ I ask that it give citations only

for aggressive or destructive dogs as promised in April 2001. Lastly, I am employed, own a

business, and own a home in San Francisco.

My tax dollars support our Park Service. I

expect my needs to be met, by my

Government. Please write me back with

regard to the action you will take to

ensure the representation of my views,

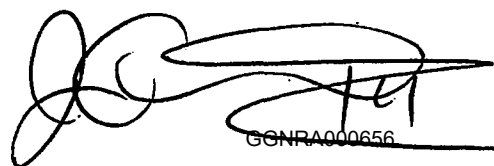
and needs. Thank you.

J. Alfano

My views represent myself

and not the views of the owner of Kate's Shop. Though,

I believe, that Kate agrees with me I don't wish to speak for her



114-13-1A

Value, Quality & Service Like It Used To Be

ECCENTRIC

J. Alfano
Proprietor

1808 McAllister Street • San Francisco, CA 94115
(415) 331-2045 • eccentric@prodigy.net

We Procure & Purvey
Oddities, Essentials & Props



KG-01-1C

01-25-02

936 Castle Hill Rd

Redwood City CA 94061

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

ATTN ANPR

Fort Mason Bldg 201

SF CA 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 25 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear ANPR Representative:

I'm deeply sorry that the lovely well used recreation area of Fort Funston has been taken away from the Bay Area residents for local ~~off~~-lead recreation and jammed into some National standard which prohibits those that were enjoying the park from using it.

You will find a huge decrease in weekday and winter use of this Park. Quite frankly, the weather at Fort Funston sucks from December through August. I'd be surprised if even 1/10 of the number of people enjoying the park are present once the National dogs on leash policy is final.

GGNRA000658

Charles Tomi Director G. Van. Pham

166-01-1A

RECEIVED

Lewis Ellingham

JAN 24 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

3850 18th Street #306
San Francisco, CA 94114
(415) 863-7103
e-mail: magicpool@earthlink.net
January 24, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sirs & Mesdames:

Your *Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, concerning Pet Management in the Recreation Area, invites comment. My comment is, DON'T CHANGE THE RULES.

Dog owners are trying for too much when they attempt mandating their preferences and convenience at Fort Funston and along Ocean Beach, not to mention everywhere else, to walk and run their dogs, in whatever numbers and under all circumstances, encouraging a belief in the entirely mythical 'voice command' euphemism for no control, at the expense of those who have other agendas and priorities. I am a birder, and have been harassed at Fort Funston just by standing on the beach watching the cliff swallows as hordes of unleashed dogs run the sand and surf and the wide sand path to the bluff above, not to mention along the paths on the bluff directly over the cliff swallow habitat in the very unstable sand formations which is their nesting area.

There were, a few years ago, California quail making a come-back in this same area, but they have disappeared in the last two years. Song birds and raptors have been more common in the past as well, particularly inland above Skyline Drive.

The threat to the snowy plovers along Ocean Beach, below Noriega to Taraval streets, is a scandal, dogs running wild where plovers attempt nesting on the open sand, a universal plover custom. If anything, much better enforced regulations preventing unleashed dog-walking along the beach and on the cliffs should be funded and manned. A notice program, with energetic educational effort, should be in place to persuade dog owners that the beach and park area is not "theirs" to do what they wish with. This is poorly understood now, so that emotions run high when park users confront one another on such issues, reducing the pleasure anyone may have in using the recreational areas.

The issue basically is, these spaces are reserved for larger uses than those associated with urban parks. These are not urban parks, but parks adjacent to a city. They are national parks, just as much so as the great wilderness parks across the country. City parks themselves are showing a strong awareness of multiple use in their territories, restricting dog owners in ways they do not like. The national parks are, and very much should be even more severe. Wild animal colonies are fragile, the animals not understanding the human political landscape and its details; they abandon areas easily, often never to return. If they themselves *can* return because they become so reduced in numbers from habitat loss.

Please keep these concerns in mind by standing firm against pet management rule changes.

Sincerely,

Lewis Ellingham
GNRA000659

167-01-1A

Peter Blumberg

RECEIVED
JAN 29 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

2536 Greenwich Street,
San Francisco, CA 94123.
Tel. (415) 563-6579,
Fax (415) 563-6285.
e-mail: Pblumber@ix.netcom.com
28th January, 2002.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area,
Attention: ANPR,
Fort Mason, Building 2011,
San Francisco, CA 94123.

Dear Sirs,

With respect to your proposed changes to pet management in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, I would like to make the following comments.

In my opinion, any move to restrict off-leash privileges for dog owners would be completely counter productive. At present, some of your most concerned and responsible users of the Recreation Area are dog owners. They not only clean up for themselves, they also keep a watch out for any irresponsible behavior, and in some cases go far beyond this. My wife and I, for example, manage to fill several garbage bags with sometimes dangerous junk that has either been dumped on the beach or washed onto the beach after being dumped in the bay. This sort of clean-up is something that the Park department seldom if ever does and if it were not for concerned beach users like ourselves, the beach would become impossibly filthy. Needless to say, cleaning the beach while holding dogs on a leash would not be possible.

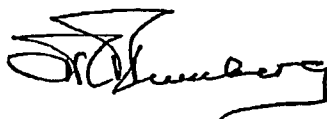
Furthermore, it would seem to me that dogs need to run, play freely and socialize with other dogs and people. This freedom encourages non-aggressive, friendly behavior. For older people like ourselves, there is no way we can provide our pets with the exercise and activity that they need to remain healthy and happy.

If it is felt that there is a problem with dog owners allowing their pets to dirty or destroy park property, then by all means fine those guilty, don't discriminate against all dog owners as a group. The same should apply to anyone else using park areas.

Finally, if there are some people, for reasons best known to themselves, who do not wish to share recreation areas with dogs and their owners, I might suggest that at certain, limited times, certain areas could be restricted to off-leash use, provided that ample opportunity be given to dog owners to enjoy the privileges that now exist.

I am sure you will give this problem your close attention and will manage to come up with a solution acceptable to all parties.

Sincerely,



168 Accidentally skipped/missed

RECEIVED

169-03-1C

JAN 29 2002

Robert Zatkan

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

140 Springdale Way - Redwood City, CA 94062
telephone: (650) 369-6462 - rszatkan@earthlink.net

1/21/01

Brian O'Neill, General Superintendent and
Rich Bartke, Chair, Advisory Commission
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: Item 2 on the Advisory Commission Agenda for January 23, 2001: Rescinding 1979 Advisory Commission Pet Policy as Illegal and Unenforceable (per 36 Code of Federal Regulations 2.15, requiring all pets to be on restraint in national parks).

Dear Superintendent O'Neill and Chair Bartke,

I am writing to recommend that the Advisory Commission rescind on January 23, 2001 an old and obsolete policy that allows dog owners to run their dogs off leas in certain areas of the Gold Gate National Recreation Area.

The current policy, dating to 1979, is illegal and contrary to Federal Regulations Section 2.15, which requires all pets to be restrained in national parks; a section that applies to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), which is of course, a national park.

Many dog owners profess the notion that because the GGNRA is readily accessible to many residents of the San Francisco Bay Area, that the same protections of park resources afford national parks should not apply to the GGNRA. The inference is that an 'urban' national park should afford different accommodations and regulatory constraints than a 'non urban' national park. This is clearly not the case, as Federal Regulations do not make such a distinction. Put concisely a national park is a national park.

The first principle mandate is in the Organic Act of 1916 which establishes the statutory directive for the National Park Service:

"(The National Park Service) shall promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations hereinafter specified...by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as well leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The problems associated with unleashed dogs on federal public lands in the San Francisco Bay area are not confined to the GGNRA. Over the course of the past two years I have observed many instances of dog owners allowing their dogs to run free in the Bair Island area of the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge. The impacts from this activity are readily apparent: dogs entering habitat of terrestrial and aquatic species listed under the federal Endangered Species Act; dogs threatening humans and other dogs; piles of dog feces not removed by dog owners; and the offensive odor of dog urine. An article in the San Francisco Chronicle of January 20, 2001 discusses the situation at Bair Island and served to affirm that my observations and experiences were not uncommon.

I have also observed, and been threatened by, unleashed dogs in other public lands. The Pulgas Ridge Open Space Preserve of the MidPeninsula Regional Open Space District, is located at the southeastern most boundary

1/3

169-03-1C

of the GGNRA. Dogs are allowed in the Preserve on leash, and allowed off leash in a designated area in the interior of the Preserve. Commonly Preserve visitors with dogs release the dog's from a leash once they are inside the Preserve, though not in the off leash area. This practice results in problems similar to those in Bair Island-- threats to people, invasion of habitat by dogs, and the accumulation of dog waste.

There is no advantage to the public, and significant disadvantage to the experience of the visitor and biotic integrity, in allowing dogs off leash on public lands. Every visitor to the GGNRA, and all national public lands, should be able to enjoy the natural qualities of these important areas without being subjected to the presence of dogs running off leash.

In closing, my experiences, and no doubt that of other peoples, in visiting the GGNRA and other public lands would be enhanced greatly if dog's are constrained by a leash to their owners. As such I strongly recommend that you rescind the subject policy. The result will be cessation of a practice that is illegal, and an attendant removal of current difficulties encountered by the National Park Service in enforcing regulations associated with the presence of dogs in the GGNRA.

Sincerely,

Robert Zarkin

169-03-1C

Robert Zatkan

140 Springdale Way • Redwood City, CA 94062
telephone: (650) 369-6462 • rszatkan@earthlink.net

November 24, 2000

Marge Kolar, Project Manager
Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 524
Newark, CA 94560

Dear Ms. Kolar:

I am writing to appraise you of some observations and encounters I experienced yesterday (November 23) in the Inner Bair Island of the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The following list reflects my running of Inner Bair Island along the perimeter service road/trail located atop the bounding levees.

