

3111-01-1A



"Louis Bryan"  
<lhbj@mindspring.com>

03/08/2002 02:45 PM

PST

Please respond to  
"Louis Bryan"

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: unleashed dogs

Folks,

I hope that you will not bow to the demands of a small but very loud minority who want to open the GGNRA to unleashed dogs. The vast majority of the local citizens do NOT want to have to continually defend themselves and their children from unleashed dogs, not to mention all the damage unleashed dogs do to the environment and to protected species.

I'm not entirely sure even leashed dogs should be permitted, since even leashed dogs emit enormous amounts of waste. We all know that the creature at the other end of that leash cannot pick up the liquid waste and picks up the solid waste only when aware that someone bigger is watching.

Louis Bryan  
770 Noe Street  
San Francisco, CA 94114

3112-01-1A



"Krista K. Stein"  
<kkstein@yahoo.com>  
03/08/2002 02:13 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: comments on dogs in the GGNRA

Dear Superintendent:

I should preface my comments by stating my own bias: I am a dog lover, and about to adopt a dog of my own. That said, I also am an environmentalist, and enjoy spending time in the parks.

On the side of advocates for leashing dogs, I think that there are a number of people who are afraid of dogs. These people -- or for that matter, people who have small children -- should not have to share the parks with unleashed dogs. No matter how well I think my dog is well behaved, dogs are still animals that can get frightened or scared and bite someone. It's also a safety issue for dogs -- unleashed dogs do get run over, do fall over cliffs, and do get attacked by other dogs. I also believe that we need to carefully protect and nurture fragile areas where wildlife might be breeding, or where rare species exist. Finally, there should be areas of the parks that are unsoiled by dogs, where people can picnic and lie on the grass. All of these things strike me as very reasonable.

However, dogs do need to run and play, and we owners can't give them that kind of exercise when they're on-leash. We absolutely need to have fenced dog-run areas where dogs can run and play, and people can feel safer and less disturbed.

In an ideal world, people would pick up their dog's waste, would train their dogs properly, would pull their dogs closer when they see children coming so that the dog doesn't frighten them and their parents, and we would all get what we want. But in a limited world, it still seems reasonable that we accommodate everyone, because we CAN. We can and should have large, enclosed dog run areas, and we should have areas where people can enjoy their dogs on-leash. There should also be certain areas where dogs are not allowed at all. All of these things exist already, but we need to strike the right balance -- we need beach areas, park areas, and urban areas where all these things co-exist.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments.

Sincerely,  
Krista Stein  
Inner Sunset

=====

---

Do You Yahoo!?

3113-01-38



Beth Thurber  
<thurbers@earthlink.n  
et>

03/08/2002 02:14 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>

cc:

Subject: As a Dog Owner - I Support the GGNRA Leash Law

A lot this does since the Park Service ignores the law as well!

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~~<sup>Being</sup> 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?

3114-01-1A



Beth Thurber  
<thurbers@earthlink.net>

03/08/2002 02:13 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: WE SUPPORT THE DOG ON LEASH POLICY

On Saturday morning, February 16th, our family visited the Marin Headlands Visitor Center specifically to clarify where we could hike with our dog on leash. After discussing the matter with park personnel and detailed map in hand showing trails / areas open to dogs on leash, we headed to Rodeo Beach for a hike.

Immediately we notice a black dog running loose along the sandy beach and then up the beach directly into the waters of Rodeo Lagoon, scattering shorebirds and waterfowl as it advanced. Some time later we caught up with the dog owner who was heading up an eroded hillside (ought to be permanently closed to hikers) and asked her to leash her dog - which she did.

Awhile later, as both our family and the woman with the black dog moved up the beach to the north, several other dog owners with their dogs off leash intersected with the woman with the black dog, before long all dogs were running loose. Their explanation, they were "locals" and for years had done things this way. Disgusted and upset, we left the area and instead began a hike up the Midweek Trail to Wolf Ridge Trail and back along Coastal Trail to our automobile. Along the hike we ran into several other hikers with dogs off leash.

So here we are - dog owners who are caught between those, on the one hand, who want to do their own thing at the expense of wildlife, plant life, other park visitors, and the law, and inefficient Park Service personnel who talk big yet do little to enforce a sensible code of conduct. In actuality - Park Service personnel serve as agents of disorder by allowing this and other inappropriate activity in the park. Inappropriate activity that would not be allowed in any public stadium, museum or theater, is tolerated in our non-manmade preserves! Needless to say - Park Service personnel need to have the courage and resolve necessary to de-condition as well as sensitize the general public.

Need I mention that we won't be back for a long time, if ever to the Marin Headlands. Who are we? Our names appear on the slate in the Marin Headlands Visitor Center denoting significant contributors. Please respond.

Rick, Beth, Brett and Rebecca Thurber  
205 Upper Terrace, San Francisco 94117

3/15-01-1A



dmeyle@calfed.com  
03/08/2002 02:06 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc: Gavin\_Newsom@ci.sf.ca.us, Mark\_Leno@ci.sf.ca.us,  
Tony\_Hall@ci.sf.ca.us, Willie\_Brown@ci.sf.ca.us  
Subject: No to Unleashing Dogs in GGNRA!

Dear Madams and Sirs,

I just want it to be on record that I am tired of dogs coming first with fanatical dog owners who think of their pets as human, especially in such a crowded city.

I love dogs and cats, but city parks and national parks should be reserved for people and kept somewhat pristine.

At least a dog on the leash makes owners liable and responsible if their dog digs holes, kills or chews up plants or wildlife, and easier to see if they are not picking up their dogs solid defecation waste which would be very easy while off a leash.

The leash makes the owner have to be seen with their dog and see their dog if it did any damage or hurt someone.

The leash avoids the denials or "I did not see my dog do that" or "it would not do that" - - no passing the buck.

San Francisco is no place for apartment dwellers to keep medium and large dogs locked up in their homes waiting for their owner, holding their bladder until their owner gets home; naturally these owner want to use the city parks for their dogs running, elimination of waste, which the urine we can do nothing about because they have not yards. However, dogs can be tempermental, especially if not owned by a balanced owner and our parks should be for people and children first, without having to give a wide berth to the medium and big ones.

GGNRA should be for people and wild animals and flora natural to the area.

Owning pets is not a right and nor is it for their owners to use parks and GGNRA as their personal bathroom and recreational area for their pets. San Francisco is already far too crowded, would be nice to have some peace in the GGNRA without dog barking, owners calling them back, etc. AT LEAST KEEP THEM ON A LEASH AT ALL TIMES, PLEASE.

Thank you for your time and reviewing my arguments.

Don L. Meyle  
97 Turquoise Way  
San Francisco, CA 94131 - 1645  
415 - 641 - 5564  
Work: 415-904-1258

RR

3116-01-3B



Bob Whitehill  
<bobw@pdi.com>  
Sent by: bobw@pdi.com

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Off Leash Pet Policy

03/08/2002 01:51 PM  
PST

To whom it may concern -

Please add my voice to those who wish for off leash access to remain possible in the GGNRA.

My dog is sweet and well behaved and I am a very conscientious dog owner. I always pick up after him, leash him in crowded areas and respect all those around me.

If you feel you must do something, may I suggest heavy fines for poor dog stewardship? If anyone is irresponsible about clean up, behavior etc. punish them, not the tax-paying, law-abiding citizenry who wish to enjoy their city with their furry companions.

Thank you!

-- Bob Whitehill

3117-01-1A



"Nikki Ausschnitt"  
<artnik@marincounty.  
net>

03/08/2002 12:55 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
CC:  
Subject: dogs

I strongly support maintaining the leash laws as they presently exist. Make more dog runs if necessary but a dog being walked should be leashed.

Nicolette Ausschnitt  
166 27th Ave  
SF, CA 94121

3118-01-3B



"T. L. Underwood"  
<tlunderwood@netzer  
o.net>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Policy on Unleashed dogs

03/08/2002 01:11 PM  
PST

Please encourage the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to NOT seek an exception to the National Park policy that forbids unleashed dogs.

Dogs do not have a right to create fear and inflict pain to members of the public nor to foul, and do ecological damage to our national treasures. Therefore they should be leashed at all times, except in their owners' back yards, and cleaned up after by their owners when on leash in public. I suggest a dog owner of a entrepreneurial bent buy an open field, fence it, and charge dog owners to let their dogs howl and foul it as much as they like. This fouling and ecological damage should never be done at public expense.

Forbid unleashed dogs in any public area.

Thank you, Judith R. Underwood

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3119-01-3B



"Kenneth S. Hanley"  
<kshhanley@silcon.com  
>

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: dogs leashed

03/08/2002 01:43 PM  
CST

NPS-

I would like to express my support for the current policy which requires that dogs within such parks remain leashed, not only for the protection and preservation of habitats but also for the protection of the visitors to these parks. Even with the current restrictions, there are dog biting incidents every year; without such provisions, these incidents would likely increase. Since the visitors to these parks have a right to self-preservation as do the ecosystems they go to admire, the argument that the current leashing requirement be removed is unjustified, and in fact, undermines the reason the parks exist in the first place.

Dogs aren't people too, so let's not make this mistake: let's keep them leashed.

Thank you,

Kenneth S. Hanley

3120-01-1A



<pfairman@ix.netcom.com>  
Sent by:  
pfairman@ix.netcom.com  
m

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Off leash laws

03/08/2002 04:38 PM  
EST

I would like to urge you to keep areas such as Crissy Field and Fort Funston as off leash areas. Have guides for dog and owner behavior and ticket for misbehavior. Most dogs are fine off leash and not destructive. Ticket the ones with bad behavior or irresponsible owners, not all of us.

Outside enjoyment is important for people as well as their families. My family includes a dog who loves to go running and meet others. Exercise is important for all, including dogs and it is important that they socialize with other dogs:

Please make the areas off leash.....keep San Francisco as #1 for being Dog Friendly...

Penny Fairman & Brownie  
3300 Laguna St. #12  
San Francisco, CA 94123

3121-01-18



Drummond Buckley  
<dbuckley@ci.sausalit  
o.ca.us>

03/08/2002 01:24 PM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Dog Policy

I would like to suggest that the National park Service give Fort Funston back to the City and County of San Francisco.

This is, after all, essentially an urban park. I do not think it has many out of town visitors.

This solution would allow the decision about pets to be made locally, avoiding the conflict with some national rule that, apparently, the administrators of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area cannot supercede.

Which leads me to a question: Why all the public outreach when the outcome has already been decided?

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. I look forward to your response.

---

Drummond Buckley, AICP  
Planning Director  
City of Sausalito  
415 - 289 - 4133

3122-01-1A



Duncan Boshier  
<dboshier@earthlink.net>

03/08/2002 12:54 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Leash law in GGNRA

Sirs,

I strongly feel that dogs should be leashed while in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The impact upon the environment, wildlife and the rest of us is not reasonable given the other factors already affecting our natural parks and other resources.

Please ensure this law is kept and enforced.

Regards,

Duncan Boshier  
1442 Eighth Avenue  
SF CA 94122

SF Resident for 20 years

3123-01-1A



"Frank Estrada"  
<festrada45@hotmail.com>

03/08/2002 01:08 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: dog-leash opinion

Hello,

I am a native San Franciscan, and have enjoyed using the GGNRA all my life. I am a father with a 7 year old son. Lately when trying to enjoy the parks, unleashed, at-large dogs have run up to my son and scared him by jumping up on him. This, to me, is unacceptable. In the S.F. Chronicle article (3/8/02), it lists the number of people that have been bitten by dogs. Again, this is completely unacceptable. I am not an animal hater, nor a dog hafer. I just believe that people should be responsible for their pets, and if the rule states that dogs should be on a leash, then they should comply.

The GGNRA is for everyone to enjoy, not just for dog owners. They have no right to have the rules changed for their benefit if it's going to impinge on others' enjoyment of the parks.

Thank you.

Frank J. Estrada

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8124-02-1A



Pamela Wellner  
<pweller@getupstand  
up.net>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: leash law

03/08/2002 10:14 AM  
PST

March 8, 2002

To: GGNRA

From: Pamela Wellner

Re: Public Comment on National Park Policy of unleashed dogs

I am a frequent visitor to Ocean Beach. However, lately I have not been visiting because I have had too many bad and somewhat frightening experiences with dogs. I have two small children, and my husband and I both take turns surfing and playing with the kids on the beach. We also enjoy having picnics there. Over the past three years we have noticed that many people with their dogs off the leash have absolutely no control over their dogs since they are so far behind the dogs in their walk.

This has resulted in dogs, both large and small, charging up to us and either taking food right out of my children's hand or mouth, or getting us extremely dirty with wet sand. One time, a dog urinated on my bag. In all of these incidents, the dog owner was there too late to remedy the situation. I feel frightened for my children and angry that we can't enjoy our time at the beach. The other problem is that the dog owners do not pick up the dog feces. I am tired of having to dodge the poop, or see it washed out into the ocean. Perhaps, if the owner was right there seeing the dog poop, they would have the courtesy to pick it up.

3124-02-1A

I do sympathize with the dogs who need to be let off the leash to run and exercise, and as ideal as the beach may be for that activity, it poses a health and safety issue that must be remedied. I also support the leash law for the protection of the native flora and fauna.

I add my support that dogs should be leashed in the GGNRA.  
Thank you.

Pamela Wellner  
1009 DeHaro St.  
San Francisco, CA 94107

3125-01-1A



"Patricia G. Cole"  
<patricia@coletuckler.  
com>

03/08/2002 12:50 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Keep parks open for dogs off leash

To whom it may concern:

I am requesting that we keep the parks open for dogs to roam freely without a leash but under owner supervision. I think it is good for our culture to allow these places to be open for such activities. I also believe that dogs that are not allowed to freely interact socially with other dogs and people end up suffering from socialization problems. Such socialization problems lead to the horrific incidents of maulings that have been in the news too frequently lately. We as a society, need to responsibly take care of our dogs, who provide so much caring and nurturing for us humans. We are doing a disservice to our animals and to our neighbors if we do not properly socialize our dogs. Please assist us in that responsibility by allowing for the dogs to socialize and exercise with each other off leash in our public parks.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Patricia Cole  
1931 15th Street  
San Francisco, CA 94114  
415. 699.4820

registered democrat, san francisco home owner and proud dog owner.

3126-01-3B



underw@mindspring.c  
om

03/08/2002 12:30 PM  
PST

To: GOGA\_PETS\_ANPR@NPS.GOV

cc:

Subject: <no subject>

I WANT TO VOICE MY STRONG SUPPORT OF KEEPING THE GGNRA OPEN TO PETS OFF  
LEASH. THERE IS NO OTHER PLACE IN THE AREA THAT SERVES THE NEEDS OF PET  
OWNERS. ALSO THERE IS NO OTHER PLACE WHERE SAN FRANCISCANS MEET AND TALK  
TOGETHER. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT PLACE FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND IT MUST BE  
MAINTAINED.

THANK YOU,  
ERIC POULSON

3127-01-1B



KRAEMERW@aol.com  
03/08/2002 03:12 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Keep parks open for dogs off leash

To whom it may concern:

I am requesting that we keep the parks open for dogs to roam freely without a leash but under owner supervision. I think it is good for our culture to allow these places to be open for such activities. What I do request, however, is that people who do not pick up their dogs' litter be fined. This should be something that is more enforced.

I have a small dog and I always pick up after him. I think it is unconscionable for dog owners to leave their dogs' poop on the beach and/or elsewhere. If tickets were given more frequently, they would get the message!

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Marilyn Kraemer Winslow  
214 Laurel Place  
San Rafael, CA 94901  
415.456.9060

3128-01-3B



David Goldberg  
<DGoldberg@Bluestre  
ak.com>

03/08/2002 02:50 PM  
EST

To: "goga\_pets\_ANPR@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_ANPR@nps.gov>  
cc: "fortfunston@hotmail.com" <fortfunston@hotmail.com>  
Subject: ANPR Comment: In Support of Off-leash Dog Walking in the GGNRA

It's refreshing to let our briard run with the other dogs on Crissy Field.  
Taking that away would be equivalent to taking away recreational centers for  
kids - and that's unthinkable/

Please keep this benefit available - let the dog owners be responsible, not  
the city...

David Goldberg  
'Concerned Dog Owner'

3129-01-3B



gapres@webtv.net  
(Greg & Ann Preston)  
03/08/2002 11:51 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: GGNRA Dog Policy

Dogs bite and kill millions of people every year.  
Dogs should not be allowed in the GGNRA UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES!!!!!!

Why should it be any different than any other national park? Because there are more aggressive, psychopathic dog owners in the Bay Area than anywhere else?  
Protect humans and the environment from man's worst enemy...no exception to National Park policy!!!

3/30-01-10



Cynthia Bennington  
<CynthiaBennington@  
KennedyJenks.com>

03/08/2002 11:41 AM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: GGNRA

I disagree with any proposals to allow unleashed dogs in the GGNRA. The GGNRA should not be treated differently from any other national park within the NPS's jurisdiction. Residents of San Francisco should not treat the park as their personal playground. It is a national park serving a national constituency.

Cynthia Bennington  
1717 Indian Way  
Oakland, CA 94611

3131-01-3B



Lynn Keller  
<lynn@hkadesign.com  
>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: UNLEASH OUR PETS

03/08/2002 09:34 AM  
PST

Dear Sirs:

I write to strongly disagree with proposed policy to leash pets in the GGNRA and Parks.

Be serious, these are URBAN PARKS. They need to accomodate people and dogs as a priority much before worrying about trying to create some kind of wildlife preserve in the middle of an urban environment.

I urge you to leave Crissy Field and South Beach and Fort Funston as off leash areas.

You already disallowed dogs completely on the beach by the old coast guard station. Have you noticed that you have effectively also eliminated all the people from that beach as well? People want to go relax with their pets, walk and roam freely.

I repeat, THESE ARE URBAN PARKS. I urge you to develop policies that reflect San Francisco's long love of dogs and their freedom.

Lynn Keller

3132-01-313



"Veltri, Brian"  
<Brian.Veltri@alza.com>  
m>

03/08/2002 11:28 AM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>,  
"pfimrite@sfnchronicle.com" <pfimrite@sfnchronicle.com>  
cc:  
Subject: off leash dogparks

Just wanted to express my support for off-leash dog parks...

thank you,  
brian veltri

3133-01-3B



"Taylor, Becky"  
<Becky.Taylor@alza.com>  
m>

03/08/2002 11:28 AM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>,  
"pfimrite@sfchronicle.com" <pfimrite@sfchronicle.com>

cc:

Subject: Dog's on leashes in dog parks.

To whom it may concern,

I feel as though I need to express my concern about dog's being on a leash in dog parks. I don't feel they should have to be on a leash because it's kind of their freedom from being locked up all day. Also, how will my dog exercise and stay healthy being on a leash all the time. I don't have a yard at home so this will make it very hard for my dog to run. If this happens it basically means that our dog's will spend a majority of their life on a leash. I don't feel that is humane or healthy for the animal. Thank you for your time.

*Thanks,  
Becky Taylor*

3134-01-1A



Abe\_Wood@providian.  
com

03/08/2002 11:06 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc: pfimrite@sfchronicle.com  
Subject: Off leash dog parks

Hi,

I am writing in response to the article in today's paper. From my experiences, having dogs off leash promotes socializing, both with people and other dogs, this teaches them good behavior. It gives dogs exercise which it needs in order to prevent an agitated animal. This making the dog less likely to be aggressive. Have you heard the term, "a tired dog is a happy dog"? Off leash is the only way to get most dogs the exercise that they need.

All of my experiences with off leash dog areas has always been great. Dog owners that take their pets to these parks are very responsible people. They would never put anyone at risk nor the parks for that matter. Dog lovers love the parks just as much as they love their dogs and the responsibility is obvious.

One more thing, weren't all of these parks donated to begin with?

Thank you for your time,

Abe Wood

990 Duncan Street, SF, CA

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3135-01-1A



Bill Davis  
<sfbdavis@pacbell.net  
>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Comment Opposing Unleashed Dogs in GGNRA

03/08/2002 11:05 AM  
PST

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed GGNRA exception to the National Park Service's policy prohibiting unleashed dogs in national parks.

As a frequent user of GGNRA sites in San Francisco and Marin counties and a member of the GGNRA Association, I wholeheartedly support the long-standing policy, which GGNRA staff have been attempting to enforce. I am tired of having to deal with unleashed dogs on San Francisco and Marin beaches, at the new Promenade along Chrissy Field in San Francisco, and on trails in the Marin Headlands. These areas are too popular - and there are too many small children, not to mention the wildlife - to allow dogs to run at will.

Perhaps an exception could be made for a limited area, such as Fort Funston, so that dogs could be concentrated in a few spots that the rest of us can then avoid. But if this is done, I hope that there can be some means of protecting the wildlife in these areas.

Again, many thanks for the opportunity to comment. The GGNRA makes the Bay Area the special place to live that it is, and I appreciate the Park Service's efforts to manage responsibly this incredible resource.

William D. Davis  
San Francisco

3136-01-38



"Carol Cutler"  
<corkle3@hotmail.com  
>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: dogs kept on leashes

03/08/2002 11:04 AM  
PST

I have lived in the bay area for nearly thirty years and the dog problem is worse than ever. I feel very strongly that all dogs must be on leashes at all times!!!! I personally believe that dogs shouldn't even be allowed on beaches!!!! So many owners are not responsible and do not clean up after their dogs, and given the recent maulings why are we even debating this issue. Sometimes the very loud minority kidnap the public. My children , my elderly mother-in-law and many others are afraid of dogs. When they are not on a leash we are not safe. Please keep the leash laws in place. Carol Cutler

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3137-01-1C



"Josie and Kevin  
Maxwell"  
<jnkmaxwell@attbi.co  
m>

03/08/2002 11:04 AM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Don't allow dogs in GGNRA areas

Dear

It is our opinion that dogs ought to be kept away from any wildlife refuges (GGNRA). They should not even be allowed in those areas leashed.

As it is, in the San Francisco open space areas (run by the SF Water District) dog owners already bring their dogs into areas where dogs aren't allowed (i.e. Crystal Springs running areas, Sheep Camp trail etc.) and they let their dogs run free where dogs are supposed to be leashed (Water Dog Trail-Belmont). I could name any number of areas banned to dogs but their owners bring them in anyway and the dogs romp unchecked onto the restored fauna and chase the wildlife.

We love dogs but believe before a person adopts a dog, they should know there are limits on where dogs can be taken to fun free (and San Francisco is not the most convenient place for dogs and SF residents who buy dogs should have thought of that ahead of time).

We do not frequent Fort Funston or the Ocean Beach area anymore primarily because of the number of dogs that roam the area. We used to walk there a lot but, trust us, it has lost a lot of appeal to us and to many other hikers and walkers.

The dog owners think their dogs need the space to "play" but at whose expense? It is at the expense of first, the flora and wildlife, and then at the expense of those who want to enjoy the coast and seek peace of mind (which is impossible when dogs are roaming free).

Even when the dogs aren't there, they've left their mark everywhere which other animals smell and then flee.

We encourage the GGNRA to ban dogs from coastal areas--even leashed dogs. They ruin the territory, they leave their markings (aka feces and urine), and they run up to people and sniff and jump on them at will. Owners often think this is "cute" but most people find this offensive if not rude. If owners picked up after their dogs, as they claim they do, then why are dog markings noticed everywhere? Obviously a good number of dog owners do not pick up after their dogs.