- Encountered two ~100 pound German shepherds off-leash. Owners had, and used, voice control over dogs to call, however several hundred pounds of unknown German shepherd approaching people is a disquieting experience.
- Encountered two ~75 pound dogs running off-leash with owner. The owner did not call the dogs to his side and I had to stop and move off the road to avoid colliding with the dogs.
- Observed people walking along the north-south trending trail crosses the Inner Bair Island basin. This trail is shown on the map of Inner Bair Island. Both ends of the trail are posted with signs that state the area behind the signs (relative to the perimeter trail) is closed.
- Observed one of the two ~75 pound dogs referenced above leave the perimeter trail and enter water in a channel adjacent to the perimeter trail. Owner appeared to make little, or no, effort to get the dog out of the water.

The posted rules for activities in the Inner Bair Island indicate that which I observed and encountered represented activities that are not allowed and such activities that are illegal. I therefore recommend that you take the following actions.

- Ban the presence of dogs off-leash in the Inner Bair Island. It is my understanding that San Mateo County ordinance makes it illegal to have a dog off-leash in the county. As such dogs off-leash in Bair Island may violate county ordinance.
- If people do not adhere to a no off-leash policy, dogs should be banned from Inner Bair Island.
- Place large panels of fencing at each end of the north-south trail and increase signage in an effort to stop people from using this trail. The reference to this trail should be removed from maps and literature for the Inner Bair Island.
- Shorten the time-frame for flooding the Inner Bair Island basin. Opening this basin to tidal action will stop the use of the north-south trail.

Thank you for your time and effort in considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Robert Zatkan

3/3

170-01-1A

January 28, 2002

GGNRA
RE: ANPR document
Fort Mason, bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

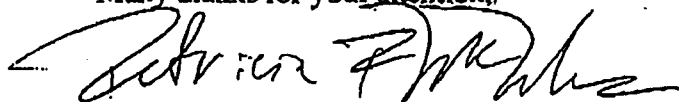
Dear Friends:

As a longtime San Francisco resident, I very much appreciate your care of our precious open space within the city. I am also a dog owner and I believe that Fort Funston was a great resource for all of us. There is nothing quite like the joy of a running, playing, ball-chasing dog in this dog loving town. Unless it's lots of dogs getting the kind of exercise and release they so need to stay healthy and happy. In all my years of dog ownership, I've not seen another setting in which so many critters could coexist peacefully while still getting rowdy and territorial and energetic, like dogs need to do.

It worked so well before—can't we come to a compromise that will protect the fragile aspects of the environment while still providing San Franciscans with a most valued off leash setting? It seemed like progress was being made, with the fencing of certain sensitive areas. Could we continue with that approach, instead of closing the entire area to off leash use?

I would also like to speak up in support of dog walkers, who allow working people like me to give the pets we love the kind of lives they need. After a long and tiring day, when I walk into my home I'm greeted by two yawning, stretching canine athletes who are ready for a good dinner instead of desperate for me to take them out for exercise. Please let dog walkers continue to use Fort Funston for off leash exercise, in the name of the hundreds of San Franciscans they serve.

Many thanks for your attention.*



Patricia F. McManus
357 Bocana St.
San Francisco, CA 94110

171-01-5A

Black Point Environmental Action Committee

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 26, 2002

GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mson
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Black Point Environmental Action Committee requests that you prohibit dogs to run leash-free in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Dogs are supposed to be kept under control on Deer Island which is in our neighborhood. Because I walk there often, I know that 90% of the people do not or can not control their dogs. The wildlife suffer.

I own two dogs but firmly believe that the GGNRA is for wild-life not for domestic animals.

Sincerely,

Rosalie Webb

Rosalie Webb
President

222 Crest Rd.  Novato, CA
94945

GGNRA000666

172-01-1B

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, Ca. 94123

Dear Sirs:

I would like to add my strong support to those advocating off leash access throughout the Golden Gate National Recreation area. As a resident of San Francisco and then Marin County for the last 35 years, I have become increasingly aware of increasing restrictions on simple freedoms in our open areas. As the owner of a 'working breed' dog, it is more than apparent to me that having available wide open spaces, not just fenced dog parks, is imperative for animals' health and good behavior. If we as a community wish to have fewer incidents of aggressive animal behavior, then we must make it possible for dogs to be well exercised and socialized (both with people and other animals), not high-strung due to restriction of their movements. It is simply impossible for dogs that need to run for health to be adequately exercised while on a leash.

I am in full agreement that owners should be responsible for their dog's behavior, including cleaning up after them. I also realize that some people obviously complain to the GGNRA about bothersome pets, but I believe there should a distinction about being 'bothered' vs. 'being a problem'. In the many years I have owned a dog, the only times I have seen 'incidents' of bad behavior between animals was *in fenced dog parks*, and I have definitely never seen a dog attack a person or another dog (or bird or deer, or whatever) on a beach or hiking trail. Yes, I've seen dogs enthusiastically approach people, but I question whether it is truly healthy for us as a society to in essence promote fear and negative feelings in people who may have little contact with animals, by ensuring non-encounters with canines. Is it really so terrible to have a dog come wagging looking for a pat? Scientific research about the healthiness of interaction with animals would argue to the contrary.

Perhaps the solution is to post, at the entrance of open space areas, reminders to owners that they are fully responsible for litter, damage, or any injury caused by their dog. Sure, have fines for infractions, but do we want to start fining for 'being a bother' for horse manure, loud radios, etc.? I would hope that all members of the community would recognize the benefits of interaction and cooperation, and keep our beautiful open spaces unrestricted for both humans and animals. Our wild animals (some of which obviously could be considered dangerous) are afforded full freedom. I believe it is in the long run better interest of society that dogs be allowed the same.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
Teta Collins



173-01-1E

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

San Jose, California

January 28, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing concerning the issue of unleashed dogs in the GGNRA. I am totally opposed to relaxing or modifying the current policy that prohibits the running of unleashed dogs. Unleashed dogs can be dangerous and frightening to people, especially children. When my two young children and I go for a hike or a walk on the beaches in the GGNRA we should not have to be constantly on the alert for some boisterous and possibly dangerous dog not under the control of his owner. Visiting the GGNRA should be a fun and peaceful experience not a frightening one. Please maintain your present policy.

Sincerely,

Neil Becker

Neil Becker

174-01-1B

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA. 94123

January 27, 2002

I am writing in regards to the current leash law for dogs using the GGNRA. As a dog owner I would love to be able to let my dog run free without constraint. However I think that most of us realize that's unrealistic in today's world. But there do need to be places where dogs can have that freedom, for both their physical and mental health. Although we have domesticated these animals, they are not by nature "house" pets and need to be exercised and socialized in order to fit into our world successfully. It's impossible to give a young dog with boundless energy enough length of leash to burn off that energy safely, any more than you can expect a young child to sit quietly without giving him or her a place to do the same.

The majority of dogs and owners that I've come in contact with are well behaved and well trained. It's commonly understood that if your dog is not social you will leash it in the vicinity of another dog or human. I would think that half of any beach area could be set apart with signage for dogs and no dogs, and that should an owner be found on the wrong side or with a dog not under their control a large fine would be levied.

There will always be the few that ignore the laws, break the rules, say they didn't know or understand, and tell you that their dog is just fine as it snaps at your dog. Please don't judge the entire dog owning community by those few. Perhaps those who are found to be consistent offenders should be sentenced to do volunteer work such as cleaning up after those who didn't after their dogs!

Sincerely,

Lisa Miller
117 Golden Hind Passage
Corte Madera CA

175-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 30 12

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Catherine Ann Maxwell
445 Webster Street #14
San Francisco, CA 94117

Brian O'Neill
General Superintendent
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: ANPR

January 29, 2002


Dear Mr. O'Neill:

This letter addresses the issue of off-leash dogs at Crissy Field and elsewhere in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. It is a shame that there is so much tension between dog owners and recreation administrators on this subject; we must work together to resolve the conflict.

You've heard the objections -- dogs have been exercised under voice control for over twenty years, owners are responsible, many of us work hard to keep parks clean and respect local wildlife. There are a number of dog-focused organizations in San Francisco willing and able to help park administrators work out equitable guidelines, help educate all dog owners and protect our parks. What will it take to find common ground?

I would like to formally register my objection to the idea of making Crissy Field and other GGNRA areas leash-only facilities. Solutions exist if we look together.

Sincerely,



Catherine Ann Maxwell

cc: Gale Norton, Secretary of the Interior
Stanley T. Albright, Western Region Director
Trent Orr, Pet Policy Committee

176-02-1A

Kimberly M. Johnson
1416 Polk Street
San Francisco, CA 94109-4616
Phone (415) 673-2597
kimbasetail@yahoo.com

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 26, 2002

GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing in support of off leash areas for dogs both as a person who does not own a dog and a regular park user. I also walk a dog twice a week.

The parks should be available to all residents of the Bay Area to enjoy and that includes dogs. The reality of the situation is that a large number of people in this city own dogs that need vigorous exercise to remain healthy. A walk on a leash does not qualify unless the human is running as well.

All of my 15 years in this city have been spent not owning a dog and visiting various outdoor areas in the GGNRA regularly. Rarely have the dogs ever bothered me. It is actually kind of fun to watch them play. Granted, there are irresponsible and rude dog owners who need to be educated about how to interact with other park users who do not wish to be bothered by dogs. I think the number of conscientious dog owners equals or surpasses that. It is not fair to generalize about dog owners.

For as many owners as I have witnessed not picking up after their dogs, I have seen just as many picking up not only their own dog's waste but that of others. Often, their policing of the dog areas includes any other trash in the immediate area. The same is true regarding planted areas, especially those with fences. I have seen mostly humans, adults and children, step over the fences and tread upon newly planted areas, regardless of the signs.

To me, many of the problems of the GGNRA are human related, not canine. Homeless people and partiers do much more damage to the GGNRA than dogs. Dogs don't leave: Beer cans, plastics, used condoms, old clothes, needles, stinky sleeping bags, cigarette butts, dirty diapers, fast food wrappers, Styrofoam, etc., etc. Dogs don't lurk in the bushes and yell at people to get out of "their space" nor do they stumble around intoxicated and high.

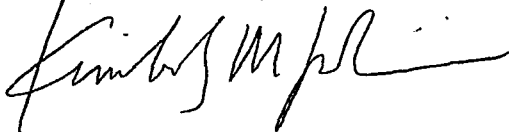
Please note: I do not believe that dogs have any kind of priority over humans. The elderly, the disabled and our children definitely need to feel safe in using the parks.

176-02-1A

I urge you to seek some form of compromise that will allow people to continue to have their canine companions off leash while preserving the rights of people who don't care for dogs to enjoy the parks as well.

There is nothing more relaxing and inspiring than walking along the shores of this beautiful city. Both dogs and humans can appreciate that.

Sincerely,



Kimberly M. Johnson

cc: SFDOG

177-01-1D

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Travis H. Hails
1818 Pacific Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

January 28, 2002

GGNRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

I oppose any relaxation of the dog rules in this, or any, National Park (or Seashore, Recreation Area, Monument).

I visited the new marsh at Crissy Field yesterday, for the first time since the restoration was completed. Seeing that the path was level and paved, I left my walking cane in the car.

Twice, dogs off-leash came up to me. They were friendly, but I was afraid I would be knocked over. The owners were very hostile when I asked them to control their dogs. The response was "They're not bothering anyone."

I noticed dogs being taken through the gate which had a sign "No Dogs" as well as no boating or swimming.

Currently there are no parks in San Francisco where dogs are prohibited. Although many dog owners are responsible, many are not. Some allow dogs off-leash, and all have dogs off-leash. Please do not let GGNRA go to the dogs.

Thank you,


Travis H. Hails

178-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 25, 2002

Chris & Elizabeth Thompson
2114 Wawona Street
San Francisco, CA 94116
(415) 564-6139

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR; Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear GGNRA:

Just wanted to drop you a line in response to the ANPR regarding off-leash dog access at Crissy Field. We so much value the times we are able to spend with our Golden Retriever, Molly, at Chrissy Field. Since Molly is a "water dog," her destination of choice in San Francisco is Chrissy Field. We always have a wonderful time letting her swim while we enjoy the unparalleled beauty of the Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz views.

Everyday we visit either Stern Grove, Fort Funston, or Chrissy field. We are so grateful that we can exercise both ourselves and our dog in an off-leash manner. We have spent years visiting these destinations and have never seen a person injured or even seriously threatened by a dog. These issues have been blown out of proportion due to recent media events. The environmental issues regarding delicate slopes and endangered planting areas we do however appreciate and would happily work with park authorities to see that such areas are protected.

Please don't let the bad behavior of a small minority of ill-mannered dog owners threaten something that thousands of dog owners hold so dear. Also, it's the dog owners who use the parks at a much greater frequency than do the non-dog owners. Why restrict the behavior of the majority to protect the rights of a small minority?

Sincerely,



Chris Thompson



Elizabeth Thompson

179-01-1A RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

Dear GGNRA

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I am writing to you as a frequent user of fort funston. I hear that GGNRA is pursuing the removal of off-leash recreation at fort funston. It is my understanding that off lease walking was an intended use of the bluffs and beaches when the land was given to the GGNRA. I wanted to express my personal concern for allowing off leash activity with dogs. Walking my dog at fort Funston has done wonders for my dog, and I can't imagine walking her in a more beautiful area. I take her there on the weekends and my dog walker brings her there during the week. The size of fort funston and the amount of dogs there provide a safe and non-threatening place for my dog to socialize and get exercise. This is not available elsewhere in the city. It can be difficult to provide a healthy environment for a dog in the city, but fort funston really helps make it possible. Not all dogs are suited for socializing and exercise in a small fenced in dog park, or a small strip of sand along a beach with picnicking families. My dog for example sometimes becomes more territorial and feels threatened in a small enclosure with other dogs. Small hiking trails are not a good option for us either. Her protective instincts kick in after we have been hiking alone for a while and then come across another hiker and dog. I was so happy to find fort funston, I have never had any problems with her there. fort funston is so big and there are so many dogs and people there, it truly is a neutral place. My dog truly has a great time there playing with all types of other dogs as well as getting lots of attention from their owners. The only thing I have to be aware of is the hand gliders. She is suspicious of them, so I just make sure she is on leash when we walk up the sand stairs. I am sure you have heard many people say that dogs can be more aggressive while on leash. This is true with my dog, and why returning to fort funston with my dog on leash, might be a nice walk for me, wouldn't be for my dog. She wouldn't be able to greet and play with any of the other dogs. I prefer to not have my dog "play" while on leash. While on leash she is "working" should be paying attention to me, her master at all times. Some breeds are so easy going that they behave the same on or off leash, but others need more consistency in training, discipline and structure. This is true of my dog and I'm sure many others. My dog still obeys me while off leash, but she knows to remain calm, watch and listen to me while on leash. While she is sociable dog, she is more challenging with other dogs while on leash, and although she has never started or been in a dog fight, she will often be the first to snarl when a dog comes up to her on leash. This is stressful for her, the other dog and the owners. I have taken my dog through extensive training and had meetings with the human society about her socializing with other dogs. She is a dog that needs an owner that is aware of her needs, and I am afraid there would be no point in me returning to fort funston if she had to be on a leash. I might as well just walk her on a quiet street in my neighborhood. But then she wouldn't get to run or play with other dogs. Thank-You for taking the time to read this and I hope you strongly consider my situation and the others like it.

Kerje Kimbrell/735 Teresita B



GGNRA000675

180-01-7A

RECEIVED


JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco Ca 94123

GGNRA,

I am writing this letter in hope to have the GGNRA reconsider enforcing the leash law @ Crissy Field. I am a second generation San Franciscan, and was so pleased when the field was open to the public use. I have an 8lb dog-named Howdy Doodey and we walk out there a couple of time a week. It's her favorite walking place. As Howdy's owner I also enjoy that space its open and well lighted. I feel safe when walking my dog out in the Crissy field area. I can't say about a lot of the other public use areas in San Francisco. Please reconsider..

Judy Cortesi 
San Francisco Resident @
332 South Hill blvd.
San Francisco, Ca 94112

181-01-15

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Mae Grigsby

45824 Bridgeport Place Fremont CA 94539-6854 Tel: 408-974-3151

January 28, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: Beach Dog Rules Under Review
Article "Park service considers lifting free-run ban"
published by San Jose Mercury News in early January 2002

As the owner of several dogs I would like to congratulate you considering the off-leash log for dogs. Living in Fremont, I will most likely never use the beach area in San Francisco because it would be too far for my human and dog family to travel.

However, knowing that dogs need to run free, I feel compelled to put in a word on behalf of all the dogs. A dog is never really happy on a leash. He/she needs to run free to romp and play, retrieve sticks and what not.

Santa Barbara is one of the most dog-friendly places. All parks are off-leash and dog bags are provided on every trail and park. There is one particularly huge park in Santa Barbara, twice as large as a football field where people and their dogs meet on a daily basis. The grass is lush and clean. People appreciate the city's off-leash law and thus, diligently pick up their dogs' droppings. In Los Angeles, there is a huge park on the Hollywood Hills that is also off-leash. On weekends there are hundreds and hundreds of dogs, from small to large, representing every breed, romping free on the hills, in and out of bushes and shrubs. They don't bother the people nor other dogs. When dogs are let off leash, they become non-aggressive, and they quickly learn to respect other people and other dogs. I spent two weeks vacation and went walking on those hills every day and was just amazed and the number of dogs that passed me on my daily walks without even looking at me. The roads were clean. Bags are provided at the entrance of the park and every dog owner automatically picks up one or two. Trash cans are placed every mile on the trail.

Dogs are no longer wild animals, they have been domesticated and are part of the human family. We need to respect their freedom.

Sincerely,

Mae Grigsby
Mae Grigsby

182-01-1A

221 Clipper St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA
Attention ANPR
Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco CA 94123

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write with respect to the proposal to require pet leashing at Fort Funston and Crissy Field.

I have read the arguments of both sides and have followed this issue closely.

I conclude that these two area should remain "offleash". The value to the San Francisco region outweighs the arguments against.

I have used the areas as a pet owner and for 25 years before I was a pet owner. I have found that the folks who run their dogs in these areas are some of the most responsible owners in the city. The cleaning up of pet litter and generally good control allows fun and recreation for all.

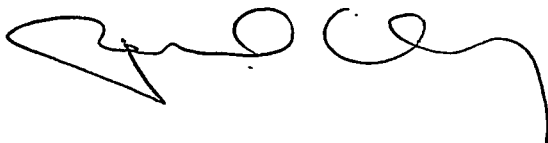
As a pet owner, I am respectful of the fenced areas and agree that some nesting sites etc. should be protected.

I believe that pets should be under voice control, that off leash with this stipulation should be continued and that any analysis should be measured from the long standing policy that allowed off leash walking:

As an aside I have been very disappointed to see that Mr. O'Niell's statement that tickets would only be given for destructive behavior and aggression as quoted in the Chronicle has gone unheeded by some of the rangers.

Please mark my comment down as being against increased enforcement and for allowing continued use of the park for off-leash recreation.

Sincerely,



Pearl Ong

183-02-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn:ANPR
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, Calif. 94123

Re: Off Leash Dog Walking
Crissy Field Area

Gentlemen:

We live near the Crissy Field area, and we walk our dog daily on the beach and open grass field off leash. We typically put him on a lead, however, in the parking area until we are west of the small bridge, and we are away from the picnickers on the beach north of the parking lot. He runs, swims and plays freely with other dogs, and does not intrude on others' enjoyment of the area.

Recently, park rangers have warned us politely that, because Crissy Field is part of a National Park, all dogs must be on leads. In response to this, I submit the following:

- Crissy Field is an urban park, not a wilderness park like Yosemite or Yellowstone where off leash dogs would obviously be inappropriate. Park Service laws need to be adapted to reflect these differences.
- The beach area north of the lagoon and the large grass field are usually free of people other than dog walkers, especially during the week. I think this is due, in part, to the harsh environment of stiff, cool winds, which are typical on this part of the Bay. I will attest from personal experience, the dogs are definitely enjoying themselves more than their owners when it is cold and windy.
- It's virtually impossible to properly exercise a dog on a lead; how do dogs swim, wrestle with other dogs and chase balls while tethered to their owner's hand?

183-02-1A

Most dog owners at Crissy pick up after their dogs, have their dogs under voice control, and are considerate of others who do not want strangers' dogs around them or their small children. Dog owners leave less litter than the picnickers do.