The best solution is to designate some area on the coast (south of John Daly Blvd so as not to interfere with GGNRA) as a bonafide dog park and let the dog owners walk treacherously among the droppings. This would keep them happy and free up the GGNRA to be what it is meant to be, a place of refuge for the flora and fauna and a place of reflection, and solitude for people.

We love dogs, too, but dog owners, no matter how strong they are at banding together, --(other groups are good at banding together too) should not be able to cause the National Park Service to change their laws. If anything, the laws should be left to a vote by the people not one group.

We hope our voice helps to keep dogs out of GGNRA.

Josie and Kevin Maxwell  
Belmont, CA

GGNRA012426

3138-01-1A



"Gerry Rosen"  
<gerryrosen@earthlink  
.net>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Dogs/leash policy at GGNRA

03/09/2002 02:57 AM  
ZE8

I am fully in favor of requirements that dogs be kept leashed on all public park lands of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Parks are for PEOPLE to enjoy as hikers and walkers. Dogs definitely contribute to a degradation of the natural environment, by trampling vegetation and chasing birds. Unleashed dogs are also a threat to people, especially children, as dog-owners can never be sure their dog will not attack someone. There have been many instances of this already. People go to parks to enjoy contact with nature, and they shouldn't have to worry about dog attacks when they are there. Thanks for your attention to my comments. -- Gerald Rosen, San Francisco resident

--

3139-01-1A



Scottorino@aol.com

03/08/2002 01:42 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

CC:

Subject: Dog Leash Opinion

I feel that it is important that dog owners be free to allow their dogs to run off the leash on San Francisco beaches and parks. It is very important to me and to other dog owners I know that we have the opportunity to throw balls for our dogs and to enjoy outdoor time together with our dogs.

I admit that dogs should be under the control of their owners and that some dogs may not be compatible with running off the leash. However, people can be held accountable for controlling their dogs. In fact, you will find that other dog owners will very effectively enforce the rules and will ensure that problem dog owners are not welcome

Thank you for your attention to my opinion.

Scott Filley  
5455 Anza Street  
San Francisco, CA 94121

3140-01-3B



Karl Tede  
<Karl@chartering.com  
>

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Dog Debate

03/08/2002 10:39 AM  
PST

I am writing to express my opinion regarding the issue as to whether dogs should be allowed free access at Presidio National Park.

Firstly I would like to congratulate the NPS for a fantastic job on the renovations of Crissy Field and the surrounding area. The beach facilities are now fantastic.

I am the father of two little boys and we frequent the Crissy Field area. I am in favor of a designated beach and free roaming area for dogs, but they should not be allowed to run over the entire park unleashed. My boys are often approached and hassled by large unleashed dogs while we visit the beach area of Crissy Field and therefore I support a stronger leash law for the park.

Thank you

Karl Tede

314-01-3B



Douglas Fong  
<design\_b@pacbell.net>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Fort Funston Dog Walking

03/08/2002 10:39 AM  
PST

May I voice my support for the continuation of a Fort Funston tradition to allow dogs to roam off-leash under the responsibility of their owners. This tradition is a warm mixing of public community and appreciation for the outdoors. The Fort Funston area provides a unique location where pets can exercise safely and without bothering other persons in our urban environment, as well as the unique public access to our ocean front. The dog walkers at Fort Funston have formed a strong sense of community which extends to social as well as individual control of the pets which has results in periodic park clean up efforts as well as continual peer monitoring.

The dog walkers at Fort Funston have cooperated as sections of the park have been removed from public access over the past few years, and are justly concerned about possible further erosion of public access to this area under the guise of environmental protection.

Please consider the strong value the tradition of off-leash dog walking has as a benefit to our community when reviewing your administration of this public treasure.

Douglas Fong,

Telephone 415.566.9619

3142-01-1A



"Bruce Dubois"  
<bruce@bdtconsulting  
.com>

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Dog leash opinion

03/08/2002 10:43 AM  
PST

I am a dog owner as well as a resident located directly across the street from the Pan Handle, Golden Gate Park. I believe that dogs should be put on leashes. My main concern may seem petty but after living here for over seven years I am sick of stepping in dog droppings. It seems as if the people that walk their dogs in the Pan Handle feel as though this area has been designated for them. My apartment faces the park and I work from home. On a daily basis I see dog owners that have their dogs off the leash, turn their heads as soon as the dog starts to relieve itself. Not all, but enough to make it a problem. Also, when the weather is nice I like to lay out in the sun. Unfortunately the off leash dogs run up on you and make it nearly impossible to enjoy. I think it is unfair that the people that want to have their dogs off leash feel as though they are being persecuted. What about us people that have dogs, and want to enjoy the park without stepping in something or without being bothered by some random dog running up on you, your blanket, and kick over your drink. Is it so bad to have a dog on a leash? What about my rights to the park? If you choose to have a dog, there are responsibilities that come with that... like walking your dog with a leash. If you don't like it, don't have a dog or move to another city that will allow that.

Bruce Dubois

3143-01-1A



Peter Lindberg  
<plindberg@truis.com  
>

03/08/2002 10:32 AM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Leash Law

Every 40 seconds, someone in the United States seeks medical attention for a dog bite.

It has been estimated that about 4.7 million people (nearly 2 percent of the American population) are bitten by dogs each year.

There are approximately 800,000 bites per year in the United States that require medical treatment.

Unfortunately children comprise 60% of the dog bite victims, and most of them are bitten on the face.

In 1997 and 1998, at least 27 people died as a result of dog bite attacks. Of these, 19 were young children under 11 years of age.

Of the 27 people who died as a result of dog bite attacks in 1997 and 1998, **86 percent involved unrestrained dogs.**

As a San Francisco resident of 8 years, and an active hiker and jogger, I urge you to enforce the leash law in the GGNRA. I have been chased, tripped, bumped and threatened by unleashed dogs while trying to enjoy the beautiful parks in SF. As San Francisco becomes more densely populated, and frequently visited, it is imperative that our common areas remain safe and clean.

Dogs are not human, they do not pay taxes, they do not vote, and do not have the same rights as humans. Dog owners do have rights, the rights to equitably share parks with children and adults who do not have dogs. Dog owners are not entitled to special rights, or loopholes, simply because they own a pet. Dogs on leashes are acceptable, as long as their owners consistently clean up their waste, but **unleashed dogs are a nuisance and a danger.**

Please vote to keep dogs on leashes in our parks.

Peter Lindberg

[plindberg@truis.com](mailto:plindberg@truis.com)

415.581.1064

3144-01-3B



jruzick@bart.gov  
03/08/2002 10:28 AM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
CC:  
Subject: Proposed Dog Rules

I think a reasonable compromise needs to be reached. For example, dogs were formerly allowed on the far west side of Baker Beach. There are no plants there to trample, and 90% of the beach was off-limits to dogs so people who did not want to be around dogs could easily avoid them. There is no reason this policy could not continue for Baker Beach.

Similarly, dogs could be allowed off-leash on the beach portion of Fort Funston (where you walk down the sandy hill). Again, there is nothing there but sand, cliffs and water and the remainder of the beach area (Ocean, etc.) could be dog-free.

At the very least, the sandy portion just off the Ft. Funston parking lot could be fenced with dogs allowed to run around in this area.

3145-01-3B



"MaryWynn RYAN"  
<marywynn\_ryan@bar  
arch.com>

03/08/2002 10:24 AM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: comments

to whom it may concern,

While I love dogs, and enjoy being out doors walking them, I believe that the best solution is to have dogs on leash, with fenced areas for off leash running/play and socializing. Not all humans enjoy it when a strange dog rushes up to you or walking or sitting in dog waste in a public park/ beach. My husband is disabled and we've dealt with many freaked out dogs that rush him barking at the wheels on his wheel chair, with no owner in sight. And something I've yet to see mentioned in the debate is when a owner has lost control of their dog and have to yell repeatedly at the wayward animal. It breaks the spell for many of us who are trying to enjoy the outdoors to hear "no, stop I Said come here" screamed at the top of their lungs. It's simply selfish of dog owners to make non dog owners accept their way of life. Dog owners make a choice to have a domesticated animal in their care, they should have to accommodate the needs of the many, such as folks with allergies, people who are afraid of dogs, others who are unstable on their feet as well as the sensitive environment.

thank you,

Marywynn Ryan  
SF Resident and Dog Lover

3146-01-3B



DHanks7960@aol.com

03/08/2002 12:50 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: Keep dogs out!

I really believe it is absolutely wrong for dogs to run loose at golden gate or any park. They are annoying when they jump on you and they are very destructive to the plants and other wildlife. I have lived next door to a woman who owns an extremely neurotic dog that neverstops barking and has torn up every plant in her yard. My backyard used to be a sanctuary from the loud street I live on, but that dog has ruined any chance of peace and quiet. It is their choice to have a dog, but keeping their dog happy should not be at the expense of taxpayers. I also think there are way too many dangerous dogs around these days. I don't think all of us who are sensible enough to not have a dog should have to suffer because of people who selfishly don't think of others. I am also very protective of the environment there and everywhere else and I know how destructive dogs are. Thanks Douglas K. Hanks M.D.

3147-01-1B



"tom guldman"  
<tguldman@hotmail.co  
m>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: dog control in ggnra

03/08/2002 09:44 AM  
PST

Dear GGNRA,

I would like to strongly urge you to insist that ALL dogs in the GGNRA be kept on leashes at all times and to establish meaningful penalties for failure to follow this rule. Although vocak dog owners strive to give the impression that loose dogs in some way enhance the experience of all users of the GGNRA (and other public open spaces), this is simply untrue. Apart from the possible hazards of aggressive and unruly dogs (whose owners generally attribute assaults to the actions of the hapless victims - "they made him do it"), even dogs that are not actually dangerous do not add to the pleasure of others use of the parks. Whether expressing affection by thrusting their muzzles into passing crotches or playfulness by jumping up on passers-by with muddy paws, uncontrolled dogs are simply unpleasant nuisances to those not predisposed to their charms. Dog owners are certainly entitled to have their pets, but that does not somehow give them the right to impose them on other members of the public. Please do not succumb to the threats or entreaties of the dog owners- keep the GGNRA a place where dogs are required to be kept under direct control at all times. Please also note that the whole concept of "voice control" is an absurd fiction: it means that the controller exercises his or her voice while the dog does whatever it has in mind. Any connection between voice and control is completely fortuitous.

Sincerely,

Thomas Guldman, 40 Quisisana Drive, Kentfield, CA 94904

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3148-01-1A



"James E. Foley, III"  
<jefoley3@bentleyip.com>

03/08/2002 09:44 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
CC:  
Subject: GGNRA: National Park Policy On Unleashed Dogs

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

I am a resident of San Francisco and a parent. I strongly oppose excepting the Golden Gate National Recreation Area from the National Park policy that prohibits unleashed dogs.

--

James E. Foley, III  
550 Battery Street  
San Francisco, CA 94111

3149-01-3B



"Tim Beneke"  
<timbeneke@earthlink.net>

03/08/2002 09:39 AM

PST

Please respond to "Tim Beneke"

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
CC:  
Subject: Let dogs run free

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the position that pets be allowed to roam free at the GGNRA, a tradition that goes back 25 years. Studies reveal that the presence of dogs there does not harm the environment, that overwhelmingly park-goers want dogs to be allowed to roam free in the park, and that most of the reported dog bites in the area do not occur where the dogs are running free but in the Presidio area.

Sincerely,  
Tim Beneke

3150-01-3B



Thebeeskep@aol.com

03/08/2002 12:30 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: Leashes at Ft Funston

Please continue to require that dogs be on leashes. I used to like to go there, to enjoy the park and the view, but it is too frightening with all those dogs running loose. Especially frightening if one has small children--who, I feel, should be entitled to enjoy their national parks.

3151-01-1C



HELEN RECTOR  
<HRECTOR@email.usp  
s.gov>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Bay Area GGNRA dogs on leash issue

03/08/2002 12:09 PM  
EST

Dear public officials

I am a dog owner who enjoys walking my dogs off leash. I also volunteer regularly at the National Historic Park at the Hyde Street Pier. I visit National Parks often, and am usually a great admirer of the service. I agree with most of its goals and actions.

I have enjoyed my many visits to Fort Funston. But have now stopped visiting. The last visit I made there was to sort of protest day against the plan for leash enforcement. The rangers were very careful to stay out of sight. This disturbed me.

I pay a lot of taxes. I support quite a few environmental causes. I volunteer. But I very much disagree with the hard line being taken here.

Many Bay Area GGNRA areas have been utilized in the past for military and other unnatural uses. They are not, nor ever will be, any more than urban areas where the city population enjoys time out of doors. All the off leash supporters are asking is that their preferred type of recreation continues. Walking dogs off leash is enjoyable.

Other highly "unnatural" activities are not being outlawed - such as campgrounds, golf courses and fast food vendors. I see no real reason to pick on dogs and their owners.

Camping on Ocean Beach has not been allowed in the past. Comparing that possibility to keeping the off leash policy of the past intact, just exhibits bad attitude. Birds are not more important than people. I am sure the Audobon Society would like to see these areas as more bird sanctuaries. But many of us think some of these areas could be shared, and not dedicated to birds.

I would like to request that the NPS get this issue settled. Aggressive enforcement of the newly imposed leash law in Bay Area GGNRA areas is unpopular and unnecessary, and may cost GGNRA and NPS more good will than it is worth. This goes for Fort Funston and for the new GGNRA area at Mori Point in Pacifica.

Helen Rector  
650 359 7375  
265 Shoreview Ave  
Pacifica CA 94044

3152-01-1A



"Rolf Kallenbach"  
<rolfkallenbach@hotmail.com>

03/08/2002 09:01 AM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Please enforce existing lease laws -- as a dog owner

From:

Rolf Kallenbach  
74 Morningside Drive  
San Francisco, CA

To Whom It May Concern,

As a dog owner and lover of nature, I am very happy that the National Park Service is requiring all dog walkers to have their animals on a leash, especially in Gold gate Park, Ocean Beach and Fort Funston areas close to our home. This will only benefit parents of small children and the wildlife that try to share those areas with the dogs and their walkers.

The times that I have dared to jog through Fort Funston in San Francisco I have seen packs of dogs running all over the place destroying plants, chasing birds and joggers, and jumping up on people. I have never see parents with small children at Fort Funston -- they don't dare to take small children there. That is absurd!

In fact some people have 5 to 8 dogs with them. This creates havoc in the park areas when these "professional" dog walkers meet with each other and their dogs run all over the place without any supervision. That is absurd!

Don't let the highly vocal dog lobby overwhelm you. The vast majority of the electorate feels as I do, but will not take the time to express themselves..

Please continue to push for enforcement of these laws and to not allow professional dog walkers to unleash dogs in these areas. Of course these laws will be difficult to enforce, but eventually the dog walkers will get, used to the law.

Suggestions:

Set aside special times of the day or special days for certain areas.  
Ban professional dog walkers from certain areas and require leashes.  
Other areas -- such as Fort Funston need to be returned to families with children.

Sincerely,

Rolf Kallenbach

rolfkallenbach@hotmail.com

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GGNRA012441

3153-01-3B



Mia Salaverry  
<mialore@pacbell.net>

03/08/2002 09:03 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Dog-Leash opinion re the GGNRA

I have a large, very friendly old black Labrador who loves the beach. I do allow him to play off leash where there are other dogs and dog owners present. Whenever I take him there I am careful and considerate of others. I clean up after him, in case he poops. I keep him from fighting with other dogs, although prefers to chase tennis balls. I keep him away from people who seem scared of him. AND, he does chase birds occasionally, but he is much too slow for them and is actually more interested in me, the ball, dead fish, and other friendly canines.

PLEASE, allow dogs to go off leash in designated areas of the GGNRA. Dogs are not criminals, are not fundamentally out of the control of their owners, and deserve to enjoy nature as we do. I cannot believe that they do damage the environment in the GGRNA. There would have to be as many dogs in the parks as people for them to have the kind of negative impact that objectors claim.

Certainly people who bring uncontrollable, dangerous, or inconsiderate dogs to the GGRNA should be censured, ticketed, fined, or whatever. For that purpose there should be some sort of enforcement presence in high traffic areas.

What seems more of a problem to me in the GGRNA is loud music from portable "boom-boxes," joggers and bicyclists who seem to care less for those of us who walk, and dog owners who neglect to clean up after their dogs.

Please take note of this opinion and include it in your decision-making process.

Mia Salaverry, MFT  
925 258-1989  
mialore@pacbell.net



winmail.dat

3154-01-1C



"Sandy Turner"  
<sandy\_turner@hotmail.com>

03/08/2002 04:50 PM  
GMT

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov, sueanderson@bankofmarin.com  
cc:  
Subject: I Have Been Physically Injured by Unleashed Dogs in GGNRA

Public safety and your own liability require that dogs be leashed in public areas of the GGNRA.

I was physically injured by an unattended, unleashed dog while I was walking on the pedestrian path at Crissy Field six months ago. I was clipped at the knees from behind by an unattended large dog, which was running, playing with another large dog. The dogs were so large and the clipping happened so fast and unexpectedly that I was unable to maintain my balance and fell immediately to the ground with the same speed and lack of control as when one bike's wheel hits another bike's wheel while riding. The fall twisted my knee and scraped the skin through my clothing.

The dogs owners were either not there or did not approach me to admit their responsibility in the accident. The dogs had run off, so I was unable to read their tags.

There were almost as many dogs as people at Crissy Field the day I was injured. Though I had been to Crissy Field many times before and after its reclamation, I had no idea that the park had been taken over by dogs. I had no warning that this was the current state of park management.

The dog that hit me was very big. Since the Diane Whipple mauling death, I have wondered whether the dogs responsible for my fall that day were the same dogs as the ones involved in that case.

I love dogs and believe they should have a place to run and play. However, if you do not have leash laws within GGNRA all dogs, no matter what size, degree of obedience training and ferocity, are free to run wild. I don't see how you can even consider letting dogs run free unless you designate the GGNRA as exclusively a dog park. And, it seems to me that any policy allowing dogs to run free makes you vulnerable to lawsuits for injury caused by dogs and dog owners who cannot be caught and identified by the victim.

I am an early member of the GGNRA. However, I will let my membership lapse if you do not somehow control your dog problem. My love for both the park and dogs is not great enough for me to put money into what will become a defense fund.

Thank you.

Sandra Turner  
Star Route Box 23  
Woodside, CA 94062  
(650) 851-3076

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3155-01-3B



Tricia Richter  
<trichter@stanford.edu  
>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Dogs in GGNRA

03/08/2002 08:27 AM  
PST

Some folks seem to think that being a dog lover and an environmentalist are mutually exclusive. This is not the case, because I consider myself both. What is needed in the GGNRA is a compromise.

I don't think anyone is demanding that the entire GGNRA be opened up for off-leash dog activity, but there is no reason why dogs should not be allowed to continue to romp off-leash in Fort Funston and Crissy Field at the very least. The reality is that the GGNRA is slap in the middle of a tremendously congested urban area, and within that area there are people with all kinds of recreational needs. Off-leash dog-romping is one of many such needs, and it is just as legitimate as others.

Fort Funston belonged to the City before it belonged to the National Park Service. It was specifically intended to be dedicated to \*recreational use\*--- NOT to preservation. Despite this fact, the Audubon Society, hard-core environmentalists, and the GGNRA have been gradually turning Funston into a preserve. I am not advocating that all rules and restrictions be dropped at Funston, but I think that recreational needs need to be given more consideration there.

Dogs were happily romped off-leash at Funston for years before the GGNRA suddenly decided to restrict them. What I want to know is, Why the sudden about-face? Why couldn't people be left with at least one peaceful, happy, LEGAL place to freely romp their dogs? There are so few! The anti-dog crowd seems determined to leave NO place for dogs to enjoy life between San Francisco and San Jose.

Please just mark me down as another supporter of off-leash dog walking at select locations in GGNRA. Please leave us a place to enjoy our dogs enjoying life. Tiny, overcrowded "dog parks" are NOT enough. I want to enjoy a walk while my dog trots about sniffing things, chases her ball into the surf, and plays with other dogs in some wide-open space. Please leave her a place to do that.

Tricia Richter

Thank you.

Tricia Richter  
ITSS - Administrative Systems  
Delphi Project - Campus Readiness  
(650) 725-8022 - trichter@stanford.edu  
<http://www.stanford.edu/group/axess2000/>

3156-01-1C



Kristin Burns  
<kristin@cdr.stanford.  
edu>

03/08/2002 08:25 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Fort Funston is great for dogs and people

To Whom It May Concern:

We feel Fort Funston is a great place for people to take their dogs and let them be off-leash. We think a program of education towards responsible dog citizenship combined with the access to off-leash areas of the GGNRA is important. The ability to offer this access contributes to the overall attractiveness of the GGNRA to Bay Area residents.

Dog owners might be willing to pay an incremental fee to help defray whatever costs off-leash activity may pose.

Sean and Kristin Burns  
975-B Fifteenth Avenue  
Redwood City, CA 94305-4021

3157-01-(A)



JonathanRutledge@cs.  
com  
03/08/2002 10:47 AM  
EST

To: Goga\_Pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
CC:  
Subject: Dog walking

My opinion:

Like every other problem a reasonable compromise might solve this controversy.

For example: In the alternative or combined as you see fit .....

1. Dogs might be allowed off leash on the beach but not on the promenade
2. Dogs might be allowed off leash between the hours of 6-9 am and 2 hours before sunset.
3. Dogs might be allowed off leash except on weekends and holidays

In general there should be a rule banning or least muzzling aggressive [to man or other animal] dogs at all times whether on or off lease. There should be some area available for people who don't want to be around dogs. Non-dog owners [not me] have rights too.

Finally that lovely part of the beach closer to the warming hut that from which dogs are banned should not be singled out to be dog-free. That area away from the main parking area provides a wonderful place for smaller dogs and neighborhood residents to go and the lagoon etc provides plenty of space protected for birds, etc

Good luck. You are doing a wonderful job

Jonathan Rutledge  
415-474-1433  
San Francisco

3158-01-3B



KuligArt@aol.com  
03/08/2002 10:01 AM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: off leash pets

Dear GGNRA

I cannot being to tell you how disgusted I am with off leash pets at FORT FUNSTON.

I have been walking that area for over 40 years and have witnessed a beautiful view area for the public turn into nothing more than a DOG TOILET. One hears about how people dont monitor their pets with their wastes, but did you ever take the time to think about the thousands of gallons of DOG URINE on the plants that have been deposited over the years that CANT be cleaned up?

One other thing, I saw in the paper this morning that about 94% of the birds are NOT chased by dogs there. Well, of course not the BIRDS HAVE BEEN ALL CHASED AWAY.

Years ago there were many more shore birds than now roaming freely along the shores, i know that for a fact becuae i have been going there for the last 40 years.

in conclusion.

Get rid of these damn dogs already and give the beach back to the people who it belongs to, and return it as close to as you can to its natural state.

WE the public deserve it.

THAT AREA WAS NOT DESIGNED TO BE A DOG TOILET!!!!

Lawrence Kulig

*Finally.. NEW WORKS.. check it out.. VARIABLES IN FORM AND CONSCIOUSNESS*  
<http://hometown.aol.com/kuligart/page2.html>

3159-01-3B

 **njpoirier@aol.com**  
03/08/2002 09:57 AM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: GGNR - Dogs

I strongly disagree with allowing dogs to run unleashed in the federal park. I urge you to keep the law in place. Thank you  
N. Poirier

GGNRA012448

3160-01-3A



j roberts  
<kame3@wildmail.com  
>

03/08/2002 08:20 AM  
GMT

To: "Brian O'Neill" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: I Support Alternative A - Keep Dogs Leashed!

Friday, March 8, 2002

Brian O'Neill  
Superintendent  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
ATTN: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing to support Option A in the ANPR and further request that the Park Service continue to allow leashed pet recreation where currently permissible, while minimizing pet impacts to visitors and park resources.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the world's largest urban park, provides critical habitat for some of the state's most rare and threatened species including 11 federally listed endangered wildlife species and 9 federally listed plant species. While parks such as GGRNA also provide a great place to recreate with pets, I am concerned that the ANPR could lead to changes in the current leash policy that would put sensitive park resources and public safety in jeopardy.

Numerous academic and government studies identify off leash pets as threats to visitor safety, wildlife, and the integrity of natural and cultural resources. For example, a study by the American Humane Association documents injuries to humans, wildlife, and pets as a result of unleashed pets and recommends that pets be leashed in public areas set aside for natural resource protection purposes. Golden Gate National Recreation Area records indicate numerous incidents of dog bites, threats of dogs to park visitors, and instances where park rangers were forced to risk their own safety to rescue uncontrolled pets and pet owners trapped on cliffs or in the ocean.

For these reasons -- threats to public safety and park resources -- I support Option A. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

j roberts  
2421 ne irving st.  
Apt/Suite209  
portland, OR 97232  
kame3@wildmail.com

3162-02-~~200~~ 1A



Suzanne Varadi  
<SuzanneV@JFCS.ORG>  
G>

03/08/2002 10:39 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_ANPR@nps.gov  
cc: fortfunston@hotmail.com  
Subject: ANPR Comment: In Support of Off-leash Dog Walking in the GGNRA

<<GGNRA.doc>>

Please consider this letter before making any decisions about my dog's life!

Suzy Varadi  
Food Program Coordinator  
Kosher Meals-On-Wheels & Essey Meal Program  
Jewish Family and Children's Services  
suzannev@jfcs.org  
(415) 449-3824



GGNRA.doc

1/2

GGNRA012450

3162-02-3001A

Suzanne Varadi  
71 Dolores Terrace  
San Francisco, CA 94110

March 8, 2002

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

Dear ANPR Committee,

I am writing you on behalf of my puppy, Kylie. Kylie was found in August of 2001 on the streets of Potrero Hill with her six littermates. At that time Kylie was roughly four weeks old, extremely frightened, malnourished and orphaned. She had no idea of what it was like to have a responsible role owner that would provide her food, shelter, training, and stimulating activities. She did not know what a beach was, she did not know what a leash was, she did not know what obedience was. What she did know was how to be a dog and basic survival skills.

Kylie is now almost eight months old. Kylie is a graduate of two Puppy obedience classes. Kylie lives in the home of a San Francisco property tax payer who returned to this fine city because she longed to be in a culturally diverse environment with the ocean at her feet. She dreamed of walks on the beach with a dog.

I visit Crissy Fields at least two times a week with Kylie. I do not live near this recreation area, Kylie and I make special trips there, and it is a special time for us. Kylie whines with anticipation as soon as she smells the ocean air. When Kylie exits the car on leash it takes all my strength to contain her energy, to have her sit and wait for her command to "go play."

For Kylie, "go play" means she is free! She is allowed to have her fun. She runs up to the ocean and jumps in the waves, she retrieves tennis balls, and digs holes in the sand that lead to treasures only she knows about. Kylie frolics with her playmates Shadow, Gunner, Fiona, Kona, and Rylie to name a few. We socialize with other owners, we meet visitors from far away places and neighbors that also make this journey to the beach on the weekends. When we leave the beach we are covered in the salty remains of a good time and sand crusted under our nails and in our hair.

**If this privilege is taken away from Kylie the quality of life she has come to know will diminish! We will have no place that is safe from the streets she was left to at birth to "go play". The socialization skill that we have trained for will be lost. We will have to travel to new cities to find a place where we can be free!**

Suzanne Varadi

3163-01-3A



Susan Lawrence  
<snugglebaby@pobox.com>

03/09/2002 01:16 AM  
GMT

To: "Brian O'Neill" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: I Support Alternative A - Keep Dogs Leashed!

Friday, March 8, 2002

Brian O'Neill  
Superintendent  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
ATTN: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing to support Option A in the ANPR and further request that the Park Service continue to allow leashed pet recreation where currently permissible, while minimizing pet impacts to visitors and park resources.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the world's largest urban park, provides critical habitat for some of the state's most rare and threatened species including 11 federally listed endangered wildlife species and 9 federally listed plant species. While parks such as GGRNA also provide a great place to recreate with pets, I am concerned that the ANPR could lead to changes in the current leash policy that would put sensitive park resources and public safety in jeopardy.

Numerous academic and government studies identify off leash pets as threats to visitor safety, wildlife, and the integrity of natural and cultural resources. For example, a study by the American Humane Association documents injuries to humans, wildlife, and pets as a result of unleashed pets and recommends that pets be leashed in public areas set aside for natural resource protection purposes. Golden Gate National Recreation Area records indicate numerous incidents of dog bites, threats of dogs to park visitors, and instances where park rangers were forced to risk their own safety to rescue uncontrolled pets and pet owners trapped on cliffs or in the ocean.

For these reasons -- threats to public safety and park resources -- I support Option A. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Susan Lawrence  
74 Florence Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476 - 5947  
snugglebaby@pobox.com

3164-02-1A



"Patricia Kimball"  
<patricia\_kimball@msn.com>

03/09/2002 06:21 PM  
GMT

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Ft Funston: ltr from non-owner of dog

Patricia Kimball  
7601 Geary Blvd #4  
San Francisco CA 94121  
415 831-3842 home  
patricia\_kimball@msn.com

March 4, 2002  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Fort Mason, Bldg 201  
San Francisco CA 94123

re: Fort Funston - off-leash and may it ever be so

Dear GGNRA:

Please consider that there is "sufficient 'public will'" to maintain, rather than violate, the long-standing tradition of off-leash recreation—and the understanding at the time of the City's sale of Ft. Funston to the Feds that it would remain so.

There is no need to have a uniform, blanket policy of leashed-only pets throughout the land and the GGNRA; Ft. Funston is a unique place, a very specific island within the system, that serves very specific needs and population groups.

Needs served at Ft. Funston:

- Urban animals have a place to exercise the way they must in order to maintain their physical and mental health so that they can serve as pets for the urbanites who choose to have them and, in fact, depend upon them.
- People are provided a place in which to observe natural animal behavior and see how dogs move, play, learn, and interact; and determine rank, power, and boundaries, etc.
- A unique multi-use configuration has developed, which includes hang gliders, hikers, dog lovers, and people seeking the caring yet non-interfering personal style of those that frequent the place.

Population groups served at Ft. Funston:

- Pet owners
- The small dog-walking businesses which pet owners have created
- Those (like me) who don't own animals but who find emotional, physical, and spiritual fulfillment in watching them romp with grace and joy as nature intended—and depend upon Ft. Funston as a place to get a doggie hug
- dog-lovers
  - The elderly, who often sit on the benches and chat with the
  - The mentally less-than-"normal", who find the dog-crowd to be unusually patient and gentle
- Families out to introduce their children to domesticated animals free in

nature

- People who were raised with a fear of dogs and can, at Ft. Funston, observe how dogs behave—who they really are—when they are unrestrained and happily distracted by sticks and balls and each other

Ft. Funston can continue to serve this niche market.

- There are plenty of other places that serve the general public.
- The smelly sewage outlet at Ft. Funston beach does not make it particularly attractive to the general populace, whereas dogs and dog-lovers are willing to tolerate it.
- The ice plants, planted in place of the native species so long ago, can stay there; the original habitat was changed for one reason or another long ago and need not be artificially restored to its previous, not exactly pristine or sacrosanct state or given precedence over the human needs that are satisfied there now.

Please do not let the bizarre case of the criminal couple who adopted a criminal, trained dogs to attack, and stood idly by while one of them ravaged and killed a lesbian neighbor determine policy for the rest of us.

Please realize that if public safety is the issue, dogs are much mellower if they're allowed to run and play (and a stroll around the block on a leash doesn't cut it; nor does running in a circle trapped in a fenced area in close quarters with other dogs). Or will we soon hear about a proposed ban on dogs for the urban citizenry altogether? And then we will have only feral cats, raccoons, and cockroaches—and the occasional coyote.

Please consider all of my points; please preserve the off-leash policy at Ft. Funston which is so wanted, needed, and treasured by so many of us.

Thank you.

Patricia Kimball  
30-year resident, taxpayer, and voter  
San Francisco

---

Send and receive Hotmail on your mobile device: <http://mobile.msn.com>

3165-01-1C



"Josh Daniels"  
<jdaniels@stanfordalumni.org>

03/09/2002 09:22 AM

PST

Please respond to  
jdaniels

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: GGNRA - Continue allowing dogs off-leash

I am writing to voice my concern over proposed changes to off-leash dog policy in the GGNRA. I am an avid supporter of responsible off-leash dog access at GGNRA. My dog, a labrador retriever, does not chase birds or disturb wildlife, and is highly obedient via voice command. To take away this privilege from responsible dogs and their owners does not sit well with me...

Sincerely,

Josh Daniels  
1465 Santa Cruz Avenue  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

---

Josh Daniels  
[jdaniels@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:jdaniels@stanfordalumni.org)  
Cell (650) 208-4783

3166-01-3B



Anna Karydas  
<akarydas@pacbell.net  
>

To: goga\_pets\_ANPR@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Off leash

03/09/2002 08:48 AM  
PST

Dear People,

Everyone is saying the same thing: we love our dogs, they are family members and it is a proven fact that people are healthier and happier when with their animal companions. Life is hard enough..why in the world do some people want to make it harder?

I have spent too many hours at Fort Funston with my dog, which makes me a live witness able to attest to the fact that there are incredibly few problems with the dogs. However, it may be the occasional pet person who is a jerk. You just cant take away something so cherished as walking my dog without a leash, unless you have substantial evidence warranting it. Such evidence, I know you do not have.

Sincerely,

Cherie Bobbe  
bobbelaw@cruzio.com

3167-01-1C



marhic/ocrl@tellurite.S  
tanford.EDU

03/09/2002 08:41 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Enforce federal law in GGNRA parks

To whom it may concern:

Please do not allow dogs to run without leashes in GGNRA parks.

Thank you,

Michel Marhic

Consulting Professor  
Stanford University  
Department of Electrical Engineering  
374 Packard Bldg.  
Stanford, CA 94305

phone: (650) 723-3533  
fax: (650) 723-9251  
marhic@wdm.stanford.edu

368-01-1A



Anable1235@aol.com  
03/09/2002 11:11 AM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: GGNR Area

As a non-dog owner who has enjoyed the Fort Funston area, Yes, yes! Do allow the dogs to run free... at the veryleast, in generous designated area (at ALL GGNR areas.

A.Kallusch  
611 Panorama Dr.  
San Francisco, CA 94131

3169-01-5B



"Gretchen Davis"  
<Gretch@prodigy.net>

03/10/2002 11:41 AM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Dogs Off Lease

I do understand that the parks would like to find a balance with dogs off lease. But since I do own a dog and walk the beaches I know that Max and myself enjoy the outdoors and benefits with long walks. I notice that the beaches that dogs walk are cleaner than the ones only open to people. On leash and at ocean beach going towards the cliff house there is more glass trash needles and homeless. Also I see encampments all the time in the area. When I walk on ocean beach in the more secluded dog areas... Dog people most of them pick up after their dogs and other people. Since I've been in Funston for the last 8 years I have not seen one dog bite on a non dog person or anybody for that matter. Doesn't mean it hasn't happen just saying it would not be a regular thing or something out of control as we would be allowed to believe. I know my dog behaves well when not on leash and confronted by other animals. I know that walking him keeps him calm and healthy and I should be able to enjoy parts of Calif beaches with the same kind of freedoms the cliff hangers surfers campers bikers etc do. All these things contribute to living with wild life on the beaches. That is what makes Calif Calif. That is why people live here to enjoy each other and their lifestyles. The last 5 years there has been an increase of complaints about everything. Skaters surfers bikers dogs joggers... etc. If we let people dictate what we should or should not be doing this in the long run effects everybody. The people who think they live in the suburbs need to take a closer look and guess what? You live in the city! A very urban environment with lots of people... Who can own a surf board and can walk a dog... and can bike in traffic.. Every day I look at all the people on the beach and I'm so thankful to be living here and to have all this beauty to look at every day. Now yes everyone can work together to come up with a plan that works for most people. For one... I walk the dog early.... 6:30am to be exact. There is hardly anyone out at that time. Except for people who love to work out and play before the masses arrive. Why not have parts of Funston beach and park off lease during morning hours and off leash early evening when people are back from work. This gives dog people a chance to get out there and non dog people can enjoy the park with dogs on leash during the day. Limit the #'s of dogs off lease to dog walkers etc. anyway it really is simple to make things work when everyone gives a little. Also when I'm near a group of birds I leash Max because he is a bird dog... But where there is no birds or people and the tide is low Max can enjoy the great outdoors off leash and free. What a beautiful sight! Thanks for listening.. Gretche Davis

3170-01-3B



MKBoggs@aol.com  
03/09/2002 03:01 AM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Vote for Dogs off leash

Fort Funston is one of my favorite spots in the world. It is a magical place for me; I consider the ocean there as a confluence with heaven and it is where I go when I want to feel nearer to my deceased parents. I love the deck overlooking the ocean, the dunes, the hanggliders, the paths along the cliffs, the old bunkers and especially the happy dogs. I am not a dog owner myself but I feel very strongly that the unleashed dogs at Fort Funston do no more harm than any of the other visitors there and contribute much to the overall feel of the park.

Not all national parks are created equal. My father was with the NPS for over 20 years and I was raised to understand the importance of protecting the land. But I do not believe that an urban park like Fort Funston is anymore impacted by the presence of dogs off leash than it is by the presence of adults or children off leash. Please, let the dogs run and play. It's a joy to watch.

Thank you,  
Molly Boggs

3171-01-~~10~~ LB



"Dennis Luftig"  
<dluftig@svn.net>  
03/09/2002 03:38 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>, "Sylvia Luftig" <sluftig@excite.com>  
cc:  
Subject: Dog walking policy

I believe that dogs should be allowed to be walked feely on GGNRA land. Voice command should be enough, leashes should not be required. A professional dog walker should be allowed as many dogs as he or she can keep under control.

Dennis Luftig  
Box 553  
Point Reyes Station CA 94956



415 663 1698 Dennis Luftig.vcf

3172-01-1A



Birrell Walsh  
<birrell@well.com>  
03/09/2002 02:39 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Offleash Dogs, yes

Please allow dogs offleash in all the traditional areas: Fort Funston, Fort Baker, in the Presidio.

Where else do people clean up after their animals, provide bags for cleanup, and model multiple uses for other Urban parks?

Thanks.

Birrell Walsh  
San Francisco

3173-01-1A



Zapada Mechka  
<greymanx@yahoo.co  
m>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Please allow dogs OFF LEASH

03/09/2002 02:39 PM  
PST

Please allow dogs offleash in all the traditional areas: Fort Funston, Fort Baker, in the Presidio.

Where else do people clean up after their animals, provide bags for cleanup, and model multiple uses for other Urban parks?

Thanks.

Birrell Walsh  
San Francisco

---

Do You Yahoo!?

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<http://mail.yahoo.com/>

3174-01-1A



John Rootenberg  
<jdr@imit.com>  
03/09/2002 02:15 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Fort Funston off-leash comments

I am a regular user of the GGNRA Fort Funston area. Although I do NOT own a dog, I support the ammendment for use of the land by dog owners that want to walk their dogs off leash.

Sincerely,

John Rootenberg  
San Francisco, CA 94118  
tel: (+1) 415.751.6623

3175-01-3B



RAnavy@aol.com  
03/09/2002 04:55 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc: Rrraphy@aol.com  
Subject: Environment protection vs. "rights" of dogs

Dear GGNRA people,

Please abide by your regulations and do not give in to the misguided "animal rights" people who insist that dogs have a right to run off-leash. The destruction dogs cause to endangered nesting birds, fish, plants and even people, is of little concern to dog-owners who have the mistaken idea, due to their fuzzy thinking, that dogs are being mistreated if they are disciplined in any way.

This is the same kind of thinking that leads Marjorie Knoller to blame the victim for being mauled by her dog. Many dog-owners, will tell you that it is your job to adapt to what the dog wants. I have seen people walking down the street telling others they must get out of the way because their dogs will bark and may try to attack. They think any limits they might set are "cruel" to the dog.

Who is the dominant species here?!

There are plenty of other places that dogs can run off-leash. Let's let logic and reason rule this debate. Animal rights people do not have a true understanding of animals, nor of ecology issues. Park people are the experts. Stick up for the parks and for us, the people. Maybe we aren't as vocal as all the dog-owners, but we are out there.

Thank you. Please do the right thing and don't be intimidated by these people.

Sincerely,  
Regina Anavy

3176-01-1A



<buddyinsf@earthlink.net>

03/09/2002 01:42 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>

cc:

Subject: I SUPPORT THE CURRENT BAN ON OFF-LEASH DOGS IN GGNRA

Dear GGNRA:

Please add my name to the list of people that believe dogs should not be allowed to run un-leashed in the GGNRA.

Environmental concerns are the main reason I feel this way.

Second to that, the issues associated with dog excrement and unwanted contact with dogs are problems that park users should not be forced to face when using the GGNRA.

Thanks for the opportunity to provide input via email.

John Walmsley  
231 Surrey St.  
San Francisco, CA 94131

3177-01-1A



Kcranna@aol.com  
03/09/2002 04:23 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Off-leash dogs at Fort Funston

Ladies and Gentlemen of the GGNRA:

I'm writing to add my voice to my many fellow dog owners who bring our dogs to Fort Funston as a form of family outing that is wonderful recreation for both people and dogs. Understand the need to protect the environment and the rights of non-dog lovers. Surely reasonable people can achieve a solution by allowing dogs to run free in certain areas and restricting others.

I hope that common sense will prevail over bureaucratic rigidity so that a sensible policy can be put in place. Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns.

Sincerely,

Kip Cranna  
159 Duncan St.  
San Francisco, CA 94110

3178-01-1A



"Nancy Junsch  
Maloney"  
<mattnance@email.ms  
n.com>

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Off-leash

03/09/2002 01:21 PM  
PST

Please do not take away off-leash areas in San Francisco-  
My Labrador Retriever, Larry, and I frequent Fort Funston on a daily basis.  
We both get our exercise via the trails at the Fort. We would both be  
unhappy if we could not run on our own. He is a fond of chasing balls and  
is miserable without his daily run. We have both made many friends at the  
Fort- both canine and human. Socialization is KEY to keeping happy dogs.  
A well-socialized dog is a happy dog. Due to this, dogs who come in contact  
with other dogs and humans are not on the defense. Most of the dogs at the  
Fort who run off-leash are very well behaved. San Franciscans are very  
aware of how important dog training is. I rarely, if ever, come in contact  
with a dog who does not respond to voice command. If you were to take away  
off-leash access at the Fort I am positive the number of dog bites will  
increase. A dog cannot get adequate exercise on a leash or in small  
enclosed pen.

Please keep Fort Funston off-leash.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Nancy Junsch Maloney  
2071 - 28th Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94116

"I have a dog and I vote"



Larry at Ft. Funston.JPG

3179-02 -33



Kkeyser27@aol.com

03/09/2002 04:10 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: off-leash dogs

Hi,

I am a generous supporter and active member of several environmental organizations, including the Sierra Club and the Rainforest Action Network. I am deeply disturbed, however, to find out that your organization may attempt to force dog owners to keep their dogs on leash in all areas of the GGNRA. The GGNRA is an URBAN park, not Yosemite.

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 in certain areas of the GGNRA will be a tragedy and truly change the character of a great city.

Like many dog owners, I enjoy 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, and I consider myself a somewhat rabid environmentalist. I have never seen dogs harassing human beings OR wildlife.

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. In Los Angeles, it is impossible to find ONE beach where a 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 and swim. 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. I also have never seen dogs harassing wildlife of any kind in these areas. 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 persuade the government 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 let the GGNRA turn San Francisco into L.A.!

Also- if environmental degradation is such an issue, why are large groups of horseback riders allowed to continue riding at Fort Funston? Surely these large groups of people on large animals do much more harm than individual dogs.

I hope your staff and board members who own dogs will come to see that this is a TOTALLY misguided attempt to protect a "national park," and it's success will only cause dog owners (and their dogs) to suffer

8179-02-3B

needlessly, while producing no actual positive outcome whatsoever. This is NOT a case of misguided dog owners ruining a pristine natural environment. Many of the dog owners who visit these areas, including myself, are members of the San Francisco environmental community and are RESPONSIBLE dog owners!

Sincerely,

Kevin Keyser  
Sierra Club & Rainforest Action Network Member  
email: kkeyser27@aol.com

3180-01-3B



Jim Parker  
<eldonparker@netzero  
.net>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: ANPR

03/09/2002 12:49 PM  
PST

I support leash laws throughout the GGNRA.

1. Re "voice control areas" With rare exception voice control is a sham.
2. No areas are suitable for off leash use. Off leash dogs pose a threat to wildlife, children and all other users. Leashed dogs do or should not.
3. Dogs should be limited to two (2) per person. We believe more than that number cannot effectively be controlled by one person.
4. No times for off leash use would be allowed. How would the wildlife know? This would also effectively be a "no use" time for patrons unable or unwilling to deal with off leash animals.
5. Requiring a bond for off leash users is a good idea. It would provide a layer of insulation to GGNRA from lawsuits by victims of off leash dogs.
6. Waivers of liability are rarely supportable in court. This most likely would be a waste of time and resources.
7. Environmental impact would range from low to severe, depending on how many dogs are using the facility off leash. Fenced areas would limit the damage to the fenced area.
8. A mitigating factor would be to have an escalating scale of fines for repeat offenders. This tactic has proven effective for motor vehicle users where fines in certain areas or under certain circumstances are doubled or tripled. In addition, a "three strikes" rule, where after the dog is impounded for a time, with the owner paying for the boarding as well as the fines should be an effective deterrent.
9. Owners would be required to keep their dogs under control at all times.
10. Fenced areas would protect other patrons and wildlife but would most likely only be used by a limited number of dog owners. The rest would shun such areas due to overcrowding or their dogs' inability to interact peacefully with others.
11. Users should be limited to two on leash dogs per person. (see #3)
12. The Park services should pay for any facilities, improvements and operations. This is why we pay taxes for such areas and precisely why no significant changes should be made for this small, albeit loud and militant, group of users.