Laws should reflect accepted customs and common practices of a community and should not be created by fiat. It is a fact that dogs have been enjoying both the beach and grass field as an open recreation area more than the general public, and they should be allowed to continue to run there off leash as long as their owners are responsibly controlling them.

Rather than challenging someone throwing a ball for his dog in the middle of an enormous grass field with no one else in sight, park rangers should focus their efforts in other areas. I suggest that the public interest would be better served if the rangers spent their time citing owners who fail to pick up after their dogs and on dealing with those owners whose dogs are creating a nuisance.

In conclusion, I suggest that the beach area north of the lagoon and the large grass field west of the lagoon be open to off leash dog recreation, and that leads be required in the parking lot, on the beach north of the parking lot, and along the paved path, which leads to Fort Point.

Sincerely,



Donald H. Kieselhorst
2731 Green Street
San Francisco, Calif. 94123

Cc: Crissy Field Dog Group
2435 Divisadero
San Francisco, Calif. 94115

2/2

184-01-1C RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 26, 2002

GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear GGNRA:

A long-time dog owner, I urge you to keep Fort Funston and Crissy Field off-leash for those with obedient and voice-controlled canines. The city and the Peninsula region have a strong and widespread need for park areas where folks and their dogs can freely enjoy the outdoors together.

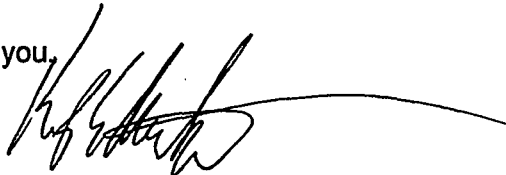
My dog walks quietly by my side when on leash, but when she is off-leash she gets 100 times more exercise and joy! My off leash walks with my dog provide great enjoyment for the both of us, as I'm sure other thousands of other tax-paying people with canine friends at Fort Funston and Crissy Field experience as well. I look forward to my walks at Fort Funston every week.

If you take away this popular right given to us by the city of San Francisco, the government will effectively be taking away this wonderful recreational activity that thousands and thousands of individuals with dogs in the area enjoy on a daily basis.

I know we can all work together on an **EDUCATION** campaign to make off-leash rules and regulations acceptable to all parties, and ticket those who do not comply with unruly dogs that dig and destroy the environment, are not under voice control and are a nuisance to wildlife. I'm sure all of us in the dog community are more than willing to help bring such issues to light with the general public as well as to new members to the dog-owner community.

I urge you to keep the off-leash area for dogs at Fort Funston and Crissy Field.

Thank you,



Kip E. Meintzer
50 Clark Drive
San Mateo, CA 94401
kip@kipster.com

January 24, 2001

185-01-1A RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

Ladies and Gentlemen:

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Thank you for your attention and courtesy to me at the January 22, 02 CAC meeting when I spoke about the ANPR process and notice of meetings. I was pleased that Mr. Superintendent O'Neill addressed the part of my question about whether there would be notice early enough to hold the public meetings before the end of the comment period, and for indicating he would probably extend the comment period beyond March 12, 2002.

My suggestion that bulletin board space, especially at Fort Funston, Crissy Field, and Baker Beach, could include informational posters from the dog groups remains unanswered.

Still: *One cannot take away something others hold most dear without replacing it with something in return.*

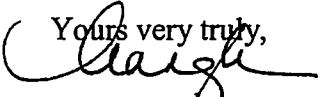
The blanket reversal of the 1979 Pet Policy, in blatant contradiction not only to historical use but also to a Park Service brochure circa 2000, has done just that. And, as I wrote to you in letter dated November 30, 2001, the cards and about-face inappropriate enforcement against sanctioned long-term local exception puts the welfare and the safety of the community at risk, risk far greater than off-lead dog walking.*

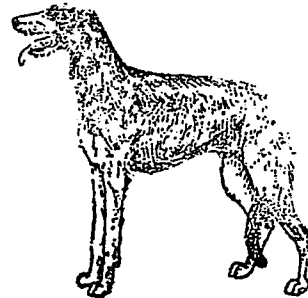
What I did not comment about at Tuesday's meeting is that there is a step-up in ticketing for off-lead dog walking, above and beyond what has been reported to you at the last 2 CAC meetings, and in blatant opposition to public promise by Mr. Superintendent O'Neill in April 2001. Just this weekend a woman known and revered in the Bay Area for rescue work in dogs was ticketed at Fort Funston; another woman, a retired dog trainer, was approached -- she who walks now with a service dog! Scofflaws!! we all are portrayed as now, walking with Man's First Friend.

The rangers are no longer ticketing merely in circumstances where problems arise. Rather, they are ticketing for our status as dog walkers.

Supervisor Dr. Leland Yee wrote to Mr. Superintendent O'Neill in a letter dated November 28, 2001 that indeed the Superintendent does have the authority to stop the excessive enforcement ticketing. The CAC would serve well the community to publicly support reasonable enforcement activities rather than ill-motivated harassment.

Yours very truly,


margory cohen
Pier 26, Adrian Studios
San Francisco, California 94105
415.999.2054; margory@dnai.com



* The GGNRA assumes that leashing dogs increases visitor safety. This is not necessarily so. There are many of us with significant and professional experience who can help with information when leashing is likely to increase safety or not. If it would be helpful to you to discuss this further, I would be pleased to talk to any of you.

186-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

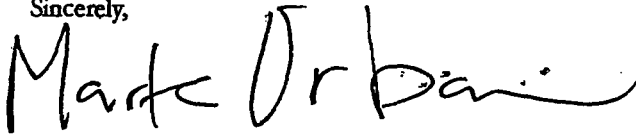
January 28, 2002

Superintendent
Attn ANPR
Golden Gate Recreation Area
Building 201
Fort Mason
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent,

Let me start this letter as saying **I am not a pet owner**, but I firmly believe that you as the GGNRA have a responsibility to the community in which the GGNRA resides to provide large area for pets to roam off leash. I have seen your signs at Chrissy field and Ocean Beach, and they have angered me greatly. These areas have always been for off leash recreation and now seemingly overnight you have put up signs and had you lazy rangers patrolling Ocean Beach dozing and listening to the radio. The pet owners of San Francisco deserve to have these areas for off leash recreation. When we voted to allow you to come into to our parks to govern them we thought it was a good idea, but I have been reconsidering my vote. GGNRA is a park system unique to San Francisco and we are a unique people we deserve off leash areas in our recreation area. I vote that not only do you reinstate these areas but open new area for pet owners in San Francisco. There for mm

Sincerely,



Mark Urban

MARK URBAN
668 19 AVE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94121

GGNRA000683

187-01-1A

Joyce Nicolait
95 Red Rock Way, M 108
San Francisco, CA 94131

January 29, 2002

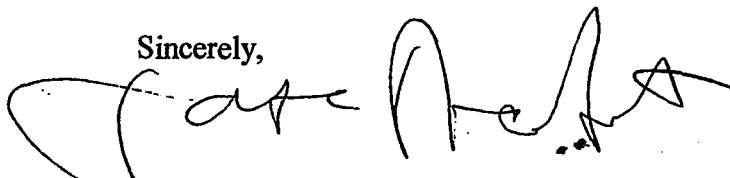
Attention: ANPR
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201 Fort Mason
Bay and Franklin Streets
San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: ANPR and Fort Funston

Dear GGNRA:

Please accommodate off-leash recreation at Fort Funston. Your current policy of turning Fort Funston into a botanical preserve is misguided and is at odds with the vast majority of users at the Fort, dog walkers, who rely on this last remaining off-leash area. We believe that this heavily-used and much needed unique urban park should receive a different managerial perspective than that which is applied to the rural wilderness. Fort Funston is in an out-of-the-way location that makes it ideal for this kind of accommodation; it is not a tourist attraction, only a hardy group of locals use it.

Sincerely,



Joyce Nicolait

188-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Nancy Chiesa
1542 32nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
415/566-2605
E-mail: chiesa@itsa.ucsf.edu

January 29, 2002

Attention: ANPR
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201 Fort Mason
Bay and Franklin Streets
San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: ANPR and Fort Funston

Dear GGNRA:

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Sincerely,



Nancy Chiesa

189-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Eva Nicolait
1542 32nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
415/566-2605
E-mail: chiesa@itsa.ucsf.edu

January 29, 2002

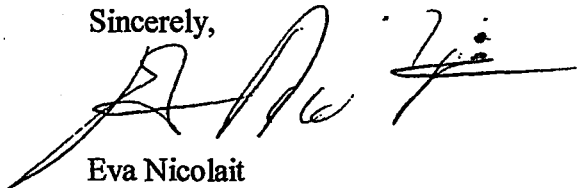
Attention: ANPR
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201 Fort Mason
Bay and Franklin Streets
San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: ANPR and Fort Funston

Dear GGNRA:

Please accommodate off-leash recreation at Fort Funston. Your current policy of turning Fort Funston into a botanical preserve is misguided and is at odds with the vast majority of users at the Fort, dog walkers, who rely on this last remaining off-leash area. We believe that this heavily-used and much needed unique urban park should receive a different managerial perspective than that which is applied to the rural wilderness. Fort Funston is in an out-of-the-way location that makes it ideal for this kind of accommodation; it is not a tourist attraction, only a hardy group of locals use it.

Sincerely,



Eva Nicolait

190-01-1B

Subj: **Off-Leash Dogs in our National Parks and City**
Date: 1/26/2002 7:56:43 PM Pacific Standard Time
From: DenisandHilary
To: chronfeedback@sfchronicle.com

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

TO: GGNRA

I grew up with a dog in my home and have nothing against these animals. What I am very tired of is dog owners who feel entitled to walk or run their dogs off-leash any where they please. Of course, most owners think their pet is harmless until this animal bites someone. More common still are the owners that do not pick up their dogs feces. It may not be a conscious decision not to pick up the dog's crap, but when they are walking and talking they do not notice everything. Not to mention the natural habitat that is destroyed in countless national parks because these people see their animals as a child with rights instead of an animal that must follow rules to protect others and the environment.