---

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3181-02-1A

, 3182-02-1A



"Fort Funston"  
<fortfunston@hotmail.com>

03/09/2002 12:25 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Fwd: 2 dog letters

-----Original Message Follows-----

From: renee lavalley <reneelavallee@yahoo.com>  
To: fortfunston@hotmail.com  
Subject: 2 dog letters  
Date: Sat, 9 Mar 2002 06:28:07 -0800 (PST)

Mike McKenna March 9, 2002

3131 Rivera St.

San Francisco, CA 94116

415-731-5832

stsmike@gateway.net

Dear members of the GGNRA:

We need off leash areas for our dogs. My fiance, our dog and I, love to go to Fort Funston, walk around, play catch and let the dog swim. Though we continue to visit the park, it is much less frequently than before the leash restrictions. It's just not as much fun. Our dog is large and needs to run. She runs much faster than either of us and we can't really give her proper exercise on leash.

Visiting Fort Funston off leash is a wonderful recreation activity for our family. We enjoy going there so much when it is a relaxed and free, off-leash experience.

We need more off leash areas for our city dogs, both for the dogs and for their owners. I hope you'll consider the loss many of us feel in not being able to play catch, swim or enjoy the social play of our dogs without being afraid of "being caught" by a ranger.

Sincerely,

Mike McKenna

Renee LaValley March 9, 2002

3131 Rivera St.

San Francisco, CA 94116

415-731-5832

reneelavallee@yahoo.com

GGNRA012472

1/2

3181-02-

3182-02-1A

Dear members of the GGNRA:

I love bringing my dog to Fort Funston. I ride my bike (with Brandy trotting beside me) to the end of Ocean Beach and then walk the path to the paved road (leashed) and then I can let her run and play with the other dogs while I enjoy the beauty of our San Francisco coast. We then make our way down to the ocean for a swim and some fun games of catch and fetch in the water and a leisurely walk back up the beach to the bike.

Visiting Fort Funston off leash is recreation at its finest for both me and my dog. Brandy is a 75lb. Rottweiler who both needs and loves intense exercise. I am a 38 year old therapist who both needs and loves to play freely with my dog. We can't play catch on a leash. We can't share the joy of chasing other dogs or swimming on a leash. We need off leash park space where dogs can socialize and especially for my dog, where they can swim. She is part sea lion and is happiest when playing in the waves of the Pacific. I dislike that she's a criminal for enjoying the ocean.

We need more off leash areas for our city dogs, both for the dogs and for their owners. I hope you'll consider the loss many of us feel in not being able to play catch, swim or enjoy the social play of our dogs.

Sincerely,

Renee LaVallee

-----  
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---

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3183-01-3B



Charles Parker  
<charlestparker@netze  
ro.net>

03/09/2002 12:08 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Dogs in the GGNRA

We advocate strict enforcement of leash laws throughout the GGNRA.

To answer the questions put forth in the newspaper:

1. Re "voice control areas" With rare exception voice control is a sham.
2. No areas are suitable for off leash use. Off leash dogs pose a threat to wildlife, children and all other users. Leashed dogs do or should not.
3. Dogs should be limed to two (2) per person. We believe more than that number cannot effectively be controlled by one person.
4. No times for off leash use would be allowed. How would the wildlife know? This would also effectively be a "no use" time for patrons unable or unwilling to deal with off leash animals.
5. Requiring a bond for off leash users is a good idea. It would provide a layer of insulation to GGNRA from lawsuits by victims of off leash dogs.
6. Waivers of liability are rarely supportable in court. This most likely would be a waste of time and resources.
7. Environmental impact would range from low to severe, depending on how many dogs are using the facility off leash. Fenced areas would limit the damage to the fenced area.
8. A mitigating factor would be to have an escalating scale of fines for repeat offenders. This tactic has proven effective for motor vehicle users where fines in certain areas or under certain circumstances are doubled or tripled. In addition, a "three strikes" rule, where after the dog is impounded for a time, with the owner paying for the boarding as well as the fines should be an effective deterrent.
9. Owners would be required to keep their dogs under control at all times.
10. Fenced areas would protect other patrons and wildlife but would most likely only be used by a limited number of dog owners. The rest would shun such areas due to overcrowding or their dogs' inability to interact peacefully with others.
11. Users should be limited to two on leash dogs per person. (see #3)
12. The Park services should pay for any facilities, improvements and operations. This is why we pay taxes for such areas and precisely why no significant changes should be made for this small, albeit loud and militant, group of users.

3184-01-3B



NeilM30675@aol.com

03/09/2002 03:22 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: places for pets off leash

We currently take our two dogs to both Crissy Field and Ft Funston where they run OFF LEASH. There are no options. The city does not give us any place for this needed animal exercise. I do not demand all of these areas. I do demand a portion of them for those who love their animals and take recreation with them. Failure to provide some area to animal lovers will result in civil disobedience on a large scale. We have a right to the use of some of this land. It is that simple. If we do not get the use of it, then I say we take back this land that was given to you with the understanding we would have some of it for our use. Carol Bakker  
Or we could always have the golf courses, and kick the duffers out.

3185-01-~~WB~~ 1A



Mnicholssf@aol.com  
03/09/2002 03:15 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Leash-free access

To: Superintendent, GGNRA/ANPR, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA

Fr: Marilyn Nichols, 150 Lombard Street #102, San Francisco, CA 94111

While I am in agreement with the ANPR charter to protect wild lands and species by either prohibiting dogs altogether, or unleashed dogs in many cases, *I strongly disagree with its strict interpretation by the GGNRA which exists within and next to San Francisco.* It is NOT a wilderness area or "destination national park" like Yosemite or Yellowstone. It is valuable, needed, accessible, everyday, quality-of-life breathing space for the urban Bay Area community.

Responsible dog owners recognize that rules are necessary to maintain the nature and integrity GGNRA lands. We support preservation of the natural beauty and wild life of the area. We are willing to abide by the many rules and restrictions that go with dog ownership but it seems inconceivable that a compromise can't be worked out to allow *historically* leash-free areas to remain so.

The ANPR needs to review rules and priorities to make them sensitive to the context of each park. For the GGNRA, it means that people and their dogs must be factored into the park vision and management as important, permanent species who deserve as much consideration as any other.

3186-01-3B



Eric Ferguson  
<emfergus@gte.net>

03/09/2002 12:07 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: GGNRA Dog Policy

Dear Superintendent,

I urge you to not only prohibit unleashed dogs in GGNRA, but also to prohibit all dogs in GGNRA. It is clear from dog owner behavior in many bay area parks that many owners ignore leash requirements. The only solution to protect wildlife and human park users alike is to prohibit all dogs in GGNRA.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eric Ferguson

3187-01-1A



"Judith E."  
<judithe1@mindspring  
.com>

03/09/2002 11:53 AM  
PST

To: "GGNRA" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Let Freedom Ring -- With Responsible Actions by Dogs & Owners

My life and the life of my dog, Harry, is greatly enhanced by our walks (his romps) in such great outdoor public areas as Fort Funston and Crissy Field. He's on a lead when many people are around. When off-leash, his actions are closely monitored and controlled (he is not an aggressive dog), poop always picked up.

People need to continue to enjoy their parks. Dogs and owners, too, need to enjoy them. A senior citizen, I need to walk. A young dog, Harry, needs to run. We both need -- and do -- to act responsibly. I also check to ensure that other dog owners comply with proper behaviors.

I urge you to make the places we have cherished available to us and our good dogs, that we may continue to walk and run and enjoy nature and each other.

Sincerely,

Judith Litvich  
San Francisco

FEB-27-2002 10:27 PM UNG&amp;ASSOCIATES, INC.

4159314699

P. 01

3188-01-3B

**GGNRA****Attention: ANPR FAX 561-4355**

Certainly in 75,000 acres, there should be some areas for dog lovers. Compromise should be considered in fairness to all users of the recreational areas. Can an area be set aside so that dogs can be off-leash at the beach? Walking our dog at Crissy Field, I notice that families, the elderly and dog owners seem to favor the beach in front of the parking lot. But if one crosses the bridge (and the water inlet to the marsh), then the beach is much less utilized by those without dogs. So maybe the beach area between the inlet and the protected wildlife area can be considered an off-leash area.

Or maybe there should be time/day limitations. With more people at Crissy during the weekends, maybe the leash law should be enforced. During the week, perhaps some time accommodations are possible.

If the Park Service's mission is to provide for the enjoyment, health and well-being of those citizens who use its various facilities throughout the United States, consideration should be given to promoting such benefits for those of us who own and enjoy walking our dogs off-leash.

**Fumiye Quong**

3189-01-1A

Hoplomakus@aol.com

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

03/09/2002 02:50 PM  
EST

CC:

Subject: Support of Exception to National Park Policy on Unleashed Dogs

I support an exception to the National Park policy that forbids unleashed dog walking at Fort Funston in San Francisco, CA.

Sincerely,

Mike Bolden

159 Duncan State

San Francisco, CA 94110

3190-01-3B



tjf@sfsu.edu

03/09/2002 11:31 AM

PST

Please respond to tjf

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: (No subject)

"I walk frequently at Fort Funston; too many dogs run in the habitat protected areas and there are people who do not clean up after their dog defecates. Please require dogs to be leashed, and please enforce the rules. Thank you, Tom Foster

3191-01-13



"Trish McMillan"  
<trishmcmillan@hotmail.com>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: off leash dogs

03/09/2002 11:35 PM  
PST  
Please respond to trish

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in support of off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate parks.

As a dog trainer, off-leash control is one of my clients' main concerns, generally with the goal that they and their dogs can enjoy a good run on one of our fabulous Bay area beaches. What's the point of living on the West Coast if you can't enjoy the beach with your best friend? Because people want this level of off leash verbal control, they are willing to put more effort into training their dogs than they might otherwise.

With the possible exception of toy breeds, it is impossible to give a young, healthy dog the exercise it needs on a leash unless you're a marathon runner. Without exercise, dogs develop behavior problems and are often relegated to the back yard, where they develop more problems, including digging, recreational barking and aggression.

Dogs who only get to meet their own kind under the restraint of leashes are also prone to developing aggression problems - normal body language and greeting rituals are not possible on leash, and a phenomenon known as "barrier frustration" often results, sometimes resulting in human injury when dogs redirect or people ineptly try to break up squabbles.

Packed, filthy dog runs are no better. The crowding and lack of movement (as opposed to a longitudinal walk on the beach) is not conducive to canine or human safety. I find many of them just plain scary, and my own dogs do not enjoy being crowded into these places.

I understand that not everyone is a dog lover, and fully support having areas where people who don't like dogs can enjoy the GGNRA unbothered by wagging tails and happy woofs. There are now more dogs than kids in San Francisco though, and our furry friends also deserve a place to stretch their legs. It's one of the great joys of dog ownership to take a walk on the beach or trail and share our canine friends' joy in each new discovery.

Please find a way to make this possible.

Trish McMillan  
154 Ethel Ave  
Mill Valley, ca

---

Send and receive Hotmail on your mobile device: <http://mobile.msn.com>

3192-01-1A



"R. Richards"  
<webmaster@painted  
matter.com>

03/09/2002 07:51 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: public behavior

Dear Parks Commission,

When you are holding the public hearings take a look at the jeering contemptuous behavior of many dog owners - imagine these same individuals with large dogs running without supervision.

Unfortunately, these people force government to intercede - please make sure dogs are leashed and under control in public spaces.

sincerely,

R. Richards  
San Francisco

3193-01-1A



"Jocelyn L. Won"  
<ginseng756@hotmail.com>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject:

03/09/2002 07:14 PM  
PST

To Whom It May Concern,

I walk my 3 dogs at Fort Funston...I've walked there for over 8 years. Fort Funston contrary to the opinion of the native plant restoration lobby and the bird watching lovers, the dogs that exercise there are the most well behaved and socialized dogs in the city. All the dog owners want to do, is to have a safe place to exercise our dogs. I don't understand the problem...we are no danger to the ecosystem at Fort Funston. The area lacks the amenities usual to most parks, eg decent weather, areas where plants and flowers can grow and prosper, land that doesn't change with the conditions - eg the sand dunes are mobile and change constantly according to the weather conditions. Because of the specifics of the area, dog walking and hang gliding are the most accessible forms of recreation. Regardless of the aforementioned, dog walking has been a activity of the area since the land stopped being a military area. How can you in all good conscious take away what has been a long established enjoyment to the citizens of this city? What we dog owners are asking for is not exceptional...we just want to walk our dogs.

Jocelyn L. Won  
756 Colby St  
San Francisco 94134

---

Send and receive Hotmail on your mobile device: <http://mobile.msn.com>

3194-01-3B



Robert Booth and Pam  
Powell  
<bopambo@earthlink.  
net>

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: National Park Policy - Unleashed Dogs

03/09/2002 05:37 PM  
PST

GGNRA - Unleashed Dogs:

I've walked the beach area of San Francisco and Daly City for years, since I moved to the Bay Area in 1968. I've done so as a single male; later with my family, my children, sometimes accompanied by a pet and others not. I've never experienced a problem with my dogs or with those under the care of other people while the animals were off leash. That is, not to say that problems can't occur, or that they don't. However my experience has been very positive. On a few occasions I have experienced dogs on leash which did act out, maybe a result of being on leash or it was their nature. However their owners seemed to have control of those animals.

I strongly believe the parklands of the Bay Area are a much safer place to stroll and hike because of the presence of dogs and their owners. The dogs are not very tolerant of weird behavior, aggressive behavior, loud and angry behavior. Act out and you will most likely draw the attention of any dogs in the area. I know there are individuals that experience varying degrees of discomfort around dogs. There are others who won't walk in an area frequented by them, avoiding contact altogether. I can only hope they will come to appreciate their presence.

What should be done when a owner doesn't properly oversee or control his dog? I feel there are adequate laws to enforce proper conduct. If there is a specific area of concern, it should be addressed, but not by limiting off leash access to the area. I believe we should return to the traditional uses of the GGNRA and allow unleashed dogs, under the control of their owners, to again enjoy the ocean, beaches and hills without the restrictions that have recently been imposed.

Sincerely, Bob Booth ( and Ashley, Matt and Pam Powell)

3195-01-3B



"Ruth Claire Kaplan"  
<ruthkapl@earthlink.net>

03/09/2002 04:18 PM

PST

Please respond to  
ruthkapl

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: No unleashed dogs in GGNRA!

I hope that the dog owners will not be allowed to infringe on the right of walkers and runners to enjoy the many paths in the GGNRA. As a runner, I am constantly inconvenienced and endangered by careless owners and their dogs. I should not be prevented from using my favorite running paths by these inconsiderate people. I am fearful of many dogs and I just don't see that the "right" exists for dog owners to allow their dogs to terrorize people who are afraid of dogs.

Thank you for your time,

Ruth Kaplan

3196-02-1C

March 09, 2002  
555-555-5555

Superintendent Brian O'Neill  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Subject: Comments on ANPR for pet policy

Dear Superintendent Brian O'Neill:

I am writing you to express my support for maintaining the National Park Service's leash law throughout the GGNRA where dogs are allowed. The leash law represents a reasonable compromise between preserving endangered species and habitats and allowing people to recreate with their dogs in the GGNRA. This will protect our environment and strike an appropriate balance between recreational impacts and urban wildlife protection.

There are several reasons why the leash law should be enforced throughout the entire GGNRA. First, over 100 rare and sensitive species use the GGNRA during various times of the year, including several bird species. Off-leash dogs can harm these species by chasing and killing individuals and destroying their habitat. Furthermore, if individuals are encouraged to walk their dogs off-leash in the GGNRA, the individuals could be held liable for 'take' of these species under the federal and California Endangered Species Acts if their dogs harm or chase imperiled wildlife. An exemption from National Park Service regulations would unwittingly encourage individuals to violated federal and state law, imperiling our natural heritage and subjecting dog owners to heavy federal and state finds, and in egregious cases, jail time.

Second, the proposal would set a bad precedent for parks, including urban parks, throughout the National Park System. If this resolution were to pass and the Park Service were to agree to end enforcement of the leash laws, other user groups in parks across the country could use this as precedent to gain access for other recreational activities, including off-road vehicle use and recreational mining.

Finally, this proposal is bad for the low-income and disadvantaged users of the park. The most magnanimous aspect of

3196-02-1C

urban parks is that they bring the natural world to individuals who otherwise would be denied access to nature because they can't or won't travel to remote areas to enjoy our Nation's natural heritage. The GGNRA exemplifies this, providing free access to a remnant of our native ecosystems within minutes of over 7 million people. The urban national parks should be treasured for bringing natural wonder to people, not degraded for it.

Thank you for considering my comments. I look forward to the continued implementation of a policy that protects our threatened wildlife and appropriately accommodates domestic pets.

Yours truly,

elizabeth immergut  
po box 76  
san jose, NM 87565

3197-01-1A

126 Springfield Dr.  
SF, CA 94132

GGNRA  
ATTN: ANPR  
Fort Mason  
Building 201  
SF, CA 94132

Dear GGNRA:

I am writing this letter to express my dismay at your department's decision to stop responsible dog owners from letting their animals run off leash in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

I am aware that when the San Francisco gave this land to the GGNRA, it was stated in the transfer that this land be used as "recreational open space" for the citizens of the city. If you terminate the off leash rights of dog owners, you are violating this pact between the city and your organization.

Dogs definitely need areas in the GGNRA to run free and exercise off leash. To restrict and deny the rights of dogs to be off leash in the GGNRA is a cruel mistake by your committee.

Sincerely



Heidi Queen

3198-01-1A

126 Springfield Dr.  
SF, CA 94132

GGNRA  
ATTN: ANPR  
Fort Mason  
Building 201  
SF, CA 94132

Dear GGNRA:

I am writing this letter to express my dismay at your department's decision to stop responsible dog owners from letting their animals run off leash in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

I am aware that when the San Francisco gave this land to the GGNRA, it was stated in the transfer that this land be used as "recreational open space" for the citizens of the city. If you terminate the off leash rights of dog owners, you are violating this pact between the city and your organization.

Dogs definitely need areas in the GGNRA to run free and exercise off leash. To restrict and deny the rights of dogs to be off leash in the GGNRA is a cruel mistake by your committee.

Sincerely,



Russell Moeller

Mar 09 02 12:53p

Charles Parker

650-355-0596

p. 1

3199-01-3B

GGNRA RE: ANPR

We advocate strict enforcement of leash laws throughout the GGNRA.

To answer the questions put forth in the newspaper:

1. Re "voice control areas" With rare exception voice control is a sham.
2. No areas are suitable for off leash use. Off leash dogs pose a threat to wildlife, children and all other users. Leashed dogs do or should not.
3. Dogs should be limited to two (2) per person. We believe more than that number cannot effectively be controlled by one person.
4. No times for off leash use would be allowed. How would the wildlife know? This would also effectively be a "no use" time for patrons unable or unwilling to deal with off leash animals.
5. Requiring a bond for off leash users is a good idea. It would provide a layer of insulation to GGNRA from lawsuits by victims of off leash dogs.
6. Waivers of liability are rarely supportable in court. This most likely would be a waste of time and resources.
7. Environmental impact would range from low to severe, depending on how many dogs are using the facility off leash. Fenced areas would limit the damage to the fenced area.
8. A mitigating factor would be to have an escalating scale of fines for repeat offenders. This tactic has proven effective for motor vehicle users where fines in certain areas or under certain circumstances are doubled or tripled. In addition, a "three strikes" rule, where after the dog is impounded for a time, with the owner paying for the boarding as well as the fines should be an effective deterrent.
9. Owners would be required to keep their dogs under control at all times.
10. Fenced areas would protect other patrons and wildlife but would most likely only be used by a limited number of dog owners. The rest would shun such areas due to overcrowding or their dogs' inability to interact peacefully with others.
11. Users should be limited to two on leash dogs per person. (see #3)
12. The Park services should pay for any facilities, improvements and operations. This is why we pay taxes for such areas and precisely why no significant changes should be made for this small, albeit loud and militant, group of users.

3200-02-7000 1A



Joanna Dyrr  
<jdyrr@FinancialEngin  
es.com>

03/10/2002 10:21 PM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc: fortfunston@hotmail.com  
Subject: Advocate of responsible off-leash recreation

To Whom It May Concern-  
Please read the attached concerning Ft. Funston off-leach privileges.

Thanks,  
Joanna K. Dyrr



GGNRA Petition.doc

3200-02-1A

March 9, 2002

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL**

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

via FAX: (415) 561-4355

To Whom it May Concern:

I have been taking my dog, Marley, to Fort Funston (as well as Crissy Field) for the last year since I've moved back to the City from the East Bay, during which time he has frolicked with various dogs of all breeds off-leash. He has never come into negative contact with other people or other dogs. We always look forward to our outings in this wonderful region in order to give him some freedom in the confines of the City. Though Marley is an energetic pup, full of life and playfulness, he behaves well under command and thrives in his time spent with other canines.

I sincerely hope that our current freedom to share our parks with our pets continues. So few places exist anymore where good dogs are welcome, that places like Fort Funston have become havens for dog owners – and Heaven on earth to our dogs. I've watched dog-owners, non-dog owners, hang-gliders and joggers all share these areas in camaraderie. I've also seen communities and friendships develop among people who frequent these areas with their pets; and a sense of pride is harbored in keeping these areas clean and usable for ALL.

After the tragic dog mauling that took place locally this last year, this only symbolizes even more why dogs need adequate time to socialize with other dogs and humans, and not kept contained behind fences, walls or to chains. Dogs, like people, need to mingle, or they become unruly and abnormal.

I hope that we, as responsible dog owners and SF tax payers, make the right decision to support off-leash recreation in a mere 0.5% of the GGNRA land; there is an abundance of open space in over 74,000 other acres to balance active recreation with the need to protect natural habitats and preserve resources. Please do not take away this awesome privilege for us or (wo)man's best friend!

Thank you in advance,

Joanna K. Dyrr

cc: fortfunston@hotmail.com

3201-02-10



Virginia Davis  
<virginia@eipye.com>

03/10/2002 10:30 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc: martin@eipye.com  
Subject: Dogs

Was walking on Muir Beach today and read the notice about leash requirements. Please, please require dogs to be on leash. I could accept a fenced in dog run area, but do not want to cope with the way in which many dogs are allowed to misbehave by negligent owners. Virginia Davis

3202-02-10



Virginia Davis  
<virginia@eipye.com>  
03/11/2002 04:04 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: dog control

I have sent email strongly favoring an enforced leash law in the National recreation area. I carelessly omitted my home address: 3360 Dwight Way, Berkeley, CA 94704. All dogs on leashes, the sooner the better, Virginia Davis

3202-01-1D



Martin Davis  
<martin@eipye.com>  
03/10/2002 10:02 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: pet leashes

I believe strongly that to protect the area and to make visits more enjoyable, leashes on dogs should definitely be required in the Golden Gate Recreational Area.

I would not be opposed to accommodating dogs and their owners in a modest fenced in "dog run."

Martin Davis  
3360 Dwight Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704-2523

Martin Davis  
Visiting Scholar UC Berkeley  
Professor Emeritus, NYU  
martin@eipye.com  
(Add 1 and get 0)  
<http://www.eipye.com>

3203-01-3B



"Tys Sniffen"  
<tyss@mindspring.co  
m>

03/10/2002 09:16 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_ANPR@nps.gov>  
cc: <fortfunston@hotmail.com>  
Subject: ANPR Comment: In Support of Off-leash Dog Walking in the GGNRA

Please take the reasonable course of action and continue to allow dogs to be off leash. The narrow-minded arguments against off-leash dog walking do not make true sense.

1. safety for other people: dogs off leash do not bite random people. I would argue that any dogs bite more readily when on leash and feeling trapped.. or tied up or fenced in their own areas, not in parks. Also, I would like you to ask the pro-leash people to produce numbers when talking about safety. How many people have been bitten by off leash dogs in SF? In Parks?

2. disturbing nature:

birds: the shore birds are just as bothered by joggers and walkers as they are by off leash dogs. If that's the big issue, keep everyone away from them.

plants: dogs on leash will still walk on the plants, just as much as off. In fact, they'll drag their owners over the precious grasses and ice-plant as well.

poop: there are people who pick up, and there are people who don't. Having their dog on a leash won't make people pick up any more than before. Instead of leashes, try and enforce the cleanup laws.

3. over use by dog people: yes, Fort Funston and other places are well used by dog people.. how many other people use the areas? Who is your biggest constituents? dog people. Driving them away with leash laws will not only leave your parks empty, but drive them into City parks, where the same problems will arise.. continuing this cycle of foolishness.

Please use logic and think about the numbers in this decision.

thank you for your time,  
Tys Sniffen

-----  
Tys Sniffen  
Deus Ex Machina  
Leadership Drive Creativity Perspective  
415.606.7746

3204-01-1A



"Laine Barbanell  
Schipper"  
<LOST-ARTS@sbcglob  
al.net>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc: fortfunston@hotmail.com  
Subject: Comments - Dog Policy

03/10/2002 11:59 PM  
EST

February 28, 2002

ANPR, Golden Gate  
National Recreation Area, Building 201,  
Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123  
Fax: 415) 561-4355

Dear Park Service,

As responsible San Francisco dog owners who regularly walk our 3 year old, well behaved border collie mix - from the Rescue - in the City parks, we are extremely dismayed to see proposals to eliminate responsible off-leash recreation in the GGNRA - there is plenty of room in over 74,000 acres to balance active recreation with the need to protect and preserve resources.

How will 100,000 San Francisco dogs exercise without the significant off-leash areas available to us today in the GGNRA? Restricting them to crowded conditions dog pens will lead to even well-behaved dogs getting into fights and causing trouble. Instead, we need to expand the designated off-leash areas, particularly unfenced trails. The Park Service needs to live up to its charter "to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning."

No one has a problem with unleashed dogs accompanying hunters with guns that kill other animals in 43 National Parks; why is there such a big problem with simply walking dogs off leash in our urban parks and beaches? When we go into the GGNRA parks, it seems that a large number - if not majority - of park users are dog owners. It is unreasonable to deny so many citizens the right to use the parks as they wish for their own exercise as well as for their dogs.

In the meanwhile, please stop aggressively enforcing the general regulation for pets on leash in the parts of the GGNRA identified by the 1979 GGNRA Pet Policy as allowing off-leash recreation; please only give citations for aggressive or destructive dogs, as promised in April, 2001.

Joel and Laine Barbanell Schipper  
And Ember  
146 Swiss Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94131

Cc: SFDOG, c/o fortfunston@hotmail.com

3205-01-3B



RuthW57@aol.com  
03/10/2002 11:50 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Off Leash Dogs at GGNRA

To whom it may concern:

I am a pet lover and a beach walker. I have been rushed by unleashed dogs, jumped on, barked at, but not yet bitten. I have stepped in their messes and have avoided others.

I think that there is a place for dogs in the GGNRA: On leash on marked trails and beaches.

Having a dog does not give a person the right to run it wherever they see fit. The responsibility for the animal's fitness lay with the owner, not with society as a whole. Dogs running free should be restricted to their owner's ability to provide the open space for them, not our park system.

Sincerely,

Ruth H. Wallace

3206-01-3B



"Blaschke, Kenneth"  
<kenneth.blaschke@db.com>

03/10/2002 11:09 PM  
EST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Please keep the presidio a no-leash environment

As an owner of a small black pug, who wouldn't harm a flea,  
I am disappointed that the actions of a few dogs could cause the ban of all  
unleashed dogs.

If the park does wish to ban some off leash dogs, please limit it to those  
dogs that have a history of problems interacting with other dogs and people,  
namely:

- 1) dobermans
- 2) german shepards
- 3) rotweilers

Please contact me with any questions.

Ken Blaschke

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3207-01-1C



"aimee1956"  
<aimee1956@netzero.net>  
et>

03/10/2002 07:06 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: off leash

we need to have a place where dogs can run free. please do not make this leash law come to fruition. thank u  
evangeline grecousis

375 mandarin dr #315

daly city, ca 94015

3208-01-1A



Virginia & Harold  
Woodson  
<iiibysea@pacbell.net>

03/10/2002 06:38 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: Dog Walking Rights - Sutro Park, Lands End & Ocean Beach

To Whom It May Concern,

My husband and I are residents of the Richmond District who have lived on 48th Avenue for the past 6 years. I was raised in this area since 1954 and live in the family house I grew up in, directly across from Sutro Meadows, when it was a true meadows with only sandunes and ice plant. This whole area had originally been part of the land Adolph Sutro had entrusted to the City and County of San Francisco. As such, these areas were always family oriented sites, which included dogs on and off lease and horses. We were a true neighborhood. Seniors would congregate; and families would congregate around sunset time because Sutro Park was a true NEIGHBORHOOD SAN FRANCISCO PARK, until the GGNRA took over the area. As such, dog owners were responsible owners as most are now in this area, are cognizant of and respectful of those without dogs. We feel with the sensationalized news coverage against dogs this has put a stigma against all dog owners. We are for the most part very law biding citizens and we personally do a lot of volunteer work to maintain the park and meadows. We take great pride in our area and show it. We help police the area, clean and plant flowers. We feel dog owners are an easy target for property damage when in fact we have serious vandalism and homeless problems every day in this open space. Trees get gratified, homeless leave their belongings and human feces!!!, etc. We can't even get those caught vandalizing the park arrested and prosecuted. And the government wants to aim at citing dog owners!!!

As one possible solution for Sutro Park, Lands End and Ocean Beach is to have a set time dogs are allowed off lease, such as up to 10:00 AM and from 6:00 - 8:00PM.

Please feel free to contact us at [iiibysea@pacbell.net](mailto:iiibysea@pacbell.net).

Sincerely,

Virginia and Harold Woodson

3209-01-3B



David Harris  
<dharris@petersendea  
n.com>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Dogs at GGNRA

03/10/2002 05:56 PM  
PST  
Please respond to David  
Harris

I am extremely OPPOSED to allowing dogs to run UNLEASHED in GGNRA. They are a menace, they destroy natural habitats, they are a mess, and they are a threat to the other users of the park. Please ENFORCE THE LEASH LAWS! Thank you,

David Harris

---

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3210-01-3B



Oldad94080@aol.com  
03/10/2002 08:29 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Dog-Leash Options

GGNRA is trying to apply rules that are applicable in a wilderness setting to an urban open-space setting, and it is inappropriate. An area should be set aside at Fort Funston and other GGNRA areas for unleashed dog exercise. Included in this area should be the beach. Dogs do the least damage there and get the most exercise. I have a Golden Retriever, and she delights in endlessly retrieving balls from the surf.

Please allow responsible owners to have unleashed dogs in GGNRA.

Herman L. Alcalde

3211 - ~~01~~ - 1A



LindaMarksSF@cs.co  
m  
03/10/2002 08:09 PM  
EST

To: Goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc: EarlBlauner@cs.com  
Subject: Unleashed dogs in GGNRA - NO!

We'd like to add our voices to those hoping the National Park Service will not give in to the well-orchestrated pleas of dog owners and dog walkers to open GGNRA to unleashed dogs. Unleashed dogs just don't belong in our national parks. It is more appropriate for dog-walking areas to be in parks that are not of national significance --- city, county and regional parks.

We are hikers and amateur naturalists and see a direct correlation between the presence of dogs and the non-presence of wildlife. Our experience in the Marin Headlands with unleashed dogs who were supposedly under "voice control" has been very negative. Just one example -- We saw a woman with five dogs who were chasing deer - and the woman was screaming at the dogs at the top of her lungs. This was not exactly the kind of peaceful experience we were hoping for.

The truth is, most dogs act like dogs. They see a rabbit, they run after the rabbit. They see a deer, they run after the deer. The comment in March 8th's San Francisco Chronicle that "studies of thousands of dogs on GGNRA property in 1996 and 1998 showed that anywhere from 94 to 98 percent of the pets did not chase birds" neglects the fact that there are many fewer birds on GGNRA property because of the dogs --- and even 2-6% of "thousands of dogs" chasing birds is going to disturb other park visitors' experience.

In addition to reducing our chance of seeing wildlife, unleashed dogs present a potential physical threat to visitors (especially children), park staff, wildlife and to one another. Many times I've been jumped on by unleashed dogs while the owner is saying "Oh, don't worry, he won't bite." Frankly, I don't want to be put in the position of having to find out.

Add to this the issues of the 75 endangered, threatened or special-status species that live or are dependent on the park for migration mentioned in the ANPR document outlining the issues, the trampling of native vegetation, etc. and we see no reason for GGNRA to be granted an exception to the national park rules.

While this does not relate to the current decision before the National Park Service, we also feel there also needs to be much better enforcement of existing leash laws in the GGNRA. We see lots of dogs there, but they are rarely on leashes. (We fail to understand what the purpose is of a leash draped around a dog-owner's shoulders.) And even leashed dogs don't belong on narrow single-track trails (where we unfortunately see them all too often.)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment.

Sincerely,

Earl Blauner and Linda Marks

P.S. We hope that you will count this as two responses because there are two of us who feel equally strongly that unleashed dogs do not belong in GGNRA or on any national park land.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Earl Blauner and Linda Marks  
1177 Green Street  
San Francisco, CA 94109  
Phone: 415-441-4520  
Fax: 415-771-0715

3212-01-1A , 3213-01-1A , 3214-01-1A , 3215-01-1C , 3216-01-1C

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~



ken lee  
<nekoboycat@yahoo.com>

03/09/2002 07:43 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
CC:  
Subject: Keep dogs on leash PLEASE..

Hi GGNRA:

We are ALL (5 total) in support of the GGNRA's position  
on  
keeping dogs leashed.

Thank You-

Ken Lee, Sf, Ca

Miyuki Y. Lee, SF, Ca.

May Lee, Sf, Ca.

Alvin Lee, Daly City, Ca.

Jan Lee, San Mateo, Ca.

---

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3217-01-1A



Judith or Charles  
Hibbard  
<silashibb@earthlink.net>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Unleashed dogs at GGNRA-NO!

03/10/2002 11:15 AM  
PST

Please let me add my voice to those who wish to keep the GGNRA leash laws. For one thing, it is crucial to preserve plant and animal species. More importantly, there are many of us who prefer not to be accosted by romping dogs, however safe they might be to humans, because we are allergic or simply do not wish to have them jump on us. Where is our safe space? And when dog feces are removed even by the most careful humans, there's quite a bit of residue on which I would not care to step or sit.

I lived with a large dog (German shepherd) in a large city (NYC) and came to realize that there are simply limits to pet choice we must accept--for their own good. If a breed is too much in need of exercise in an open space, don't have it in the city. I will never again have a dog in an urban area, nor do I let my cats go outside. If humans are to have the privilege of visiting a national shore, we must accept limits for the benefit of the many.

Thank you.  
Judith Hibbard  
silashibb@earthlink.net  
San Francisco  
--

3218-01-1A



Jennifer Young  
<flyingchimpanzee@m  
onkeybrains.net>

03/10/2002 10:25 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Public comment on pets allowed in GGNRA

Are only the rich allowed to know the privilege of living with a dog? Where will the public be allowed to exercise their dog? Because once this precedent is set what is to stop every public place from banning un-leashed dogs? Domesticated animals are an extremely enriching part of life. Yes, sometimes dogs bite but sometimes people are violent too.

Should we chain humans in public places just in case one or two of them get out of hand? In order to experience the good in life one must risk the bad. This is not a video game this is real life where unpleasant things sometimes happen. I know we want to \*try\* and reduce these risks but in doing so we sometimes reduce what enriches our lives.

P.S. I have never owned a dog so this request is not an entirely selfish bid.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Jennifer G. Young  
San Francisco

3219-02-01A



"Rolf Kallenbach"  
<rolfkallenbach@hotmail.com>

03/10/2002 09:57 AM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Please enforce existing lease laws -- as a dog owner

> Rolf Kallenbach  
> 74 Morningside Drive  
> San Francisco, CA  
>  
> To Whom It May Concern,  
>  
> As a dog owner and lover of nature, I am very happy that the National Park  
> Service is requiring all dog walkers to have their animals on a leash,  
> especially in Gold gate Park, Ocean Beach and Fort Funston areas close to  
> our home. This will only benefit parents of small children and the  
wildlife  
> that try to share those areas with the dogs and their walkers.  
>  
> The times that I have dared to jog through Fort Funston in San Francisco I  
> have seen packs of dogs running all over the place destroying plants,  
> chasing birds and joggers, and jumping up on people.  
> I have never see parents with small children at Fort Funston -- they don't  
> dare to take small children there. That is absurd!  
>  
> In fact some people have 5 to 8 dogs with them. This creates havoc in the  
> park areas when these "professional" dog walkers meet with each other and  
> their dogs run all over the place without any supervision. That is  
absurd!  
>  
> Don't let the highly vocal dog lobby overwhelm you. The vast majority of  
> the electorate feels as I do, but will not take the time to express  
> themselves..  
>  
> Please continue to push for enforcement of these laws and to not allow  
> professional dog walkers to unleash dogs in these areas. Of course these  
> laws will be difficult to enforce, but eventually the dog walkers will get  
> used to the law.  
>  
> Suggestions:  
>  
> Set aside special times of the day or special days for certain areas.  
> Ban professional dog walkers from certain areas and require leashes.  
> Other areas -- such as Fort Funston need to be returned to families with  
> children.  
>  
>  
> Sincerely,  
>  
> Rolf Kallenbach  
>  
>  
>  
> rolfkallenbach@hotmail.com  
>  
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3219-02-1A

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3220 - 01 - 3B



"Heins, Derek"  
<dheins@ironside.com  
>

03/10/2002 07:37 AM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Fort Funston

As an avid birder and naturalist, I am writing to express my strong support for the efforts to protect wildlife at Fort Funston. I find the attitudes of domestic pets selfish and believe that their attitude towards this delicate and essential habitat inexcusable. Dogs and cats can live and breed anywhere in the North America because they have the privilege of having a house to go into and a bowl of food placed before them every day of their lives. Endangered species DON'T.

There are certain issues where "the majority" opinion does not represent the correct opinion. The vast majority of dog owners have little appreciation for the value of breeding locations to endangered species.

I find the the "bullying" attitude of many of these dogowners insulting. I suggest talking a big area of grass somewhere with little value to wildlife, fence it off, and let the dogs run wild. Why do they have to have Fort Funston, of all places.

Derek Heins

3221-01-1c



Deanna Nim  
<falada@pacbell.net>

03/10/2002 12:19 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: letter about Funston dog park

Dear City Officials,

I would like to say that in my entire life (45 years) I have never utilized any national, state or city park as much as I utilize Fort Funston with my dogs (4 Siberian Huskies). Without any exaggeration whatsoever, it is my favorite place to go in the Bay Area. There are countless people using Fort Funston for their own and their dogs' recreation. I don't see how anybody could even think of taking this privilege away. Aren't the parks and recreation areas supposed to be for us to use? Show me a better-utilized park area. There are thousands of wonderful places people can go that dogs are not allowed. Why think of taking away this one beloved spot? I have to admit I don't understand.

Sincerely,

Deanna Jay Chu Nim  
P.O. Box 370426  
567 7th Street  
Montara, CA 94037  
650.728.0228

3222-01-3EB 1A



Mike Wilson  
<mike@restorationtim  
ber.com>

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Pet Management Comment

03/10/2002 03:29 PM

PST

Please respond to mike

I am thankful to all involved and the debate and discussion opportunities.

My Wife and I have lived in San Francisco for the past 10 plus years and have been fortunate to see the tremendous growth the city has experienced; the change and redevelopment of the Presidio and now to participate in this discussion. We have always been active and enthusiastic about the variety of uses that the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) provides. From the time we moved here and did not have a pet and over the past one and one-half years since we got our dog. As we have chosen to live in the city we made a very conscious decision about our dog, the breed, the temperament and the training. We have invested considerable time, money, effort and supervision to see that he is well behaved, energetic and cared for. That said we want to be able to continue to use the local areas with our pet off leash. We believe that this is possible and that there are options that can and should be considered.

The first thing to consider is training, there are numerous options locally as well as self study that is available. If the dog is under voice or signal control there is no reason that he/she should not be allowed to be off leash. I am sure that local training schools would be more than happy to develop and provide "Park Approved" training and provide certificates to the pet and owners. This provides the safest environment for pets, owners and non pet owners.

If there cannot be agreement in the training another alternative is to have limited hours that these areas are open to pets off leash. I believe this should also include a training requirement.

We enjoy our dog and we enjoy having the opportunity to use the local facilities. We hope some clear agreement can be reached.

Sincerely

Mike and Mickey Wilson

3223-01-1A



Tom Walker  
<claydi@pacbell.net>

03/10/2002 02:47 PM  
GMT

Please respond to claydi .

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Pet management in the GGNRA

I would like to express my disappointment at the way the Park Service is handling this issue.

I am a loving pet-owner who is concerned for the welfare of all persons and animals, including wildlife.

The city and county of San Francisco is a densely-populated urban area, visited by millions of people each year. One of the hallmarks of our heritage has been our ability to reconcile the diverse interests and needs of all those people. Why has the Park Service, then, made this into a simplistic, us-versus-them, all-or-nothing situation? Surely we can develop a plan that allows trained and well-behaved pets to roam free in certain areas, protects wildlife in certain areas and promotes a feeling of inclusiveness for all of the people of the Bay Area. The NPS should long ago have made a reasonable effort to put such plans before the public for comment, rather than the take-no-prisoners approach that has generated such ill-will on all sides.

It's time for Park Service leadership and a good faith effort to find a positive outcome for all the interested parties. The trust and good will of Bay Area citizens is too valuable to lose, and will be difficult to win back, once lost.

Tom Walker  
1826 Church Street  
San Francisco, CA 94131  
415.648.7240

3224-02-1A

March 8, 2001

Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Attention: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
Fax: 415-561-4355

Dear Golden Gate National Recreation Area:

Off-leash dog walking is not only important, but essential to the well-being of the people and dogs of San Francisco. San Francisco is home to well socialized dogs, which I credit to the many opportunities dogs here have to meet, play, run and wrestle with other dogs in off-leash areas. Having lived in many other cities across this country, I have noticed the difference in dogs and people in San Francisco.

The many off-leash areas in San Francisco is a key element to what makes this city unique. This is a city that revels in people's freedom to be who they are regardless of race, ethnicity, or sexual orientation. This freedom was extended to dogs in 1979 when the GGNRA Citizen's Advisory Commission implemented a Pet Policy allowing dogs to be off-leash in certain areas of the park. The GGNRA should abide by this policy, which has been in place for over 20 years, and not restrict our freedom.

In fact, the City of San Francisco realized how important this freedom of off-leash dog walking when it gave the beaches and coastal bluffs to you, the GGNRA. The National Park Service assured San Francisco that the tradition of off-leash dog walking would be continued. Now the Park Service is threatening to no longer honor its commitment to maintain the broad range of recreational use that is appropriate in an urban park, which is the purpose of such a park.

It's your claim that it is the need for compliance with the National Park Service rule that prohibits off-leash dogs that prompts this abrupt change in policy. But in actuality there are exceptions to the off-leash ban in more than 40 national parks. The GGNRA has been an exception to this rule for at least 23 years by allowing off-leash walking. Why should this exception not continue?

I am not asking for an increased amount of space for off-leash dogs. All I want is for the 0.5% of the 75,000 acres in the park that has been provided for traditional off-leash areas to continue as off-leash areas. This allows a lot of space in the GGNRA for the sensitive habitat that needs protection from dogs and wildlife.

Also, the GGNRA is going against the modern trend that is recognizing and allowing off-leash dog areas. The State of California recently recognized that fact with plans for an off-leash area at Candlestick State Recreation Area in San Francisco.

MAR-10-2002 11:42 AM M.S. POLACHEK

415 928 2006

P.02

3224-02-1A

Selective enforcement would occur unless the GGNRA is planning to have more staff policing the leash policy. Yes, there would be a set policy against off-leash dogs but the enforcement of that policy would not be consistent without increased policing and personnel.

As for the issue of dog waste, just because people have their dog on a leash does not make them responsible pet owners. Responsible dog owners pick their waste up regardless of their dog being on or off-leash. There are currently policies regarding picking up your pet's waste and yet, dog waste can still be seen were it was originally placed as a dog was out for their walk. If this policy is not adequately enforced, how can the GGNRA expect to enforce a new policy regarding dogs? Also, employees of the GGNRA regularly leave the waste from their horses on the beaches and in the parks. As park rangers and police are riding their horses on patrol, no one picks up the waste their horses leave behind, which is larger than dog waste.

As for dog attacks, it was about a year ago that a friend's dog was attacked in a park. The dog's injuries were much increased due to the fact that he was on leash. The dog could not adequately protect nor defend itself by running away from an attacking dog. The two dogs that fatally attacked Diane Whipple were on leashes. Again, responsible pet owners do not create problems and we should not be punished for others' irresponsibility. Irresponsibility cannot be stopped by merely passing laws regulating fundamental rights. Curtailing our freedom by eliminating off-leash dog areas will not solve the problems raised by the GGNRA. Instead, it will simply remove one of the things that makes San Francisco an incredible city to live in.

As a concerned citizen, dog owner and dog lover, I thank you for taking the time to review my thoughts regarding the off-leash issue.

Sincerely,



Melissa S. Polachek  
724 Great Highway #1  
San Francisco, CA 94121  
415-933-6300

2/2

Mar 10 02 11:18a

Donald Sweet

415-931-8237

p. 1

3225 - 01 - 1A

Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Attention: ANPR

We are San Francisco residents and taxpayers who have enjoyed walking our dog at Crissy Field and other Park areas for years. The benefits to both human and canine participants in off-leash dog walking are truly incalculable: exercise, socialization, community involvement is only a few! At Crissy Field, where dogs can run, play and swim in the bay, stress-reduction is obtainable in a city that sorely needs it. Off-leash recreation was agreed to by the National Park service when its plan for renovation was submitted.

There are so few areas available to citizens who want to do right by their pets and provide the exercise and socialization that all living creatures require. It is our understanding that less than one percent of off-leash areas is on GGNRA land.

Keep the promise made. Allow responsible off-leash dog walking at Crissy Field!

Sincerely,

Sara and Donald Sweet

Mar 10 02 01:03p

p. 1

3226 - 01 - 1B

3/10/2002

GGNRA;

Attention: ANPR;  
Fort Mason, Building  
201; SF CA 94123.  
FAX: (415) 561-4355

Re: Comment of unleashing dogs on Marin GGNRA

GGNRA,

Last year a dear 15 year old, female friend of mine was severely bitten on one of your GGNRA beaches (Marin). where as, a leash law did exist but was not enforced. This friend had her face severely lacerated requiring ER attention, future plactic surgery, and the continual memory of the event and the fear with it, to this day. I cannot expect to convey to you the horror of this event. had it been a 3 year old, it would have been just as defenseless, and just as senseless. Once you remove the leash laws then we are subjected to the overbearing attitude of the owners who can now brandish their dogs in your face making "us", "we", at hostage, and thus feeling stupid that we have these concerns. Please don't do this thing. Once we have lost our rights to animals, especially dogs, then we have lost our rights to be human. She is scarred for life, after this bite. She can't go back, and often once you change these laws, you don't go back either. Stay where you are. We need the deterrant. It is the only law which stands in the face of reason, and gives us the edge we need to protect ourselves.