Dog owners are such a very loud lobbying force. Many people are very concerned with how their neighborhoods and parks have been taken over by dogs. Hence, the dog crap is everywhere. I do not know why dog owners are so aggressive about their point of view, but I do believe the other perspective needs to be heard as well. I believe the answer to the off-leash law is more dog parks where the owners can go and be with the other dog owners to run their animals at will. Carve there areas out for the pets just as they do in other city's across the country. Will it be the end of the world if these dogs do not get to run around wild on a regular basis? I think not. How sad that people in the Bay Area in general and San Francisco in particular, value dogs more than they value people, children and the environment.

Sincerely, Hilary Dillon

191-01-1A

January 29, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123
Fax: 561-4355

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Re: Off-Leash Recreation at Fort Funston

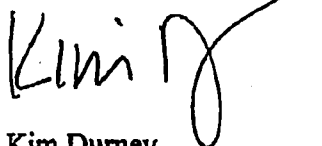
To Whom It May Concern:

As the guardian of a very well-behaved and active young dog, it is imperative that she have the opportunity to burn off some of her abundant energy every day. This cannot be accomplished by sedate leash walks around my neighborhood. However, it could be accomplished by daily trips to Fort Funston, where she should be able to run off-leash and play with other dogs. For years, dogs like mine have had this wonderful resource available to them. In fact, Fort Funston is famous for the sole reason that it has provided just such a haven for San Francisco's dogs. One has only to see their joy as they run free playing with their friends to understand what true happiness is. Now you want to take it all away from them.

As an urban park, Fort Funston is not like other parks under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. Therefore, regulations governing the use of other parks are simply inappropriate here. Common sense dictates that how the area is actually used should be the determining factor in developing appropriate regulations. Since dogs and their guardians constitute the vast majority of visitors to Fort Funston, the governing regulations must consider the needs of this constituency.

If Fort Funston prohibits off-leash recreation, exactly where are we supposed to take our dogs to exercise and socialize? There are no viable alternatives. Please don't deprive them of this opportunity.

Sincerely,



Kim Durney
142 Del Vale Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94127

192-01-10

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

1-29-02

LORIANA TORNAI
3125 AVIS WY
PINOLE, CA 94564

TO GG NRA:

RE: DOGS

Yes! Please require that all
dogs be on a leash in
the GG NRA.

"Voice-control" does not work -
many dogs are out of
control. This makes the
park a scary place for
small children.

Thank you for giving the
park back to children!

Loriana Torna

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

193-01-1A

Stephanie Holdenried
50 Cerritos Ave
San Francisco, CA 94127
415/334-7432
stephwoosh@aol.com

30 January 2002

Dear Mr. O'Neil,

I am a dog owner and can tell you that my dogs and I find no greater joy than being able to romp leash-free at Fort Funston. I am sickened that this right is under threat of being taken from us and other law-abiding, responsible dog owners.

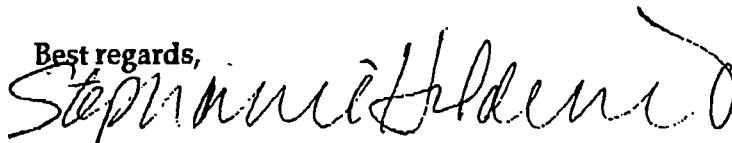
My ultimate wish (and I'm sure the wish for all dog walkers) is for Fort Funston to keep an off-leash policy with restrictions put on those with unruly or destructive dogs. My next proposal is to have daily hours where dogs may be off-leash - hours in the morning and afternoon. Also, have the hours lengthen in the winter months when only dog walkers are using the park versus the fall when more non-dog people are visiting it in the warmer weather.

Whatever is decided, and while I'm hoping for the best, I urge you to do follow up "use" reports to see if attendance by non-dog users goes up. My inclination is that it won't - that those people and families will gravitate towards Baker Beach, Ocean Beach, Crissy Field and Golden Gate Park. So, we could end up with an empty park while tax paying citizens who want and have a need to use the park will be shut out.

On a final note, like every property owner and resident of this city, I pay exorbitant taxes to live here. I don't have children thus I can't take advantage of the school system I'm paying for - and I'm not complaining, but I also don't want to lose access to my favorite place in San Francisco.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Best regards,



cc: Tony Hall

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

194-01-1A

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

REGARDING: GGNRA POLICY ON OFF-LEASH DOG WALKING

I am writing this letter to sincerely urge you to decide in favor of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA lands.

I have been going to Fort Funston on a daily basis with my dog for the past two years and it is an absolute necessity for the well-being and happiness of my dog. Our dogs need to be exercised off-leash so they can run and play freely with their friends. In a city like San Francisco, with such a large dog population, there are so few places left to exercise our dogs off-leash. The GGNRA lands are basically our last hope. If you do not allow for off-leash recreation here, as it has been for the last 22 years, the effects on our city parks and neighborhoods will be devastating.

In addition to all the benefits for our dogs, it is also a very social and enjoyable activity for dog owners to go out and congregate with their friends. It gives us such great pleasure to see our dogs having such a wonderful time and almost instantly all the troubles of our sometimes hectic lives seem to melt away. The people here are always so friendly and it's one of the few places in the city where total strangers feel comfortable saying hello to one another.

Please hear our voices and let us continue to use the GGNRA lands for off-leash dog recreation.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mantor Ruffel

159 Parnassus Ave.

SF, CA 94117

RECEIVED

195-01-1A

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

REGARDING: GGNRA POLICY ON OFF-LEASH DOG WALKING

I am writing this letter to sincerely urge you to decide in favor of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA lands.

I have been going to Fort Funston on a daily basis with my dog for the past two years and it is an absolute necessity for the well-being and happiness of my dog. Our dogs need to be exercised off-leash so they can run and play freely with their friends. In a city like San Francisco, with such a large dog population, there are so few places left to exercise our dogs off-leash. The GGNRA lands are basically our last hope. If you do not allow for off-leash recreation here, as it has been for the last 22 years, the effects on our city parks and neighborhoods will be devastating.

In addition to all the benefits for our dogs, it is also a very social and enjoyable activity for dog owners to go out and congregate with their friends. It gives us such great pleasure to see our dogs having such a wonderful time and almost instantly all the troubles of our sometimes hectic lives seem to melt away. The people here are always so friendly and it's one of the few places in the city where total strangers feel comfortable saying hello to one another.

Please hear our voices and let us continue to use the GGNRA lands for off-leash dog recreation.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Karen Chambers
1301 Waller Drive
San Francisco, CA 94117

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

196-01-1B

DeOttaviano@HotMail.com
Denise Ottaviano
Sausalito CA 94965
415.332.6614

GGNRA attention ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201

Thank you for NOT allowing any

Dogs off leash in the

Golden Gate National Recreation

Area. I believe strongly that

Parks are for people to enjoy
our Natural Beauty. I also believe

Many people who have dogs are

irresponsible with their animals and

are unwilling to become aware of
this and ruin it for others, like the elderly, etc.

Keep all of the Golden Gate

National Recreation dog free, please.

I have written Woolsey, Nation,
Gov. Gray Davis and the Open Space Director
Hansen this place many times.
Thankyou, Denise Ottaviano

197-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

3555 Clay Street
San Francisco, CA
94118
415-775-3051

30 January 2002

GGNRA
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Bldg. #201
San Francisco, CA 94123
FAX (415) 561-4355

Dear Sir or Madam:

I would like to add my voice to the rising din of protestors to the proposed off-leash ban on dogs in the GGNRA. As an urban dog owner, I spend hours at Crissy Field and Fort Funston enjoying the many changes and improvements to those areas while my dogs (and children) romp beside me.

Please let us walk our dogs off-leash in these areas!

Sincerely,


Alice P. D. Coneybeer

198-01-1c

January 30, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the solicitation for comments on the GGNRA's Pet Management proposal.

By far Fort Funston is the most affected area as far as this Pet Management policy. At least a third of the Fort Funston area has already been fenced off for the preservation of "endangered species." As a solution to what has become such a controversial and highly charged issue, I encourage the GGNRA to consider setting aside the remainder of Fort Funston as the one area in the GGNRA system of park land that dogs are permitted to run free. In other words, make Fort Funston the one area in the GGNRA that is exempt from the leash policy.

I believe this is a viable solution for the following reasons:

- Fort Funston has long been a safe place for dogs to run free. As mentioned in the *Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* letter, all city and county parks and virtually all open spaces are bound by leash laws.
- If people want to walk along the beach or coastal area, there are literally miles and miles of such coastland in the GGNRA system. Ocean Beach is literally a stones throw away not to mention the beaches in Daly City and Pacifica.
- Under the *Current Pet Management at GGNRA* section (pg 1425), it says, "The park has received complaints by park visitors... alleging that off leash dogs have precluded them from visiting the park for fear of being knocked over, attacked by dogs, or verbally abused by dog owners." Anyone can make such accusations, but it speaks volumes when the GGNRA chooses not to back such statements up with facts.

And, I think it is outrageous for the GGNRA to exploit the Dianne Whipple case. Even though it is made clear that this incident didn't happen in a park or open space, the case has not gone to trial and, therefore, all the facts have not been brought forward. And, if the GGNRA wanted to be fully truthful about this case, rather than slant it to serve their purpose, it should have mentioned that evidence shows these dogs were likely part of a dog fighting ring run by their owners, Pelican Bay inmates who, it has been widely reported, were running such a ring.

I am also sending this letter to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in the hope that they will consider taking back Fort Funston since the GGNRA has reneged on their promise to allow unobstructed use, by both visitors and pets, of this very popular open space area.

Sincerely,



Jackie Kious
437 Valencia Drive
So. San Francisco, CA 94080

cc: San Francisco Board of Supervisors
State Senator Jackie Speier

199-01-1D



"Stinson Beach is the Bay Area's best place to learn to surf, but wear a wet suit instead of a bathing suit. For warmth, yes, but also because it won't fall off when you fall off. (Though you could always come ashore at the beach just south of Stinson - you'll blend in with all the other naked people)." 1/30/2002

Current regulations requiring dogs be on leash should not be modified in GGNRA.



Maggie McElroy



MAGGIE MCELROY
2741 ACTON ST
BERKELEY, CA 94702-2388

Golden Gate National Park Foundation, Photography © 1998 Brian Mahoney, SAJ. Reprinted © 1999 Michael Schrab



JAN 31 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason, Bldg 201
San Francisco, CA
94123

200-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

68 Fifth Avenue

San Francisco, CA. 94118-1308

1-29-02

I am writing to save off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA. I see no reason why our dogs cannot have off-leash recreation and still respect the rights of park users as well as protect the important natural resources of the GGNRA.