30 year Marin County resident  
makeover@usisp.com  
P.O. Box 151391  
san rafael, Ca. 94915

03/10/02 SUN 14:56 FAX 415 441 1381

Kinko's SF V

3227 - 02 - 1A

001

# Fax Cover Sheet

# kinko's®

3225 Fillmore St.  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
Tel: (415) 441-2995  
Fax: (415) 441-1381

Date: 3.10.02

To: GGNRA

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: 415.561.4355

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of pages including this one: 2

Comments:  
  
AHN: ANPR

03/10/02 SUN 14:56 FAX 415 441 1381

Kinko's SF V

3227-02-1A

002

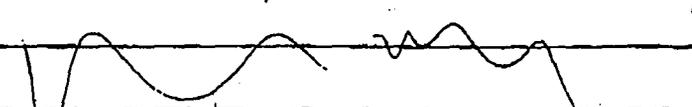
3.9.02

Dear GGNRA,

I am writing to let you know that I support 'off-leash' dog walking in the GGNRA. I encourage you to continue this wonderful practice.

Today, more than ever, companion animals play a valuable role in our society.

Sincerely,



Michael Pries

1758 Bay St.

415-931-8304

03/10/2002 15:47 4159202219

GOURLAY-WISEMAN

PAGE 01

3228-01-1A

Steven G. Gourlay MBBS FRACP PhD  
77 Montezuma St. San Francisco CA 94110  
Tel. 415 920 2215 Fax. 415 920 2219 Email: [goo@gene.com](mailto:goo@gene.com)

---

FAX 1 page 415 561 4355

GGNRA  
Attention ANPR  
Fort Mason Building 201  
San Francisco  
CA 94123

March 10, 2002

Re: Off-leash use of Fort Funston area and other Park areas

Dear GGNRA,

I am writing to strongly support the continuance of off-leash recreational use for dogs in the Fort Funston and other similar parks.

My key reasons for allowing off-leash dog walking are:

- Shortage of off-leash areas in the San Francisco area
- Excellent overall track-record of safety and public responsibility among dog owners in these areas
- Ability to target educational and structural initiatives to further improve safety and conservation while continuing to allow most areas for off-leash use
- Lack of nuisance currently for non dog walkers in the larger parks, of which Fort Funston is one

I hope you recognize that off leash access to parks like Fort Funston is an important feature of the San Francisco we all want to live in.

Sincerely,



Steve Gourlay

Sent By: ;

415 585 6813;

Mar-10-02 6:13PM;

Page 1/1

3229-01-1A

March 9, 2002

GGNRA  
Attention: ANPR  
Fort Mason Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
Fax: 561-4355

Dear GGNRA:

Thank you for sending us your "Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" regarding Pet Management in the GGNRA. We are writing to ask that you continue to allow off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, especially at Fort Funston.

Specifically, we ask that you continue off-leash recreation because:

- a). Very little of the GGNRA area is given to off-leash use.
- b). Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA when the GGNRA was established.
- c). Community support is overwhelmingly in support of off-leash recreation.

Additionally, we ask that you allow dog walkers to continue to use the GGNRA as an off-leash recreation area, in particular Fort Funston. Our dog Russell loves Fort Funston and enjoys being there with his dog walker. Where will the dogs and human dog lovers go if you take away this cherished recreation area?

Please do not destroy a treasured way for my husband, our baby girl Isabella, our dog Russell, and I to spend precious family time together. Where will we be able to enjoy the beautiful outdoors if you take this away from us and other San Francisco citizens?

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Delia and John Swigart  
33 Digby St.  
SF, CA 94131  
585-6812

FROM : GONZALEZ

PHONE NO. :

MAR. 10 2002 06:19PM P1

3230-02-1B

To: The National Park Service  
GGNRA

From: Pat Gonzalez  
P.O. Box 599  
Bolinas, Ca. 94924

Re: ANPR (Rulemaking Change-Off leash dogs)

It is with a heavy heart that I attempt to add my voice to the many who have spoken on this issue; heavy because I fear that all of this dialogue is futile. As in the past, the Park Service will, no doubt, do what it will regardless of the input it pretends to respect. All the angles in this issue have been covered hundreds of times by other speakers and writers in the San Francisco dog wars; animal rights, civil rights, promises made and broken, the rubber-stamp Citizen's Advisory Commission, preservation of nature, Organic Act mandates, federal law, local needs etc. etc. But in case anyone is really paying attention, or even counting letters, add one more for the dogs.

Though I am not a city dweller, and can't imagine a more unpleasant walk than one with hundreds of dogs and owners all crammed into a few acres, I sympathize with those urban people and dogs who need a place to be free in nature. And though the Park Service went to great lengths to make my own life a misery, I sympathize with those within it who are passionate about the preservation of nature and her creatures. But the civilians (and dogs) involved in this issue are passionate about their need to walk on the land: Passionate as in love, life, death and communion with God/nature. It seems to them that the people who wish to enforce the "rules" are more concerned with baser things like power, control and pursuit of promotion within the Park hierarchy. Given my own painful encounter with the Point Reyes Seashore while walking my dog on the field across from my home, I agree.

I believe that the arguments of the bureaucrats who administer the Parks are specious; how absurd to say "Even though people have walked their dogs (here or there) with impunity for generations, WE THE GOVERNMENT have decided we must enforce our rules. We empower our Park Supervisors with total control over your behaviors the moment you step off of your own property onto ours, because it is FEDERAL LAW. Never mind that no one and nothing is injured by your behavior. Never mind that you are a law-abiding, productive citizen. And never mind that one of our own mandates is to respect the rights and customs of peoples living within or around the Parks. WE WILL PREVAIL over any rights you think you have, and prosecute you for trying to defend them."

3230-02-1B

I can only write the truth as I see it, with no conviction that this letter will even be read, let alone make a difference. But if it can make a difference, let it be one that affects more than one "rule", and more than the San Francisco Parks. There must be many communities, like mine, where the National Park has extended it's boundaries into viable ongoing neighborhoods and cultures; other places where people's daily lives are suddenly (or slowly, as the case may be) subject to a set of rules enforced by a Federal agency whose seat of power lies thousands of miles away from the communities in question. The enforcement of "rules" (to do with dogs, housing, or any other subject concerning the natives of a particular place) which bear no relationship to the realities of the locale in which they are enforced, are counter to the very principles of our American way of life and only create resentment, trouble and hardship where there need be none.

The Park Service would do well to examine it's conscience and remember that it, like all branches of our government, is a servant of the American people and not a totalitarian entity. Contrary to all the legal jargon contained in the notice of the ANPR, the Park Service should realize that it's "rules" are not writ in stone and can be changed as soon as they become outdated, negatively impact Park neighbors or become patently absurd. It's rangers, supervisors and regional directors should be removed from any locale where they create needless heartache for the people who actually live their daily lives on the land in question. After all, it is those people, not the visitors or the Park employees, who have the greatest knowledge of, loyalty to and stewardship for the lands adjacent to their homes. Park visitors go to trailheads and places with signs; budgeting hardly covers Park rangers patrolling even those heavily frequented areas, let alone the fields in rural neighborhoods. If Park neighbors choose to do something as simple, innocuous and necessary as going for a walk with their dog in a quiet place where they have always walked, they should be left to do so in peace. The "rules" should accommodate a reasonable, respectful and compassionate local administration of each Park according to it's special circumstance and need.

Yours,

Pat Gonzalez

Pat Gonzalez

3231 ~~3230~~ - 02 - 1AMarch 10, 2002  
555-555-5555

Superintendent Brian O'Neill  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Subject: Comments on ANPR for pet policy

Dear Superintendent Brian O'Neill:

I am writing you to express my support for maintaining the National Park Service's leash law throughout the GGNRA where dogs are allowed. The leash law represents a reasonable compromise between preserving endangered species and habitats and allowing people to recreate with their dogs in the GGNRA. This will protect our environment and strike an appropriate balance between recreational impacts and urban wildlife protection.

There are several reasons why the leash law should be enforced throughout the entire GGNRA. First, over 100 rare and sensitive species use the GGNRA during various times of the year, including several bird species. Off-leash dogs can harm these species by chasing and killing individuals and destroying their habitat. Furthermore, if individuals are encouraged to walk their dogs off-leash in the GGNRA, the individuals could be held liable for 'take' of these species under the federal and California Endangered Species Acts if their dogs harm or chase imperiled wildlife. An exemption from National Park Service regulations would unwittingly encourage individuals to violated federal and state law, imperiling our natural heritage and subjecting dog owners to heavy federal and state finds, and in egregious cases, jail time.

Second, the proposal would set a bad precedent for parks, including urban parks, throughout the National Park System. If this resolution were to pass and the Park Service were to agree to end enforcement of the leash laws, other user groups in parks across the country could use this as precedent to gain access for other recreational activities, including off-road vehicle use and recreational mining.

Finally, this proposal is bad for the low-income and disadvantaged users of the park. The most magnanimous aspect of

3231 ~~BR30~~ - 02-1A

urban parks is that they bring the natural world to individuals who otherwise would be denied access to nature because they can't or won't travel to remote areas to enjoy our Nation's natural heritage. The GGNRA exemplifies this, providing free access to a remnant of our native ecosystems within minutes of over 7 million people. The urban national parks should be treasured for bringing natural wonder to people, not degraded for it.

Thank you for considering my comments. I look forward to the continued implementation of a policy that protects our threatened wildlife and appropriately accommodates domestic pets.

Yours truly,

Jennifer Adler  
230 Oak St. Apt. 21  
San Francisco, CA 94102

2/2

FROM : Gina Solomon MD, MPH

PHONE NO. : 415 206 0684

Mar. 10 2002 07:44PM P1

3232-02-1A

**Gina M. Solomon, M.D., M.P.H.**  
305 Montcalm Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110

Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Attention: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
VIA FACSIMILE: 415-561-4355

March 10, 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule on "Pet Management in Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Francisco, California". I am a homeowner in San Francisco, and have enjoyed the GGNRA for many years. I have walked in virtually all the areas of the GGNRA, although recently my ramblings have become more and more restricted as the dog rules have become stricter in the parks. In addition, I am a clinical physician at San Francisco General Hospital. My clinical practice involves seeing many elderly people, minorities, and people with children. Many of my patients also have dogs. I frequently advise my patients to increase their exercise by walking in San Francisco's beautiful natural areas. I have never heard any concerns from my patients about walking at Fort Funston or any other areas where dogs may be off-leash. On the other hand, I have seen frail individuals greatly increase their exercise by recreating with their dogs at places such as Fort Funston, where they can concentrate on walking rather than being dragged along by their dog on a leash. I was therefore interested to read in the Federal Register notice that you are receiving complaints from "minorities, seniors, and families with small children, alleging that off leash dogs have precluded them from visiting the park". My clinical experience has indicated the opposite: off leash affords an enhanced opportunity for individuals who have difficulty walking and holding a leash to walk more comfortably and safely.

There is certainly precedent for allowing unusual uses of land in the GGNRA. For example, hang gliding, not generally permitted in national parks, is allowed at Fort Funston, even though it causes some disruption and safety concerns to park visitors. In my visits to Fort Funston, I have witnessed activities that may degrade the resource, but in almost every case, these activities were undertaken by humans (generally children), not by dogs. I assume there is no plan for children to be kept on leash or banned from the GGNRA!

I urge you to seriously consider an alternative plan in which off-leash recreation can continue in some areas of the GGNRA. In particular, the paved paths and beaches at Fort Funston can allow opportunities for off leash recreation without impacting the entire

FROM : Gina Solomon MD, MPH

PHONE NO. : 415 206 0684

Mar. 10 2002 07:44PM P2

3232-02-1A

Comments by Gina Solomon, M.D., M.P.H. on Pet Management in the GGNRA

park. It is reasonable to limit the number of dogs per visitor, since I believe that it is very difficult for one person to control more than a maximum of three dogs. I also believe it would not be unreasonable to ask visitors who wish to walk their dogs off-leash in the GGNRA to pay a fee for a special license to do so, and to sign a statement agreeing to control their dog according to certain rules and restrictions. I would be happy to pay a fee and sign a statement for the privilege of continuing to walk my dog off-leash at Fort Funston. There should be a mechanism for fining or sanctioning owners of dogs that in any way exhibit vicious or destructive behavior. It should be clear to visitors that rangers will strictly enforce any failure to clean up after a dog, any aggressive activity, any digging, and chasing of birds. Falling off the cliffs at Fort Funston is a concern for both families with children and dogs. Anyone who cannot control their child or dog along the cliff edge should, of course, be responsible for the costs of the rescue. However, the dogs that engage in destructive or dangerous activities are a tiny minority and it makes little sense to make all responsible dog owners keep their companion animals on leash when the potential problem is with only a few.

I strongly urge you to listen to the voices of the San Franciscans who are desperately seeking ways to continue to enjoy the GGNRA, to be responsible dog owners, and to live in this increasingly crowded city with few other urban natural areas. The National Park Service does not administer many parks located in the middle of urban areas. The GGNRA is unique and requires a management approach that is unique and innovative if it is to succeed in providing the balance of natural preservation and human recreational opportunities that the park is intended to allow.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Gina Solomon, M.D., M.P.H.

MAR-10-2002 09:23 PM BARBARA BUTLER TEENA ALT 650 877 7223

P.01

3233-02-1A

**Fax Cover Sheet from 650-877-7223**

Please call us at 415-864-6840 if you have any trouble receiving this transmission.

Date: March 10, 2002

Total # pages including cover sheet: 2

From: Jeff Beal

To: GGNRA attention ANPR

Fax #: 415-561-4355

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Attached is a comment letter regarding ANPR

MAR-10-2002 09:24 PM BARBARA BUTLER TEENA ALT 650 877 7223

P.02

3233-02-1A

March 10, 2002

GGNRA  
FT. Mason  
Bldg. 201  
S.F., Ca. 94123

To Whom It May Concern:

I am bewildered and angry that the GGNRA is taking such an unreasonable stance against off-leash dog walking. In all the 18 years that I have walked my dogs around Fort Funston, I have never seen any problems caused by dogs on the beaches. What I have seen is thousands of San Franciscan dog owners learning to love and protect the natural resources of the area. I have seen thousands of people who, like myself, use the beaches for their main recreational activity of dog walking.

Dog walkers are almost certainly the most numerous, most frequent, and most devoted users of the Ft. Funston area. Why is the GGNRA trying to take this away from us? Isn't the vast majority of GGNRA land already closed to off-leash use? Why make enemies of those who would be the greatest friends of the park?

The situation brings to my mind a withered, ancient librarian I used to see in my small town library. The life goal of this joyless old bureaucrat had become to keep all the books on the shelves where they belonged and out of the hands of pesky readers! Is this the GGNRA?

I urge the GGNRA to re-examine its bias against off-leash dog walking. Poorly considered and unfair policy decisions will only sow a whirlwind of fierce opposition from the many San Franciscans who love this land.

Jeff Beal  
2703 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
S.F., Ca. 94110  
415-282-4540

FROM : CRITTER FRITTERS

FAX NO. : 4152395421

Mar. 10 2002 12:34PM P1

March 10, 2002

TO Whom it May Concern:

Here are some  
petition papers we  
carried for you here  
at Critter Fritters, SF.  
Thank you, good luck.

3234<sup>to</sup> → 3245-04-1A

3261-04-3B

3246<sup>to</sup> → 3247-04-1C3262<sup>to</sup> → 3267-04-1A3248<sup>to</sup> → 3254-04-1A

3255-04-1D

3256<sup>to</sup> → 3260-04-1A

44

We, the undersigned, petition the National Park Service to create a Section 7 special rule for off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. This will bring the general 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."

①



FROM : CRITTER FRITTERS

FAX NO. : 4152395421

Mar. 10 2002 12:36PM P1

We, the undersigned, petition the National Park Service to create a Section 7 special rule for off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. This will bring the general 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 we seek a special rule for off-leash recreation, we also petition the NPS to STOP aggressively enforcing the general regulation in the parts of the GGNRA identified by the 1979 GGNRA Pet policy as allowing off-leash recreation. We ask that it give citations only for aggressive or destructive dogs as promised in April 2001.

| #  | Name           | Street                         | City          | ST | Zip   | Email                | Update?* |
|----|----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|----|-------|----------------------|----------|
| 1  | Neil Moshen    | 41 1/2 30 <sup>th</sup> ST     | SAN FRANCISCO | CA | 94131 | Neilm30675@aol       | Yes      |
| 2  | Lamy Roadcap   | 66 Danton St.                  | SF            | CA | 94112 | LER3@georgetown.edu  | yes      |
| 3  | C MACPHERSON   | 61 Joist Ave                   | SF            | CA | 94131 | MacphersonL@edaw.com | yes      |
| 4  | L. Elliot      | 2720 Diamond St                |               | CA | 94131 | Lauren@WGP.com       | y        |
| 5  | S. Henry       | 354 Vienna                     | SF            | CA | 94111 | Sandrahenry@comcast  |          |
| 6  | Steve Hellyer  | 47 Colby                       | SF            | CA | 94134 |                      |          |
| 7  | Madra Maza     | 351 29 <sup>th</sup> St        | SF            | CA | 94131 |                      |          |
| 8  | Lynna Wong     | 245 Liverness Ct               | Alamo         | CA | 94502 | lynna-wong@yahoo.com |          |
| 9  | Nina Subic     | 522 Judah                      | SF            | CA | 94122 | nvuki@wildmail.com   |          |
| 10 | Rick Carney    | 121 Judson                     | SF            | CA | 94112 |                      |          |
| 11 | Karla Rosales  | 136 Hamerton                   | SF            | CA | 94131 |                      |          |
| 12 | Lissy Benedict | P.O. box 640084<br>SF CA 94164 | SF            | CA | 94164 |                      |          |
| 13 | CLIFF AWE      | 50 GLENDALE ST.<br>SF CA 94103 | SF            | CA | 94103 |                      |          |
|    | Maries         | 300 Harelwood                  |               |    |       |                      |          |

3/4

We, the undersigned, petition the National Park Service to create a Section 7 special rule for off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. This will bring the general 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."

GGNRA012533

While we seek a special rule for off-leash recreation, we also petition the NPS to STOP aggressively enforcing the general regulation in the parts of the GGNRA identified by the 1979 GGNRA Pet policy as allowing off-leash recreation. We ask that it give citations only for aggressive or destructive dogs as promised in April 2001.

| #  | Name            | Street             | City | ST | Zip   | Email                    | Update?* |
|----|-----------------|--------------------|------|----|-------|--------------------------|----------|
| 1  | Tamar Gershon   | 2733 Harrison St   | SF   | CA | 94110 | tamarg@stanford.edu      |          |
| 2  | Tom Tillinghast | 160 Bonview        | SF   | CA | 94118 | TTilli7558@aol           |          |
| 3  | Robin Sykes     | 1094 Huest         | SF   | CA | 94112 |                          |          |
| 4  | Julie Harris    | 1695 Dolores       | SF   | CA | 94110 | juliebharris@notmail.com |          |
| 5  | Talley Webb     | 825 Roussian       | SF   | CA | 94112 | talleywebb@stcglobal.net |          |
| 6  | Monica Shah     | 2057 Thomas Avenue | SF   | CA | 94124 |                          |          |
| 7  |                 |                    |      |    |       |                          |          |
| 8  |                 |                    |      |    |       |                          |          |
| 9  |                 |                    |      |    |       |                          |          |
| 10 |                 |                    |      |    |       |                          |          |
| 11 |                 |                    |      |    |       |                          |          |
| 12 |                 |                    |      |    |       |                          |          |
| 13 |                 |                    |      |    |       |                          |          |
| 14 |                 |                    |      |    |       |                          |          |
| 15 |                 |                    |      |    |       |                          |          |

\* If 'Yes' we'll send you regular email and periodic snail mail updates on this issue

Signatures collected at: \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, 2002 by \_\_\_\_\_

Return to Fort Funston Dog Walkers/P.O. Box 959/Daly City/CA/94017-0959

4/4

3268-01-3B

FROM

(TUE) MAR 12 2002 8:03/ST. 8:02/NO. 6318989069 P 1

ANPR, Golden Gate,

Please support responsible off-leash recreation in the GGNRA - as there is plenty of room in over 74,000 acres to balance active recreation with the need to protect & preserve natural resources.

As any concerned citizen I believe that our laws must represent the public as a whole, not simply factions of the community. I am writing to request that you consider allowing for an off-leash policy for dogs, even if only for specific hours of the day. I have found that most people walk their dogs between the hours of 7:00a.m. to 10a.m., a period in which the parks are not commonly used by visitors.

I hope that the hundreds of dogs, which enjoy the parks today, may be able to do so in the future. Limiting them to leash only laws will severely diminish their quality of life.

Thank you,



Amy S. Hoffman  
650-355-1079

3269-01-1C



**Amy Hoffman**  
**<AHoffman@MARKET**  
**COMPASS.COM>**

03/11/2002 05:21 PM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject:

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a citizen of Pacifica, California and wish to write to express my fullest support for developing a reasonable and fair approach that would allow dog owners to use certain GGNRA lands to recreate with their animals off leash. My understanding is that one of the primary purposes of setting aside land within the GGNRA is to provide needed open space to allow for recreational activities for people living in populated urban areas. People and dogs need and richly deserve the opportunity to exercise and run off leash in these areas. The use of these resources should be managed to accommodate the needs of a diverse citizenship, and should not be preserved as pristine wilderness (which is not the purpose of GGNRA) or for the use of only a certain segment of the population (families with children as opposed to other segments of society).

The opponents of off leash recreational would have us think that dogs destroy the environment and protected species (not anywhere near what human beings are doing) and that there is a vicious dog waiting to attack a child around every corner (again, most dog bites are of children in family/backyard situations).

There are many wilderness areas, local and county owned parks and other facilities that do not even allow dogs on leash, or which are reserved solely for children. The population of this country is growing older, getting fatter, and is more resistant to sharing limited resources. This is a trend we have to fight in order to teach citizens, and especially children, tolerance and sharing and humanity (for other human beings and for animals) and preserve our quality of life by being able to freely recreate in ways that will benefit our social, emotional and physical well being.

I strongly urge you to do the right thing and formalize a long standing policy on allowing well socialized dogs under adequate voice control to run off leash in certain areas of the GGNRA.

Thank you,

Amy S. Hoffman  
Pacifica, CA

MAR-11-02 17:36 From:FAIR ISAAC - LEGAL DEPARTMENT

+4154445029

T-473 P.01/02 Job-762

3270-02-1B

Shawn C. McGhie  
9 Circle Drive  
Apartment A  
Tiburon, CA. 94920-2134  
(415) 381-0385 Home  
(415) 492-5769 Work

March 11, 2002

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

Re: Require dog leashes

Dear Superintendent:

Dogs should not be allowed to run free in Golden Gate National Park. This is the only park in the nation that doesn't require dogs to be restrained. The unrestricted dogs are a threat to small children, native animals, and plants. My three-year-old daughter is not able to play on Crissy Beach, because the dogs run up to her and get into her face. This frightens my daughter and she will not stay at the beach. She has also been approached many times on the walking trail by dogs trying to lick her face. This is very disturbing to a parent since I do not know if the dog will bite, or not.

Another problem is that the dogs interfere with picnics by trying to eat your food, lick people, and they run across your beach blanket. Just go down to Crissy Beach on the weekend and see how many times dog interrupt picnics. They also make it very hard to lay out and sunbath on the beach (run by and get sand on your body). It is my understanding that the park manager is trying to make this policy permanent. The dogs have completely taken over the park, and few others can enjoy the park, especially small children.

The National Park Service has stated several reasons why they do not allow dogs unrestricted in the parks. All of these reasons apply to Golden Gate park:

--When a loose pet chases a squirrel or raccoon, the wild animal's ability to survive is threatened, and when it is threatened, it may react aggressively (I have seen this many times in the park, especially with the native birds).

MAR-11-02 17:36 From:FAIR ISAAC - LEGAL DEPARTMENT

+4154445029

T-473 P.02/02 Job-762

3270-02-1B

--There is a possibility of exchange of diseases between domestic animals and wildlife. --  
Dogs, the most common traveling companion, are natural predators that may harass or even kill native wildlife that is protected within the park's boundaries.

--The "scent of a predator" that dogs leave behind can disrupt or alter the behavior of native animals. --Pets may be hard to control, even on a leash, within confines of often narrow park trails and may trample or dig up fragile vegetation.

--Dog and cat feces add excessive nutrients and bacterial pollution to water, which decreases water quality and can also cause human health problems (Crissy beach now smells like a little box)

Sincerely,



Shawn McGhie

MAR-11-2002 MON 06:35 PM FROM:THE LONG NOW FOUNDATION FAX:4155616297

PAGE 1

3271-01-1A

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Following are my comments on the activity. I moved to San Francisco last June after living 35 years in Tennessee. I have been dismayed by the dog unfriendliness of one of the supposedly most progressive states in the country. I am an avid rock climber and trail runner and have found that most of the places surrounding the Bay area, particularly state parks and parts of the GGNRA, are off limits to both leashed and unleashed dogs. Two of the places I have found that I can at least run with her off leash are at Fort Funston Beach and Crissy Field. Now, I understand these areas are may no longer be available for her to run and play without the constraint of a leash. Why does it have to be an all or none situation? Both areas are large enough that if folks at GGNRA feel it necessary to have a restricted area - they can and at the same time, leave an unrestricted area. My dog needs to swim and run and she can't do these freely with a leash. A dog that is able to exercise and socialize freely with other dogs and people is a better-adjusted, less aggressive dog. Dogs that are constantly restrained on leashes tend to be more dog and people aggressive in my personal experience. Have you ever just gone down to Crissy Field or Fort Funston and watched the joy and delight and community of dogs and their owners? There are so many places where dogs are not allowed to go and run free, please save these two areas. If GGNRA and the City of San Francisco continue to limit and restrict once dog free areas, I fear we will all suffer a backlash from frustrated, pent up dogs.

Sincerely,

  
Michele McGinnis901 Vermont St.  
San Francisco, CA 94107

Mar 12 02 05:57p

Sara Lemke-von Ammon

415 221 3330

p. 1

3272-01-1A

Sara Lemke-von Ammon  
3898 Washington St.  
San Francisco, CA 94118

March 11, 2002

To the GGNRA:

I am writing to urge you not to restrict off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. I have owned dogs in San Francisco for many years, and believe that off-leash activity in just .5% of the 75,000 acres is a reasonable, and in fact, desirable, use of the facility. Responsible use of this land by dog owners will not adversely affect the enjoyment of the area by non-dog owners, and will significantly enhance the lives of San Francisco dogs and their owners.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Very truly yours,



Sara Lemke-von Ammon

3273-01-1A

# Fax

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

From: Maria Alioto



Attention: ANPR

554 Moultrie St., SF 94110

Fax: 415-561-4355

Pages: 1

Phone: 415-561-4728

Date: 3/11/02

Re: Off-leash recreation in GGNRA

I value off-leash dog walking!

I believe that off-leash activity can be managed in a way that respects the preservation of natural resources and other recreational interests in the GGNRA.

Please make an exception to the off-leash ban!

FROM : GOURDIN BUSINESS COMMUNICATION FAX NO. : 4153815719

Mar. 11 2002 05:20PM P1

3274-01-1B

TULA SANTANA GOURDIN

March 11, 2002

GGNRA

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason Building 201

SF, CA 94123

Fax: 415.561.4355

Attention: ANPR

I am contacting you to express my support for continued off-leash recreation and the expansion of such areas in the GGNRA. On a daily basis I enjoy our beautiful outdoors by walking my dog along the open spaces. This is not only physically invigorating, but also a calming activity, which both my dog and I enjoy immensely. When San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA, off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity. The GGNRA was established to maintain needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning. I suggest that we have designated off-leash trails as part of the urban environment and planning process. With such clearly marked trails, GGNRA recreational users can make their choice as to whether they want to take that particular trail or another. With such off-leash trails clearly designated, I and other dog owners would know that we could continue to fully enjoy the outdoor ambience that is so abundant in the Bay Area.

Sincerely,



Tula Santana Gourdin  
Dog Owner and GGNRA user

MAR-11-2002 16:22 FROM:INDIGO MKTG GRP

7073710338

TO:415 561 4355

P.001/001

**3275-01-1A**

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

Emily Hatch  
2565 Chestnut St  
San Francisco, CA  
94123

March 11, 2002

Dear Sir or Madam:

**RE: PLEASE DO NOT ELIMINATE OFF LEASH DOG WALKING IN THE GGNRA!**

I am writing to beg you not to take away off leash dog walking in the GGNRA. I live, pay taxes and vote in San Francisco. I moved to the city about 10 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! This breed, as well as many other hunting dog breeds, needs a lot more exercise than they can get on a leash.

The restrictions of a leash would adversely impact my ability to live with my dogs in San Francisco and leave me few options to provide my dogs the exercise they require. There already are so few places in the city that dog owners, like myself, 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 limit all professional dog walkers to 3 dogs so that they cannot only better control but clean up after the dogs under their care? There are so many other potential solutions than going to the extreme measure of banning off leash dog walking in the GGNRA.

Please, I beg you, do NOT take away off leash dog walking in the GGNRA!!! 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  
(415) 928-5900

MAR 11 '02 16:05 FR BANANA REPUBLIC

415 427 7011 TO 95614355

P.01/03

3276-03-1A

# BANANA REPUBLIC

**Marketing**

345 SPEAR STREET, 4th FLOOR  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94105  
TEL (415) 427-6134  
FAX(415) 427-7011

**FROM:** Rachel Salvador**ATTN:** Superintendent**COMPANY:** Golden Gate National Recreation Area**FAX#** 501-4355**DATE:** 3/11/02**TOTAL PAGES:** 3**COMMENTS:**

MAR 11 '02 16:05 FR BANANA REPUBLIC

415 427 7011 TO 95614355

P.02/03

3276-03-1A

March 11, 2002

Joan Jeong  
3033 Broderick Street  
SF, CA 94123  
415/337-1587  
346 4866

Via Fax: 415/561-4355

Superintendent  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Attention: Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Fort Mason,  
Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent:

In response to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area's ("GGNRA") Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("ANPR") FR Doc. 02-568, filed January 10, 2002, I support the long-standing tradition of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA.

My son's dog Lucy is an important member of our family. Off-leash socialization and exercise contributes to Lucy being a well-adjusted and healthy dog. It is also personally important for my own physical and recreational activity to enjoy walking with Lucy offleash. I know many other dog owners and others who agree with this. If Lucy had to be leashed, none of these benefits would be the same for me.

I am 65 years of age. As a senior, it is particularly enjoyable and important to me to be able to engage in offleash recreation at Crissy Field. When Lucy is on leash, she can pull me and make it uncomfortable to walk with her.

Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco transferred its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA and when the GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning" (16 U.S.C., section 460bb). GGNRA should not be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco. Continuing to make offleash recreation a primary use in areas of GGNRA is a good use of the land.

MAR 11 '02 16:06 FR BANANA REPUBLIC

415 427 7011 TO 95614355

P.03/03

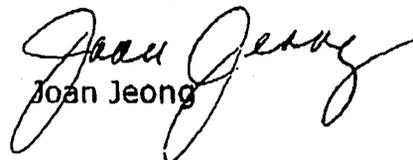
3276-03-1A

There is room for offleash activity in GGNRA's 75,000 acres. Traditionally, off-leash use has occurred in only 0.5% of this land. Off-leash activity can continue while respecting other park uses, including preservation of natural resources and other recreational uses.

I am a responsible dog owner. I pick up my dog's waste. I do not leave trash but leave the parks clean. I watch that my dog does not disturb people, wildlife, or plants. If GGNRA continues to permit off-leash access for people with dogs, I will support it as a community member in whatever way I can.

Thank you for your attention to this.

Very Truly Yours,

  
Joan Jeong

MAR. 11. 2002 3:22PM

FINACIAL ENGINES

NO. 1827 P. 1

3277-01-3B

March 9, 2002

**PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL**

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

via FAX: (415) 561-4355

To Whom it May Concern:

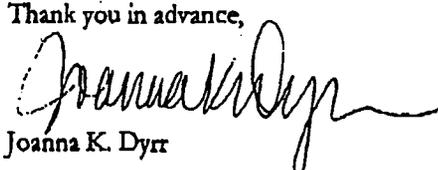
I have been taking my dog, Marley, to Fort Funston (as well as Crissy Field) for the last year since I've moved back to the City from the East Bay, during which time he has frolicked with various dogs of all breeds off-leash. He has never come into negative contact with other people or other dogs. We always look forward to our outings in this wonderful region in order to give him some freedom in the confines of the City. Though Marley is an energetic pup, full of life and playfulness, he behaves well under command and thrives in his time spent with other canines.

I sincerely hope that our current freedom to share our parks with our pets continues. So few places exist anymore where good dogs are welcome, that places like Fort Funston have become havens for dog owners -- and Heaven on earth to our dogs. I've watched dog-owners, non-dog owners, hang-gliders and joggers all share these areas in camaraderie. I've also seen communities and friendships develop among people who frequent these areas with their pets, and a sense of pride is harbored in keeping these areas clean and usable for ALL.

After the tragic dog mauling that took place locally this last year, this only symbolizes even more why dogs need adequate time to socialize with other dogs and humans, and not kept contained behind fences, walls or to chains. Dogs, like people, need to mingle, or they become unruly and abnormal.

I hope that we, as responsible dog owners and SF tax payers, make the right decision to support off-leash recreation in a mere 0.5% of the GGNRA land; there is an abundance of open space in over 74,000 other acres to balance active recreation with the need to protect natural habitats and preserve resources. Please do not take away this awesome privilege for us or (wo)man's best friend!

Thank you in advance,

  
Joanna K. Dyr

cc: fortfunston@hotmail.com

MAR. 11. 2002 3:23PM INTEGRATED TECH GROUP

NO. 250 P. 1/1

3278-01-1A

To: GGNRA: Attention: ANPR: Fort Mason, Building 201, SF, CA 94123  
FAX #: (415) 561-4355

March 9, 2002

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a former Commissioner on the San Francisco Commission on Animal Control and Welfare (1998-2001) and also a retired editor and translator, and now a full-time grandmother. Although I have never had the joy of sharing a home with a dog, I do know that dogs need to run free as often as possible. Therefore, I support off-leash dog-walking in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA).

Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA and when the GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban, environment and planning" (16 USC 460bb).

In small parks, if there is real opposition from those with small children, solutions such as allowing off-leash dog-walking before 9 a.m. and after 5 p.m. when small children are hardly ever present could be considered. However, there is definitely room for off-leash dog-walking within the 75,000 acres of the GGNRA, especially as off-leash use has occurred in only 0.5% of this land. I've heard that preserving cliff swallows was one reason to ban off-leash dog-walking, but if, true to their name, these birds live around the cliffs, then all that is necessary would be to fence off the areas near the cliffs.

To ban off-leash dog-walking in the name of the Environment or to pit dog against bird is unscientific and hypocritical. A basic principle of a true Environmentalist is the view that we (animals, the natural environment and humans) are all an inseparable part of the Web of Life, or as the Native American Chief Seattle put it: "Whatever happens to the beast soon happens to man. All things are connected." I take my two-and-a-half year old granddaughter to a nearby medium-sized park every day. About a year ago, when the issue of off-leash dog-walking was already in the newspapers, my granddaughter and I were watching a young mother and her little daughter playing happily in a grassy field with a large off-leash dog. Afterwards, the mother groomed the dog and then carefully placed the wads of hair from the brush underneath some bushes. When she looked up and saw us, she looked apologetic and explained: "I used to throw this dog hair in the garbage, but some birdwatchers saw me one day and asked that I leave them under bushes because animal hair is the kind of thing the birds seek to make their nests."

All this talk about the conflict between off-leash dog-walking and the safety of small children, some birds and the environment, is, in my opinion, something made up by some human beings. For years I've walked along Baker's Beach and go almost every day to the park and everywhere I see off-leash dogs and children playing happily together or side-by-side. I have never seen any conflicts.

Sincerely,

*Chin Chi*  
Chin Chi

1345 Clement St., Apt 301, S.F., CA 94118, (415) 668-2252

MAR. 11. 2002 4:04PM CHEVRON ENERGY SOLUTIONS

NO. 9898 P. 1

3279-01-1A

Annie Sammis  
81 Bradford Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
Ph. 415.509.8901  
Fax 415.643.7780  
Email anniesammis@attbi.com

To: GGNRA and ANIE Fax: 415.509.8901

From: Annie Sammis *AS* Date: 03/11/02  
Re: Off-Leash Dog Walking Pages: 1  
cc:

Urgent  For Review  Please Comment  Please Reply

Dear GGNRA:

I am a Member of SF Dog. I'm sure I don't need to tell you how much your consideration of an exception to the off-leash ban means to all of us "dog people" – the thousands of devoted owners and our wonderful dog companions who visit the parks daily, and have become friends and a community not unlike all the like-minded communities that comprise our great city. The dog-friendly community is not at cross-purposes with the preservation of natural resources and other recreational interests in our parks – we are an integral part of it! We care about our parks because we spend the most time there!

I am also writing to ask for your support in the efforts of the Professional Dog Walkers of San Francisco. For several years, they have provided an extremely valuable daily service to my 7-year-old lab, Ruby, and myself. "Walking" is a misnomer really. They *run* her (she is a dog, and needs to be run unencumbered by a tether!). Anyway, I don't know what I would do if I couldn't use my dog walker's services, especially when I'm working, which is too often.

Part of the reason I moved to San Francisco 14 years ago was its reputation for dog friendliness. So, once again, I want to stress the importance of finding a way to collaborate with us dog owners and professional dog walkers toward continued off-leash park access and inclusion of our furry friends in the wonderful mix that is San Francisco.

Annie E. Sammis  
Product Manager  
ChevronTexaco, SF

3280-02-1A

Maureen E. Crowe  
16 Hodges Alley  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
Phone: 781-0881  
Fax: 781-0881

# Fax

**To:** The National Park Service**From:** Maureen E. Crowe**Attention:** ANPR**Fax:** 561-4355**Date:** March 11, 2002**Phone:****Pages:** 2**Re:** Dog Walking Policy**CC:**

**Urgent**     **For Review**     **Please Comment**     **Please Reply**     **Please Recycle**

•**Comments:** See attached letter

3280-02-1A

Maureen Crowe  
16 Hodges Alley  
San Francisco, CA 94133

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

Re: Dog Walking Policies

Although it seems as though the National Park Service is once again merely going through the motions of seeking public input while having no honest intention of adjusting its policies accordingly, I send my humble letter.

Mankind will always keep dogs as companions. A large number of San Francisco residents who keep dog companions are not fortunate enough to have spacious yards. And even those who are fortunate enough to have yards are enlightened enough to know that a healthy, well-adjusted dog requires regular exercise off-leash in an area where there are other dogs.

As a tax-paying citizen, I call upon the park service to change its policy and officially allow off-leash dog recreation in some of the GGNRA. I am not suggesting every part of the GGNRA be open to off-leash dogs. But a policy that preserves those few areas that have been historically used by residents of the San Francisco Bay Area for off-leash dog exercise is only fair, and should be enacted. I refer to Ft. Funston, Ocean Beach and Crissy Field especially. Walking my dogs off-leash is a form of recreation I choose. I feel entitled to the use of *some* national park service land to engage in this form of recreation. And please, please, please understand the difference between taking a dog for a walk, and taking a dog to a pen. Just imagine yourself on a walk along a beach, then in contrast, a walk on a treadmill.

It is also important to keep in mind that the recent local incidents of serious and even fatal injury involved dogs that were kept by irresponsible and even scurrilous individuals who cultivated attack behavior in their dogs.

In closing, I must remark that I find it particularly dishonest on the part of local Park Service management to have started harassing and ticketing people walking their dogs off-leash, in areas where it has for years been allowed, while the public comment period is still underway.

Thank you

Maureen Crowe

22  
22

03/11/2002 13:57

6508514597

BRIARWOOD EQUINE

PAGE 01

FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

3281-02-1C

Date: 3/11/02

To: GGNRA ATT: ANPR FORT MASON, BLDG 201

Fax: 415-561-4355

Re: off-leash dogwalking

Sender: Sue Tournanoff

YOU SHOULD RECEIVE 2 PAGE(S), INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET.  
IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL 650-851-1569.

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1/2

03/11/2002 13:57

6508514597

BRIARWOOD EQUINE

PAGE 02

3281-02-1C

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Following are my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: SUE TOUMANOFF (printed)

Address: 4008 FARM HILL BLVD #103 REDWOOD CITY CA 94061  
 (street) (city) (state) (zip)

Being a dog-owner who always picks up after her dog (Ziplok storage bags are the easiest way), I support more dog-friendly trails throughout the GGNRA; and I am in favor of off-leash dogwalking on the beaches and on some of the wider trails.

#### Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation? NO, WHY WOULD THEY?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area? MY DOG DOES!
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone? FINE PEOPLE FOR NOT PICKING UP AFTER DOG.

San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco? NO.

Signed: S. Toumanoff  
 Version 2.0

Date 3/10/02 (optional: Age: 54 Sex M (F) Ethnicity     )

GGNRA012553

3-11-2002 1:02PM

FROM EDTECH 5640941

P. 1

3282-02-1A

San Francisco Unified School District  
 Chief Academic Office, Parkside  
 2550 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 San Francisco, CA 94116  
 Tel: (415)759-2950  
 Fax: (415)564-0941

# facsimile transmittal

To: GGNRA ATT: ANPR Fax: 415-561-4355  
 From: Deborah A. Farkas Date: 3/11/02  
 Re: Off-leash dogs Pages: 2 (including cover)  
       at GGNRA  
 CC:

- Urgent     For Review     Please Comment     Please Reply     Please Recycle

Notes:

3-11-2002 1:03PM FROM EDTECH 5640941

P. 2

3282-02-1A

March 11, 2002

Deborah A. Farkas  
222 Duncan Street  
San Francisco, CA 94131

Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Attention: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
FAX: 415-561-4355

To Whom It May Concern,

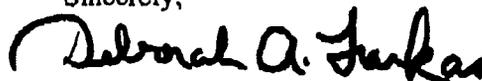
Since the late 1970's I have been a regular visitor to GGNRA. Since 1987, I have visited Fort Funston with my former and current dog. I would like to continue to allow my dog to run in the Fort Funston area of GGNRA, particularly on the beach.

Off leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA and when the GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning" (16 USC 460bb). As a San Francisco homeowner and taxpayer, as well as a public employee of the school district, I feel that dog owners are entitled to areas of use within GGNRA.

I do respect the fact that a major aim of our national parks and seashores is to preserve natural resources and allow for a variety of recreational uses. I believe that a solution can be found to respect the aims of natural resource preservation and satisfy the needs of dog owners. I would suggest that one restricted route be used for people to bring their dogs down to the beach. Once on the beach, I think dogs should be allowed to run free on a large stretch of the beach.

Please continue to allow off-leash dog recreation in GGNRA. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Deborah A. Farkas

FROM : FULCRUM SECURITIES LLC

PHONE NO. : 415 440 6788

Mar. 11 2002 05:02AM P1

**3283-03-1A****FAX COVER SHEET****Barbara L. Rambo  
2425 Green Street  
San Francisco, California 94123 .****TO: GGNRA  
Attention: ANPR****FAX: 415-561-4355****FROM: Barbara L. Rambo****PHONE: 415-705-0909****FAX: 415-440-6788****DATE: 3/11/02****MESSAGE****SUBJECT: Off-leash Dog Restrictions****Pls. see attached letter..****\_3 pages (including cover page)**

FROM : FULCRUM SECURITIES LLC

PHONE NO. : 415 440 6788

Mar. 11 2002 05:03AM P2

**3283-03-1A**

**Barbara L. Rambo  
2425 Green Street  
San Francisco, California 94123  
415-705-0909**

March 8, 2002

**Via Fax**

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

**RE: Pet Management in GGNRA  
Off-leash recreation areas for dogs**

To Whom It May Concern:

The National Park Service rules prohibiting off-leash dog walking in national parks are intended to apply to wild areas not to the unique urban park environment in San Francisco. These rules were written before some of these urban park areas were designated national park area, and therefore were written without consideration of them. There are many good reasons that these rules do not apply to our unique San Francisco urban park environment:

1. *The legislative policy for such an exception* was set forth in 16 U.S.C. 460 bb when the GGNRA was established to maintain "recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning." A plan for Crissy Field some five years ago proposed substantial acreage for dogs off-leash, with the lagoon and native plants fenced off. Indeed, since 1979 the Park Service has permitted this use, and thus created a public expectation that dog owners may exercise their dogs off-leash in certain areas.
2. Many recreational and conservation uses should and do exist. Seventy-five thousand acres can surely accommodate them all. The City and the GGNRA are a geographic entity in an urban area; they should be good neighbors and share the privileges and burdens of their beautiful environment. While many residents are concerned about the park flora and fauna, the Park Service itself has shown that these resources can be readily protected without sacrificing generous off-leash dog walking areas. Moreover, the unlimited presence in the GGNRA of cyclists, runners, skaters, picnickers and

FROM : FULCRUM SECURITIES LLC

PHONE NO. : 415 440 6788

Mar. 11 2002 05:03AM P3

3283-03-1A

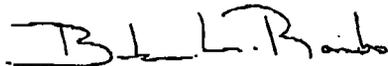
large parties that harm plants and alarm birds and wild animals are not being addressed by the National Park Service.