I know many people have written and attended meetings regarding this issue, so you don't need me to tell you the details. I am one of thousands of pet owners living in the Bay Area concerned about the new policies. When the National Park Service took over the GGNRA we were assured that those lands would be preserved for recreational use by all citizens. What we are asking for is the right to walk our dogs off-leash in a very small portion of the GGNRA, as we have for years. There is room for everyone to enjoy these parks. We need a policy that is fair for everyone that wants to utilize our recreation areas. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Sandra Sadler

(Sandra Sadler)

RECEIVED

201-01-1A

JAN 31 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I am writing to save off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA. I see no reason why our dogs cannot have off-leash recreation and still respect the rights of park users as well as protect the important natural resources of the GGNRA.

I know many people have written and attended meetings regarding this issue, so you don't need me to tell you the details. I am one of thousands of pet owners living in the Bay Area concerned about the new policies. When the National Park Service took over the GGNRA we were assured that those lands would be preserved for recreational use by all citizens. What we are asking for is the right to walk our dogs off-leash in a very small portion of the GGNRA, as we have for years. There is room for everyone to enjoy these parks. We need a policy that is fair for everyone that wants to utilize our recreation areas. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Lily Ma

202-01-1B

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Maury B. Ostroff
44 Starbuck Drive
Muir Beach, CA 94965

January 26, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94213

To Whom It May Concern:

With respect to the agency's Pet Management policies and pending review of existing rules, I would like to voice my support for providing areas where dogs are allowed to roam free, albeit under voice control of their owners. I would also request that more hiking trails be made available to dogs under voice control, or at least on leash. I would encourage GGNRA to consider the facts objectively, and not institute overly restrictive controls that are not warranted based on actual incidents, but are merely political reactions to the recent, well-publicized case of a dog mauling in San Francisco, (which did not occur within GGNRA lands.)

Specifically, Muir Beach has long been known as a place where dog-owners can bring their pets to frolic in the ocean. Not only are most of the residents dog-owners, but people come from all over the Bay Area to bring their dogs to Muir Beach. I would like GGNRA to maintain the policy where dogs are allowed to go without leash, (but under voice control) on the ocean-side of the dunes at Muir Beach. Moreover, I would like to request that more of the hiking trails around Muir Beach traversing the Marin Headlands also be open to dogs, preferably under voice control, but I would accept a leash restriction if-necessary. I would point out that many of these same trails (e.g. Coyote Ridge Trail) are open to mountain bike riders, who, when coming fast down the hills, could also be considered as "dangerous" or "disruptive" to pedestrian hikers. In fact, many of these trails are wide enough for multiple use, including horses. So why not dogs?

My experience has been that when I have walked my dog, (an extremely friendly Golden Retriever) on Muir Beach and the surrounding trails where dogs are allowed, he elicits friendly responses from fellow visitors, complete with numerous requests from both adults and children: "Can I pet him?". While I understand the need for some areas to be dog-free for the general public, surely there is room within the realm of the GGNRA for dogs and the dog-loving public.

Thank you for consideration of my views in this matter.

Sincerely,


Maury B. Ostroff

203-01-1A

RECEIVED
JAN 31 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

m paul andrews
cecile andrews

3054 Lyon St
No. 1
San Francisco CA 94123
(415) 409-5104

27 January 2002

GGNRA
Attn: ANPR
Fort Mason
Building 201
San Francisco CA 94123

For public comment process:

It has come to our attention that the longstanding tradition of off-leash dog recreation in Golden Gate National Recreation Area is under review. We would like to express our support for the continuance of off-leash privileges.

We have a small bichon frise, Maggie, that we walk daily along the beach at Crissy Field. We also like to go to Baker Beach. One of the reasons we love living near the Presidio and GG Park is because of their "dog friendly" environment. We recently visited the Presidio pet cemetery, where several dog owners pay loving tribute to their "best friends" over the years.

As outdoor recreationists, we recognize the need to oversee dog behavior. But we have continually been impressed with the responsibility and care dog owners exercise in the GGNRA. Moreover, we have noticed that the dogs themselves get along extremely well, despite the potpourri of breeds, sizes and types. On weekends and other high-congestion times, owners do leash their dogs on the walkways and other areas where needed. Owners also are careful to pick up after their pets, knowing they have a wonderful resource in the GGNRA.

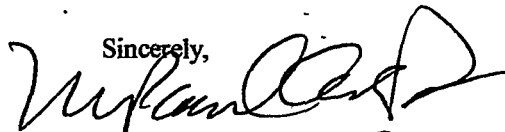

Please let us know how we can further express our support for off-leash privileges, including any hearings, community meetings or other processes. We have not seen any official public notices of a revision of policy and in fact were informed by a citizens group that the policy is under review. We are concerned that due process be followed and the community's interests are truly represented.

The Federal Register notice speaks of community complaints about unruly dogs, and of dog bites. Is there a way to review these, for instance, in police reports or other documentation?

Finally, has there been an attempt to poll GGNRA users regarding off-leash dog use? We would be interested in knowing the results of any surveys taken on site.

Thank you for the opportunity to register our point of view. Please do not hesitate to contact us with follow-up questions, notifications and so on.

Sincerely,

GGNRA0007.00

204-01-1A

Re: Off leash privileges at Fort Funston

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Shannon Murphy
1270 47th Ave.
S.F. CA 94122

To whom I deeply hope this concerns,

This letter is difficult to begin, as this issue is of such great importance to me. My heart is anxious and heavy at the thought that my two wonderful companions (my dogs), may not enjoy the ecstasy of freedom and beauty at Fort Funston for long.

These creatures of motion compliantly spend long hours in my apartment and tiny backyard, in an unspoken promise that they will be given the opportunity- sometime, someplace, to be able to break into an unbridled run, to frolic, to socialize, to taste Freedom.

I pray that someone will read this letter- will care. I wish that those making decisions on this matter could see the potent joy of living, breathing, and moving that infuses these creatures, and myself, when we're there. Their faces so bright...and smiling.

I love to run with them, so much as I can. They humbly and patiently endure my biped sluggishness. I tell you with purest honesty that some of my happiest moments have been spent there- running the trails with my dogs. Slow as I might be, they never let me out of their loyal sight, happy to run literal circles around me to stay close.

Our shared freedom in the idyllic land of Fort Funston, or DOGTOPIA, saturates my life with richness and joy--and I dare speak for them when I tell you that this is infinitely more true for them who, when in public, must generally be tethered by their heads.

PLEASE don't take this splendor from us!!!

We are happy to stay in designated areas. As an animal lover, I do not wish to destroy the habitats of other creatures!

The Many dogs of this city- including my own- Need to share this space. A prohibition of this freedom will force dog owners, and walkers to be lawbreakers.

Dogs have to run and play- that's their nature.

Will the dog owning citizens of this great city of freedoms, now have to leave its boundaries to let their Best friends play legally?

I pray, and implore not.

SINCERELY,

Shannon Murphy,
Pixelpup, and
Beavbodog

205-01-2A

RECEIVED

January 29, 2002 JAN 30 2002

Superintendent SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
GGNRA
Building 201
Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent of GGNRA

I understand that you are proposing to make all of GGNRA a leash on park system. I am quite upset about all of this. The parks should be for recreation and not providing off leash areas for dogs and their owners is a crime. I am not a dog owner but am outraged by more government intervention on private citizens rights. These parks should be open for all kinds of legal activities for the people. I think you guys are quite heavy-handed with your proposal. I want to make voice heard that I think

All GGNRA should be off-leash

I hope that makes my position clear.

Frank Fuher

206-01-1A

January 29, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attn: ANPR: Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, California 94123

RECEIVED
FEB 01 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Sir:

For all of my adult life I have been walking and exercising my dogs at Crissy Field and the Presidio. I am writing to argue in favor of keeping off-leash recreation space for dogs available at Crissy Field and the Presidio.

There is a very large population here with dogs. It is just important to us as it is to people with children, to have a place to exercise our dogs to keep them healthy, prevent aggression and to keep them well socialized, especially if you live in an apartment.

Why is it that ANPR wants to punish us? It appears that ANPR wants to ban all off leash dog activity to people who have been enjoying this for decades. I have never witnessed any damage to property, harm to humans or wildlife.

Everyone should have the right to have recreation areas at Crissy Field and in the Presidio. These recreation areas are not just for people with children, runners, bicycle riders, etc. they are also there for people with animals. We all need to learn to get along and share these areas together.

Very truly yours,



Jean Sinclair

207-02-1A Diana Nauman

RECEIVED
FEB 01 2002
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGWRA

I am a dog owner who enjoys Crissy Field along with my dog - I strongly believe dogs should be allowed off-leash at Crissy Field

Field

There is room for

1/2

207-02-1A

All of us, walkers, runners,
bikers, cheecher etc in the
area.

I recommend you give
this your consideration - I've
never seen any trouble all
the years I've been walking
& running along Crissy Field.

Thank you
Deana Naumen

242

208-01-1A

Jane T. Burrows
3641 Clay Street
San Francisco, CA 94118

January 30, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
ANPR: Fort Mason Building 201
San Francisco
CA 94118

RECEIVED
FEB 01 2002
S. SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

Dear Sirs:

It is UNTHINKABLE to restrict all the off leash spaces for the residents with dogs. I am a native born San Franciscan and have ALWAYS walked my dogs responsibly.

Why don't you take on the bicyclists who ride like crazy and practically run people down, instead of animals that bring such joy to their owners especially to us "older folks" who enjoy the out of doors and walking is our means of getting exercise with a purpose.

For myself, in addition to Crissy Field, I walk my dog down West Presidio Avenue underneath the 19th Avenue approach to the Golden Gate Bridge out to 14th Avenue and back. I share this walk with many "dog walkers" and families with small children, some with perambulators, and of course the ever present speeding cyclists, who come tearing down the hill and around the corners making quick turns and swerving to avoid us.

In NO WAY are the dogs damaging any of the native plants or soil. We pet owners, as well as the DOG WALKERS, all clean up after our dogs. That's not to say there may be an exception, but it is rare, and if we see that happening we always inform the guilty party.

I am certain that you are aware that dogs provide a therapeutic effect for their owners. They help to lower a person's blood pressure, they provide companionship, love, and loyalty. This is especially important to senior citizens.

With so many restrictions ALREADY in place, PLEASE DO NOT DENY US CRISSY FIELD and WEST PRESIDIO AVENUE.

Jane T. Burrows

GGNRA000706

209-01-1B

Elza M. Burton
114 Hazel Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941
(415) 388-3388

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

January 29, 2002

ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sirs:

On the subject of dogs and the GGNRA - I believe there should be fenced areas where dogs can run free, but that they should not be off-leash in areas where people, especially children, are walking or playing. I also believe it is a threat to wildlife to have dogs running freely.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Elza M. Burton

210-01-1A

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

1404 Silliman Street
San Francisco, CA 94134
Feb. 1, 2002

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in regard to the upcoming Proposed Rulemaking for the GGNRA, specifically regarding the GGNRA's off leash dog policy.

I am a dog owner in San Francisco, and feel strongly that it is my right to have areas of open space where my dogs can run freely as this is extremely important to their health, and is also very important to me as a recreational activity. I also feel that as a taxpayer, I am entitled to have safe and scenic areas provided where I can enjoy open space with my dog.

Since we live in an urban environment, it is especially important to provide some natural space for our animals to exercise and socialize with other animals. This is important, not only for the animal's physical health, but also because it socializes their behavior so that they can become used to interaction with people and animals.

The GGNRA was supposed to insure that off leash dog walking was provided as a recreational activity when San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal areas to the GGNRA, and many areas including The Fort Funston and Crissy Field areas have been used in this way for years. As far as I can see, this activity has caused no problems, as the dog owners clean up after their pets and as the Park Service has fenced off areas for wildlife that need protection. This system seems to be working nicely.

In closing, I urge you to keep off leash dog walking for the citizens of San Francisco.

Sincerely,
Kathy Spear

211-01-1A

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/24/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ron Fairley (signature)

RON FAIRLEY (name)

1240 FULTON #10 (address)

SAN FRANCISCO CA 94117

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

212-01-1A

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 25 January 2002

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peter K. Espe (signature)

Peter K. Espe (name)

4300 25th st. (address)

S.F., CA 94114

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

213-01-1A

RECEIVED

JAN 01 2002

SUBORDINATE'S OFFICE

Date:

1.25.02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

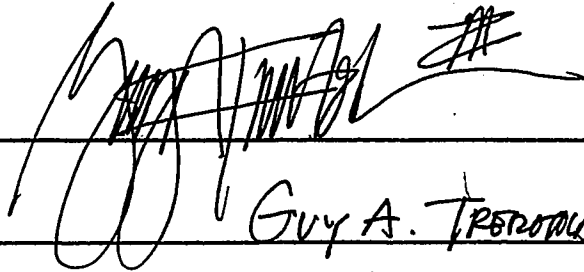
As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

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Thank you.

Sincerely,



(signature)

Guy A. Trosodan (name)

1250 Van Ness #7 (address)

SAN FRANCISCO CA 94109

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

214-01-1A

RECEIVED

Date: _____
To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Attention: ANPR
Fort Mason, Building 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donald P. Venz (signature)

545, MIRAMAR AVE (name)

SAN FRANCISCO (address)

CA 94112

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

215-01-1A

RECEIVED

FF: 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/25/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Farley (signature)

Cynthia Farley (name)

1440 Plymouth ave. (address)

SF, CA 94112

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

216-01-1A

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/26/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sandra West (signature)

SANDRA WEST (name)

593 BANKS ST (address)

S.F., CA. 94110

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

*THE EDGEWATER RESORT ON CLEAR LAKE
ALLOWS DOGS "OFF LEASH"*

WWW.EDGEWATERRESORT.NET

217-01-1A

RECEIVED

FE - 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 01/26/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Farley (signature)

JOHN FARLEY (name)

1440 PLYMOUTH AVE (address)

S.F. CA 94112

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

218-01-1A

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 26/1/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

 (signature)

PAULINE BEGGS (name)

549 MIAMAR AVE (address)

SF CA 94112

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

219-01-1A RECEIVED

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/26/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National Park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lora L. Tell (signature)

LORA LI TELL (name)

593 BANKS STREET (address)

SAN FRANCISCO CA 94110

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

The Edgewater Resort on Clear Lake

allows dogs "off leash"

www.edgewaterresort.net GGNRA000717

220-01-1A

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/26/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

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I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melina Colyer (signature)

MELINA COLYER (name)

336 Precita Ave. (address)

San Fran CA 94110

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

221-01-1A

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: 1/26/02

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

I ask for the analysis of any alternative to the current restrictive regulation be measured from the baseline of the former policy that allowed off leash dog walking in certain areas.

I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth GRACIE (signature)

Mary Beth GRACIE (name)

441 Flood St. (address)

San Fran

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Randi Glick (signature)

Randi Glick (name)

501 Douglas St #4 (address)

San Francisco, CA 94110

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

223-01-1A

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Judy D. Talley (signature)

JUDY D. TALLEY (name)

330 Precita Ave. (address)

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane Lewinstein (signature)

SAR Lewinstein (name)

112 Anderson St. (address)

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

January 24, 2001

225-06-1A
RECEIVED

FEB 01 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Thank you for your attention and courtesy to me at the January 22, 02 CAC meeting when I spoke about the ANPR process and notice of meetings. I was pleased that Mr. Superintendent O'Neill addressed the part of my question about whether there would be notice early enough to hold the public meetings before the end of the comment period, and for indicating he would probably extend the comment period beyond March 12, 2002.

My suggestion that bulletin board space, especially at Fort Funston, Crissy Field, and Baker Beach, could include informational posters from the dog groups remains unanswered.

Still: *One cannot take away something others hold most dear without replacing it with something in return.*

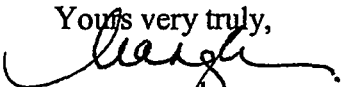
The blanket reversal of the 1979 Pet Policy, in blatant contradiction not only to historical use but also to a Park Service brochure circa 2000, has done just that. And, as I wrote to you in letter dated November 30, 2001, the cards and about-face inappropriate enforcement against sanctioned long-term local exception puts the welfare and the safety of the community at risk, risk far greater than off-lead dog walking.*

What I did not comment about at Tuesday's meeting is that there is a step-up in ticketing for off-lead dog walking, above and beyond what has been reported to you at the last 2 CAC meetings, and in blatant opposition to public promise by Mr. Superintendent O'Neill in April 2001. Just this weekend a woman known and revered in the Bay Area for rescue work in dogs was ticketed at Fort Funston; another woman, a retired dog trainer, was approached -- she who walks now with a service dog! Scofflaws!! we all are portrayed as now, walking with Man's First Friend.

The rangers are no longer ticketing merely in circumstances where problems arise. Rather, they are ticketing for our status as dog walkers.

Supervisor Dr. Leland Yee wrote to Mr. Superintendent O'Neill in a letter dated November 28, 2001 that indeed the Superintendent does have the authority to stop the excessive enforcement ticketing. The CAC would serve well the community to publicly support reasonable enforcement activities rather than ill-motivated harassment.

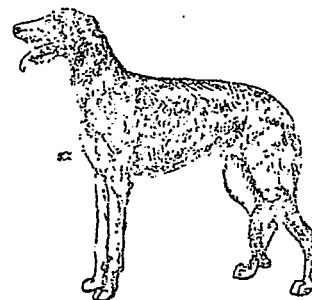
Yours very truly,


margory cohen

Pier 26, Adrian Studios

San Francisco, California 94105

415.999.2054; margory@dnai.com

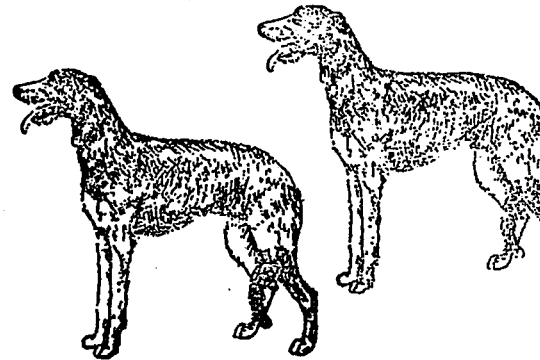


* The GGNRA assumes that leashing dogs increases visitor safety. This is not necessarily so. There are many of us with significant and professional experience who can help with information when leashing is likely to increase safety or not. If it would be helpful to you to discuss this further, I would be pleased to talk to any of you. GGNRA000723

225-06-1A

November 30, 2001

Members of the Commission
Mr. Superintendent O'Neill
Fort Mason
San Francisco, California



Ladies and Gentlemen:

During the past 6 weeks, park rangers aggressively and bullishly have accosted dog owners and given them cards which outline protocols for dog-walking in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, protocols which actually put the welfare and safety of the community at risk, recommendations any responsible dog trainer would never make. (See attached chart.)¹ Furthermore, after years when Crissy Field fund-raising literature promised and recognized off-leash dog walking, there are now "Leash Pets" signs all over Crissy Field.

November a year ago, November 28, 2000, GGNRA Citizens Advisory Commission made its move to rescind their own 1979 Pet Policy, established thru official review by the GGNRA itself and San Francisco municipal agencies and in writing recognized by the Department of the Interior. The Pet Policy set forth areas within the GGNRA where off-leash dog walking was legal and sanctioned activity for generations of San Franciscans. Yet, just like that! the CAC wanted to annul it. It bears repeating: for years before, this very activity was the cornerstone for fund-raising for the renovation of Crissy Field. (See attached excerpts from correspondence between The Presidio Trust, the SPCA and for the GGNRA, Mr. Brian O'Neill.)

So, January 23, 2001, thousands of dog owners attended the CAC meeting to speak against the proposed revocation of the 1979 Pet Policy. In response, the GGNRA agreed: THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE IN ENFORCEMENT OF LEASH REQUIREMENTS not only in the coming 120 days, but after that, when Supervisor Mr. Brian O'Neill returned from Washington with a proposal for yet another process for public review (the "ANPR" Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking), *there would be no change in enforcement during that process.*²

Yet, within weeks of that March announcement: "Pets on Leash" signs at Fort Funston.

And then on October 17, 2001: "Leash Pets" signs at Crissy Field – the same Crissy Field where, I repeat: \$34 million *private* dollars were given in good faith after written promises that walking with dogs off-leash at Crissy would continue, historic use would continue. (See those excerpts attached.)

Now, in recent weeks, the GGNRA are writing tickets for off-lead dog walking at Fort Funston.

It is one thing to try to pass off in the community that the 1979 Pet Policy was never valid, but now the GGNRA sabotages the fairness of the proposed ANPR with signs and ticket warnings under the guise of

¹ When a lawn area of Crissy Field was by the GGNRA's admission "accidentally" sprayed with "potent herbicide" in July 2001, no signs or warnings were told to any of us walking at Crissy Field; we read of this in the 9.14.01 *San Francisco Chronicle*. Which puts in context for me the increase in number of dead birds I came across during August at Crissy, something the GGNRA acknowledged in the article, that bird deaths in the marsh were up, attributed to this spraying – and certainly more than I've ever seen chased by any body in years of walking there!

² Public promise and transcript notwithstanding, Mr. Bartke and Ms. Meyer in a letter to the *Chronicle* editor wrote the policy was revoked on January 23, 2001; it was not (I sat in the front rows near the Chair; I've also read the transcript.) It was tabled at that public meeting and no further public hearing was held. I doubt there is any corporation whose shareholders would tolerate such process.

"public education." Park spokespeople refer to complaints about dogwalkers, yet I don't hear or see anyone who wants to walk where dogs are not -- areas I used to walk and am now forbidden despite the original "Crissy Plan" -- I've yet to hear or see people "educated" to those areas which actually now outnumber at Crissy Field where I can walk where I used to walk before.

For yet another time, public review is asked for something already several times canvassed, agreed to, and paid for by tax dollars.³ While formal exceptions were written to allow for mountain biking on regional trails and hang-gliding at Fort Funston, that use continued without stigma during the rulemaking process. This time the GGNRA deliberately sabotages the process: Their aggressive campaign against off-leash dog walking clarifies the magnitude of their bias. If the GGNRA is committed to the decision to eliminate traditional use before even hearing the public (yet again) and carrying thru with the process, then they have pre-judged the issue. They already have segregated use.

I respectfully ask that use carry on without change, that any handouts by the Park Service reflect the basis for the ANPR and Truth about Dog -- not inaccurate fear-feeding distortion so the ANPR process as proposed by the Park Service can proceed, if it must, without bias -- and the Park Service cease all harassment of citizens walking with off-lead dogs in lands where this activity has historical precedence and promise while finally this exception is formally at last adopted.

Yours very truly,

margory cohen
Pier 26, San Francisco, California 94105

cc: SF Dog; Fort Funston Dog Group; Crissy Field Dog Group; Members of the Board of Supervisors; Mr. Donald Fisher; Mr. Robert Fisher; The Haas Family Foundation; Mr. Reuben Hills

³ See legislative history of the GGNRA which reveals the groundwork for this exception for off-leash dog walking almost 30 years ago when the park was formed: Section 1(c) of USC Section 16: "Each area within the National Park System shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of any statute made specifically applicable to that area."

From the House Report of the 92nd Congressional Second Session, 1972, adopted when the legislation was passed: On page 4857: "As a national urban recreation area, this new component of the National Park System will be confronted with problems which do not frequently occur at other national park and recreation areas."

This is the enabling language, this is the report from the House, on page 4852: "It is expected that the predominant use of the recreation opportunities offered by the Golden Gate National Urban Recreation Area will be the people residing in the nine county San Francisco Bay Region."

And there is a quote on the bottom of page 4852 discussing those uses of this area: "On a nice day, it will satisfy the interest of those who choose to fly kites, sunbathe, **work their dogs**, or just idly watch the action GGNRA Bay²³

The card the GGNRA is handing out to dog walkers at Fort Funston and Crissy Field, what is left of GGNRA land where off-lead dog walking continues:

The card is the size of a business card –folded over.
FRONT COVER

Need a Few Good Reasons to Leash Your Dog in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area?

[with drawing of Dick & Jane with 2 dogs on lead.]

BACK COVER:

Please share this dog card with other dogwalkers.

For more information:
Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Public Affairs
Fort Mason, Bldg. 201
San Francisco, CA 94123

(415) 561-4730/31 www.nsp.gov/goga/pets

MY COMMENT TO WHAT'S INSIDE:

THIS IS BLATANT CONTRADICTION TO WHAT APPEARED IN FUND-RAISING FOR CRISSY FIELD.

FENCED AREAS PROTECT ENDANGERED HABITAT AND LIFE. AT CRISSY, ACTUALLY THERE ARE FOOTPATHS FOR WALKERS, RUNNERS AND BICYCLISTS THRU HABITAT. HOW THAT IS NOT DISRUPTIVE IS CLEARLY A SIGN OF BIAS.

LEASHED DOGS LESS LIKELY TO BITE!! EVEN THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE U.S. WOULD DISPUTE THAT.

COYOTES IN SAN FRANCISCO? PLEASE – THIS IS AGAIN RABID ANTI-DOG HYSTERIA.

WE KNOW OF EXCEPTIONS TO THIS LAW: 45 OTHER NATIONAL PARKS ALLOW HUNTING WITH OFF-LEAD DOGS; CLOSER TO HOME, HANGLIDERS FLY AT FORT FUNSTON AND BICYCLISTS USE PATHS IN OTHER PARKS – USE THAT CONTINUED WITHOUT STIGMA WHILE WRITINGS WERE FORMALIZED TO ALLOW IT.

INSIDE: Here Are Five Good Reasons...

- The Mission of the National Park Service.
Protecting park resources is the key mission of the NPS, and dogs on leash help fulfill that mission.
- Protection of Park Wildlife and Plants.
Leashed dogs are less likely to harass or frighten wildlife, damage habitats, or destroy important native plant areas.
- Safety of Park Visitors.
Leashed dogs are less likely to bite or knock people over, or dig holes that can cause injuries to park visitors.
- Safety of Your Dog.
Unleashed dogs have a higher chance of being lost or injured, being exposed to thorny or poisonous plants, or having a confrontation with another dog or with park wildlife such as coyotes, foxes, raccoons, or skunks.
- It's the Law.
Federal law [36 CFR Part 2] requires dogs to be on leash in all national parks.

225-06-1A

225-06-1A

Excerpts from correspondence related to Crissy Field fundraising efforts by the GGNRA:

Concern about anti-dog sentiment in the GGNRA, from Mr. Toby Rosenblatt, December 22, 1994 to Brian O'Neill, GGNRA and Robert Chandler, The Presidio, with *copy to Amy Meyer of the Citizens Advisory Commission, one of the original authors of the 1979 Pet Policy, who now so vehemently wants to eliminate it* (emphasis added):

"We are beginning to hear numerous comments from people in the community about the issue of leash laws for dogs when their owners have them out for walks.

"The number of people talking with me – and expressing the kind of emotion you can imagine – is accelerating. They are complaining about the rangers and park police telling them about a leash law and enforcing that law. Because there is no general knowledge about such a law and because there has never been enforcement before, this is causing much consternation and a number of confrontations.

"At first I thought this might just be a Presidio issue with new Park Police, but I understand that this is occurring increasingly at Crissy Field, Upper Fort Mason and Ocean Beach.

"I thought I would write you about this so you might inquire with your staffs about the issue; but then I would like to talk with you about this. It will raise a very major reaction, as you know, in the community and will seriously impact relations with lots of people if this isn't handled diplomatically.

"My own feeling is that history has shown such a leash law and its enforcement to be unnecessary here and that there are years of precedent now for that. **I know that a change which implements such a law will hurt our fund raising efforts for Crissy and elsewhere – in fact that is beginning to happen already.**"

* * * * *

More: Toby Rosenblatt, to Brian O'Neill, June 20, 1995:

"All in all, Brian, I know how difficult all this is in the process of dealing with differing opinions. **I urge you, however, to think about how far all this goes in the context of our trying to get current successful support and then funding from the public for Crissy Field. To be direct, we don't want to generate the kind of anger here that lead [sic] to the Congress concurring with Rep. Lewis about the "NPS overreaching" and the resulting \$1/year budget. Please try to look on all this with major respect for the long existing patterns of people who live in and use these areas...."**

* * * * *

Meantime, the SPCA also was discussing off-lead dogs with the GGNRA and Brian O'Neill. Mr. O'Neill's March 15, 1995 reply to Richard Avanzino, then President of SPCA:

- "There are no plans to decrease the overall area of off-leash dog walking along the Presidio's northern waterfront and Crissy Field. A goal of our planning effort is to maintain the experience now enjoyed by dog walkers: the level of use, the scale of area, and the freedom now appreciated.
- "All plans being considered for this area either maintain or expand off-leash dog walking areas.
- [omitted]
- "Under any future scenario, more generous areas of the Presidio's northern waterfront will be available to dogs.

225-06-1A

More from Brian O'Neill. This time, responding to Richard Avanzino's letter of March 23, 1995, wherein Richard Avanzino wrote

"As we understand, all the design options being considered for Crissy Field would significantly expand the total areas dedicated to off-leash dog walking from the current 32 acres....":

Mr. O'Neill replied:

"All design options for Crissy Field retain opportunities for off-leash dog walking, and expand the area available for that use. The beach area, except for dune and snowy plover protected areas would be included in that area. Other areas, including the Golden Gate Promenade and restored airfield are also proposed to allow off-leash dog use."

[NOTE: "Leash Pets" sign are posted all along the Promenade as of October 17, 2001.]

By September 20, 1995, Richard Avanzino wrote an understanding to Brian O'Neill that

"You also informed us that NPS legal counsel had advised that you do in fact have discretionary authority to reinforce the 1979 Pet Policy through the Compendium mechanism." And that Mr. O'Neill had not replied to requests for knowing how that was being formalized.

[NOTE: That same policy is what has been in dispute all this year as well.