3. As a good neighbor, the National Park Service must know that the more restrictive and punitive it is toward the dog-owning community, the more dog owners will have to burden city parks and streets. There is plenty of room for many uses of the GGNRA. Indeed, the City's population has decreased in recent decades, whereas the dog population has expanded significantly.
4. The dog owners who use the GGNRA for dog exercise and recreation, as well as personal exercise and recreation, are responsible people who maintain the park areas (picking up after their pets) and keep their pets under voice control. While the National Park Service has been tracking dog-bite incidents, these are rare compared with the number of dogs that are exercised in the area. There are clearly many bicycle, runner, and skating accidents occurring in the same area. Should all these activities be rendered illegal by the National Park Service in the GGNRA?
5. There is an abundance of beach adjacent to Crissy Field for unleashed dog recreation. It is an ideal area for that purpose. Most of the time even the areas currently restricted to dogs are void of people or wildlife.
6. The National Park Service is often viewed as inflexible and bureaucratic in its dealings with the public-the taxpayers who support it. The current debate about off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA offers a unique opportunity for the National Park Service to demonstrate conciliation, goodwill, and consideration toward all the citizens' interests subject to its rule making.

Public lands should be open as much as feasible to all legitimate varieties of public use. One of those uses-off leash dog walking-has had a long standing tradition of acceptance in the GGNRA.

I therefore strongly urge you not to prohibit off-leash recreation for dogs in the GGNRA.

Respectfully,



Barbara L. Rambo

Mar 11 02 09:30a

Jack Hanshaw

415-389-1246

p. 1

3284-01-1B

## FAX

March 11, 2002

FROM: JACK M. HANSHAW  
PHONE: 415-381-9652  
FAX: 415-389-1246  
Email: jhanshaw@ix.netcom.com  
1024 TRILLIUM LANE  
MILL VALLEY, CA. 94941

TO: GGRNA, ATTN: ANPR

Number of pages (including this cover page): 1

Dear Sir or Madam:

Off leash dog walking should be allowed in certain GGRNA areas like MUIR BEACH. I have lived in Mill Valley since 1972 and have been walking dogs there, off leash, since then, and have never heard of a conflict, ever!

The GGRNA should observe the PEOPLE'S WILL by allowing a policy of allowing off leash walking.

Regards,

Jack Hanshaw

03/11/2002 09:38

4155500232

JAMES J WEBER

PAGE 01

8285-01-1A

James J. Weber  
118 Eugenia Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94110-5426

Tel (415) 550-0232  
Fax (415) 550-0232

**Facsimile Transmittal**

GGNRA

Attn: ANPR

To: Fort Mason Bldg 201 Fax: 415-561-4355

From: Jim Weber

Date: 3.11.02

Re: ANPR - off-leash dog recreation Pages: 1 (including cover sheet)

CC:

 Urgent For Review Please  
Comment Please  
Reply Please  
Recycle

Memo:

The San Francisco Bay Area has always been in the forefront of social change. Just as the composition of the urban family has changed, dogs have become an integral member of the family unit. Since the per capita number of urban dogs has substantially increased in recent years, open recreational area is vital.

There is determined public support for off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. It is strengthened by the indignation felt when proposed restrictions on needed recreational open space contradict the original intended use when the land was turned over to GGNRA by S.F.

Responsible supervision of off-leash recreation should be encouraged and facilitated. Funds directed toward implementation of restrictions should be used for educational signage, clean-up bags (as at South Beach Harbor, Pinnac), and dissuasive directives designed to promote adequate off-leash supervision. For example, a people-to-dog ratio might be recommended so that no person could exercise more than

GGNRA012560

03/11/2002 09:53

4159209865

DELL COMPUTER

PAGE 01

Mr Superintendent O'Neill:

3286-01-1A

Date: 3/10/02

Support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments about continuing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Donna Riley (optional: Age: 45 Sex M  Ethnicity C)  
 Address: 543 Diamond Hwy Blvd SF CA 94131  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

I am a member of GGNRA. I go to Ft Funston 2-3 times weekly to walk my dog. My dogwalker takes my dog to Ft Funston the remaining days of the week.

Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

I have a 20' wide condo with no yard, so parks are essential for my family and my dog. Without off-leash recreation, my dog would not get sufficient exercise. I participate in all park memberships locally, cleanup sessions citywide.

3. Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for future generations.

99% of the people @ Ft Funston have dogs. We are all respectful of the environment.

4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

My dog would not receive sufficient exercise. I would cancel my GGNRA membership and speak with my vote. I would no longer attend parks in the city and choose not to vote against environmental programs as I would no longer benefit from improvements.

5. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence?

Pet owners are mindful of off-leash areas and very few pet conflicts occur. With over 100,000 dogs in SF, we are a strong, responsible and vocal group.

Signed: Donna Riley Date: 3/10/02

3287-01-1A

BROOKS

(415) 379-9899

p. 1

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

Date: 3/11/02

FAX To: 415 561 4355

support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments about continuing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Catherine Brooks (optional: Age: 46 Sex M  Ethnicity )  
 Address: 45 Scenic Way SFO (street) (city) (state) (zip)

Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

4 days/week average. I walk, hike for exercise & entertainment and walk my dogs (not all at the same time). I walk dogs only 1-2x week in park. Benefits - solitude, views, socializing, wildlife, exercise

Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

It is not a social activity for me.

Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for future generations.

For portions. SFO is a dense city, most people do not have yards; dogs need to run. Limit areas for off leash activity, perhaps schedule certain times - eg. on Baker Beach in early a.m. no one is on the beach but a few fishermen. That's a good time to run dogs off leash. Main day weekends when it's crowded - dogs should be on a leash. - Similarly, Lincoln

What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

Park is empty at times - why not ok dogs to run then. Off leash, busy times @ Coisy Field - have someone patrol to make sure people picking up after dogs.

i. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence? -

Dogs don't frighten me - I feel safe either way.

Signed:

Catherine Brooks

Date

3/11/02

GGNRA012562

3288-03-3B

Date: March 11, 2002

To: ANPR

Fax: (415) 561-4355

Use this fax number only

Company: GGNRA

Phone:

Notify recipient before sending

From: Jenna Jones

Phone: (415) 731-7810

Return Fax: (650) 496-4367

Original:  To follow via mail  To follow via courier  To follow via email  Original will not follow

Fax Contains: 3 pages (including this sheet).

Ref: 1000-050

Return Original to: J. Jones

Location: 950-2B

3

No. 6427 P. 1

WILSON SONSINI

Mar 11 9:55AM 2002 GGNRA

3288-03-3B

March 11, 2002

ANPR  
Fort Mason  
Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Members of the ANPR:

It is much to my dismay that I am required to write this letter; however, it is imperative that you hear the voices of those whose day-to-day lifestyle your proposed actions intend to impede upon. I understand through various sources of information that off-leash areas will be banned from all Golden Gate National Recreation Areas (GGNRA) if certain proposed rulemaking is ultimately adopted. I cannot overemphasize what a disservice such a result would cause to a very large portion of San Francisco's residents.

I am a single professional who moved to San Francisco two years ago with my lab/hound mix, Jane. Many of my friends recommended that I take Jane to Ft. Funston, as it was a beautiful place that both dogs and people could enjoy. I remember our first trip there - I rolled down the windows along the highway drive to take in the salt air. I remember being surprised at how the place exceeded even my high expectations with its beauty and openness. I was glad to know there was a place that both my dog walker and I could take Jane so she could run around and enjoy the outdoors, for all of us to enjoy a little freedom from the constraints of city life.

Unfortunately, that source of peaceful enjoyment is threatened. There is a strong movement to eliminate most (if not all) off-leash areas in the GGNRA. The reasons underlying this movement, as I understand them, are to protect the ecology of and certain species of wildlife in these areas.

I do not argue that protecting California's coastline and wildlife is not an important goal. The issue here, however, is one of balance. The ANPR should seek, in its actions, to balance the interests of environmental and ecological protection with protecting the quality of life of human beings and their pets. The evidence shows that the original goal behind establishing the GGNRA was to provide recreational areas for citizens of the community, not ecological preserves. At minimum, though, the goal and purpose behind the GGNRA should be to strike a balance between maintaining natural settings and providing recreational areas for people. This does not seem to be the goal behind the proposed rules, however, although no evidence exists to justify abandoning the original purpose of the GGNRA.

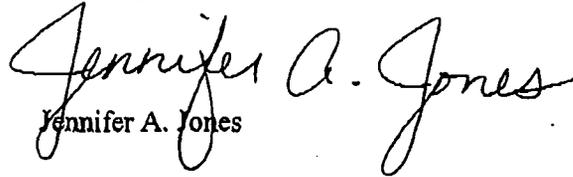
The evidence presented to support the proposed rules does not support the position that the interests I describe above are mutually exclusive. Groups representing

3288-03-3B

dog owners have consistently sought to improve the quality of the GGNRA by communicating concerns with respect to the parks to appropriate authorities, organizing clean-ups in the areas of use, making suggestions for improvements to the parks and using the areas for their intended purpose – recreation. In short, dog owners have, in many respects, been the biggest proponents of the GGNRA. Thus, it is clear that allowing off-leash areas *can* accommodate two purposes – maintaining a clean, environmentally sound park and allowing people to let their pets roam freely.

Please do not turn your backs on this city's residents by adopting rules that will make their daily activities unpleasant and ineffective. Please do not turn your backs on the true purpose of the GGNRA – to provide a recreational area for *all* of the city's residents. Please take the time to find a viable alternative to eliminating a huge proportion of the GGNRA's current use. It is not an easy task, but it is a necessary one, and one for which you are responsible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Jennifer A. Jones

3/3

Mar 11 02 10:33a

Stocki

415-441-2074

p. 1

3289-01-1A

**Jill Stocki**

# Fax

**To:** Golden Gate National Rec. Area      **From:** Jill Stocki

---

**Fax:** 415-561-4355      **Pages:** 1

---

**Phone:**      **Date:** 3/11/02

---

**Re:** Off-Leash Policy      **CC:**

---

**Urgent**     **For Review**     **Please Comment**     **Please Reply**     **Please Recycle**

Dear Superintendent:

I am a local San Francisco resident that makes multiple weekly visits to Crissy field with my dog and baby. Each time I visit the area, I am so liberated with the experience of smiling people and happy dogs. Dog owners are very respectful of this place where their dog can roam free, playing with other dogs in harmony. Of the thousands of visits I have made to the bay, I have never witnessed a dog fight or attack on a human or animal. These dog owners are respectful of the land, other dogs and people. They pick up dog litter and keep the beach clean. Dog owners of aggressive dogs do not visit this location. They know they would be shunned immediately. I do not worry with my baby and the other dogs visiting this area. I know that only socialized dogs visit Crissy Field.

Please keep San Francisco Crissy Field a off-leash area for dogs. It is one of the last places we have been able to visit where dogs can get their true exercise and socialize with other friendly dogs. Dogs are important part of our society. Please respect their need for exercise, socialization, and nature.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Regards,

*Jill Stocki*  
Jill Stocki  
(415) 441-2072

08/07/02 11:46 FAX

3290-02-1A

01

# EDWARDS MANAGEMENT GROUP

FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER PAGE

DATE: 3-11-02 FAX # (415) 433-1640

TO: Cohen Gate Recreation Area

ATTN: ANPR

FROM: Phil Edwards

NUMBER OF PAGES (This Cover Included) 2

Special Instructions: off leash recreation

If you do not receive all pages, or have a problem with the copy, please call (415) 433-1522

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100 BUSH STREET, SUITE 1530  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, 94104-3917  
FAX (415) 433-1640 • PHONE (415) 433-1522

1/2

08/07/02 11:46 FAX

02

3290-02-1A

3-11-02

Golden Gate Recreation Area  
Attention: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Bldg 201  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123

Subject: Support of off-leash  
Recreation

Dear Sirs,

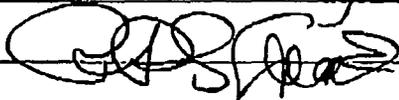
I support off-leash recreation!

As a MARINA resident and home owner  
of 30 years I have spend many hours  
enjoying East Beach, Crissy Field and  
Fort Point with my dog. It is important  
for city dwellers who own dogs  
to have a place to socialize and  
recreate their dogs.

East Beach and Crissy Field are  
perfect places to run our dogs -

Please keep them open to your  
customers

Sincerely



Phillip G. Edwards  
2245 FRANCISCO ST -  
S.F., CA 94123

03/11/02 12:05 SRI CHEMISTRY → 415 561 4355

NO.091 001

3291-01-1C

TELECOMMUNICATIONS MESSAGE FORM

Return FAX: 650-859-4321 (Chemistry Lab)



DATE: March 11, 2002

PAGE 1 of 1

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>TO:</b><br><b>ANPR</b><br><b>Golden Gate Recreational Area</b><br><br>FAX No. (415) 561-4355 | <b>FROM:</b><br>Marianna Asaro<br>Senior Chemist<br>Chemical Science and Technology Laboratory<br><br>Tel. No. 650-859-2086<br>FAX No. 650-859-4321<br>e-mail: marianna.asaro@sri.com |
|---|---|

Re: off-leash recreation at GGNRA

Dear Sir or Madam:

I wish to comment on the need to preserve off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreational Area.

My parents are in their 70s and enjoy the parks with their two dogs. It is great exercise for them! I also see people running with their dogs, and I believe that off-leash activities are healthy recreation for people and dogs alike.

My parents bring their own bags, clean up after their pets, and keep to trails. The land and waterways are treated just as respectfully by us when we have dogs with us as when we are alone. I strongly believe that the facilities and beauty of parklands in the GGNRA should remain available for off-leash recreation.

Sincerely,  
Marianne Asaro

Marianna Asaro, Ph.D.  
SRI International  
333 Ravenswood Avenue  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

>  
ph (659)859-2086  
fx (650)859-4321  
marianna.asaro@sri.com

MAR-11-02 12:37 PM SIMPSON HOUSING

415 665 0140+

P. 01

3292-01-3B

3.11.02

TO GG N R A (415) 561-4358

FROM Yvette Simpson  
(415) 665-0140 Fax & ph.

off-leash dog walking must  
be maintained. Animals have  
rights too. And animal owners  
must have ample opportunities to  
provide their pets with exercise  
and social interaction with other  
people & dogs. Humans are  
choking the world with their  
needs & demands. Pl. make  
plenty room for animal needs.  
Thank you.

03/11/02 11:34 4153676205

MARSHALL SYSTEMS

PAGE 01

3293-01-1C

March 11, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Attention: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
Fax 415-561-4355

Dear Sirs or Madams:

The National Park Service is acting to restrict my recreational use of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) in and around San Francisco, California. This is in contradiction to the agreement made with the City of San Francisco and the enabling legislation for the GGNRA. There is no other facility like it in the area. I am writing in opposition to this action.

My family has enjoyed Fort Funston for the last twenty years with three generations of pet Golden Retrievers. Our pets have been off-leash, but under our control. While we have hiked, the dogs have romped in the surf, run in the open areas, and played with the other dogs. We cannot get the same use if the dogs must be leashed, must be confined to a small area, or must be limited to a few trails. Our dog, Remy, runs much faster than I do and needs to run to get exercise. Remy loves to race through the water, but it is far too cold for me. Even if I could play "tag" with other dogs like Remy, the other people in the area would probably get very apprehensive.

I am concerned because the Park Service wants to deny the traditional recreational use of this land for us and other dog owners. I am concerned because a fairly selective set of regulations is being cited as a basis for this action and the regulations that run counter are being discounted. I am concerned because rather than preserving the area in its natural state, the Park Service seems to want some sort of idyllic habitat garden. I am concerned because the Park Service seems determined to pursue its own goal despite the goals established by the GGNRA enabling legislation, despite the hand-over agreement with San Francisco, and despite the Park Service's own Management Policy which outlines intermediate steps.

My concerns for this land are not only the use it provides to my family and dogs. I have participated in clean-ups of the area and removed far more human waste than dog waste. I have pulled ice plant under ranger direction to help eliminate non-native vegetation. Once the Park Service put up signs and I learned about the bank swallow areas I made sure that we and our dog stayed clear - I have continued to do so even though the signs have disappeared over time.

I urge the Park Service people to interpret their goals in the light of the laws and agreements that have been made, rather than interpreting these laws and agreements in the light of goals they might wish to pursue.

Sincerely,



Joseph H. Marshall  
845 Palomar Drive  
Redwood City, CA 94062  
650-368-6234

03/10/2002 23:47

4152211641

WILSON LEM MD

PAGE 01

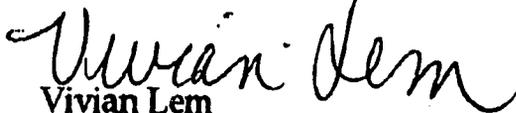
3294-01-1A

March 11, 2002

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

I am writing in support of off-leash dog walking in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

I believe that you can allow off-leash dog walking and still preserve the natural resources of the GGNRA.



Vivian Lem  
321 Cherry Street  
San Francisco, CA 94118

3295-01-3B

3/9/02

Comments concerning off-leash dog-walking privileges for users of GGNRA

FAX # 415/561-4355

Although for 35 years I was the owner (and therefore the walker) of large dogs in San Francisco and frequently used public areas throughout Northern California for their exercise, I am firmly opposed to off-leash dog-walking in any place where the general public, especially children, utilize the area for recreational purposes.

Most pet dogs are -- most of the time -- well-behaved, obedient -- or at least responsive -- to their owners' wishes concerning behavior, and seldom intentionally aggressive or frightening to other dogs or people. However, every single one of them, big or little, does have the potential for anti-social behavior of a possibly dangerous kind, and no one can predict precisely when such an incident might occur. My own dogs, with one exception, were docile and quite friendly, but I kept them leashed because I observed many incidents which could have caused problems. (Example: unleashed dog minding its own business or playing; unsupervised child, friendly or curious and intrigued with dog's activity, suddenly interferes with dog's play or take its toy or decides to hug the animal, and dog reacts negatively; child becomes frightened, might even get bit, unsupervising parent is hysterical, furious and perhaps also frightened by dog's behavior)) All too often the result of such an example is that most witnesses will be turned off by the dogs actions, no matter that it was provoked.

In our society it doesn't matter whether the dog is truly at fault; the person, especially if a child, is not supposed to be put at risk by any action on the part of the dog. Since the aim should be to prevent ALL unfortunate incidents, not just remedy or explain them, the surest method of prevention should be required at all times, and that is a leash (Enclosed areas for off-leash exercise exist and should be utilized by owners who desire that for their dogs.)

It would be wise for authorities to remind dog-owners that even only one ugly incident can result in a very wide ripple effect of negative response by the public to all dogs. Many children and some adults are simply afraid of dogs (a concept most of us who treasure their companionship find it hard to understand), but those fearful people have a right to enjoy public recreational areas without worrying about the appearance of an unleashed dog.

fax 561-4355

3296-01-1C

March 11, 2002  
555-555-5555

Superintendent Brian O'Neill  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Subject: Comments on ANPR for pet policy

Dear Superintendent Brian O'Neill:

I am writing you to express my support for maintaining the National Park Service's leash law throughout the GGNRA where dogs are allowed. The leash law represents a reasonable compromise between preserving endangered species and habitats and allowing people to recreate with their dogs in the GGNRA. This will protect our environment and strike an appropriate balance between recreational impacts and urban wildlife protection.

I have noted that at Fort Funston, areas where dogs are currently run off leash have very little plant cover except for iceplant, and much of the ground is completely bare of vegetation. People continue to throw balls, etc, for their dogs in these areas.

As a matter of accomodating both people and pets, I would like to suggest that with or without leashes, no dogs be allowed at Fort Funston on weekend mornings prior to 10:00 AM. This would allow those of us who wish to use the park a chance to do so without wading through a sea of fur. It would also provide a break for foraging shorebirds, which disappear from the beach as soon as dogs show up (very few dogs on the beach are on leash).

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Arnold Gerstell  
220 lake Merced #17  
Daly City, CA 94015

FROM :

FAX NO. :

Mar. 11 2002 01:26PM P1

3297-01-1A

To: GGNRA  
**Attention: ANPR**  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA  
fax: 415-561-4355

3.11.02

To All Concerned:

I am a San Francisco resident, voter, and business owner. I am also a dog owner have some comments on the Advance Notice of Rulemaking Process regarding off-leash dog walking at Crissy Field.

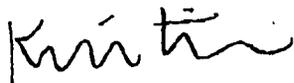
**I am a strong supporter of off-leash dog walking and want to be able to continue to walk my dog off-leash at Crissy Field.**

It is very important for my dog, and all dogs, to be able to have a place to run free of a leash. Off-leash areas enable dogs to socialize with other dogs and people, without socialization dogs can become aggressive. Off-leash areas allow my dog to get enough exercise—I am fairly young and athletic—but by no means could I provide my dog with enough exercise while she is tethered to me. Without enough exercise my dog, and all dogs, would become ill and temperamental.

Crissy Field is a big place and there is enough room for all including an off-leash area for dogs.

I respect the needs and rights of park users and wildlife. I clean-up after my dog. I have trained my dog well and provided her with years of socialization, her response to my training and the freedom she has been allowed in off-leash areas have made her a trustworthy, healthy pet. Please respect the dog-owners right to provide a healthy life to their dogs.

Thank you,



Kristin Bumgarner  
769 Ninth Avenue, No 12  
San Francisco, CA 94118

CC: CRISSY FIELD DOG GROUP

03/11/02 MON 13:43 FAX 4155588977

SCHEIBER DESIGN GROUP

001

3298-01-1B

## FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Marianne Michael  
308 Poplar St.  
Mill Valley, CA 94941

TO: GGNRA  
FAX NUMBER: 561-4355  
ATTENTION: ANPR  
FROM: Marianne Michael  
DATE: 3/11/02  
NUMBER OF PAGES: 1

I support off-leash recreation in limited parts of the GGNRA. To be physically fit, mentally well balanced and well behaved, a dog needs hard exercise. This kind of exercise is not possible while the dog is confined to the limits of a leash.

I strongly support the preservation of natural resources and the protection of wildlife. However, I believe that banning off-leash dogs from less than 1% of the GGNRA is radical and unnecessary. Remember, the GGNRA is a recreational area, intended for the public's recreational use. Walking dogs of leash is one such use that was intended when San Francisco turned the land over to the GGNRecreationalA, and this use should be protected.

Regards,

Marianne Michael

MAR-11-2002 MON 02:09 PM FOOTHILL DE ANZA CCD

FAX NO. 6509485194

P. 01

3299-01-1A

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attn: ANPA

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

FAX: 415/561-4355

Dear Folks:

I offer these public comments on the pet management proposals within the Recreation Area.

Dog walking and owner exercise has been an activity enjoyed by many residents of San Francisco for decades - prior to establishment of the Recreation Area - continuing today by seniors, persons of many nationalities, families and couples. As an outdoor recreation activity, as legitimate as hang-gliding, hiking, kite flying, etc. it also predates National Park Service regulatory requirements for dog leash use or outright prohibition. In the 1977 Assessment of Alternatives for the General Management Plan, completed after broad public input and detailed analysis by agency staff, 'dog walking' is cited on p. 213 as a pre-existing public use for the Ocean Beach-Ft. Funston planning unit. Yet, no where in that document are regulatory constraints mentioned, alleged adverse impacts to natural resources described, or alternatives prohibiting this long-standing public recreation value discussed. Since a Recreation-wide revised General Management Plan for the Recreation Area has not been issued although the park has been expanded to double original size, this 1977 document has not been replaced. Hang-gliding, use of horse-trails, biking and running events have increased visitor recreation density as well as enjoyment, yet we do not see additional constraints placed upon these participants such as citations and law suits. Many years ago, a platform was constructed on an historic military structure at Fort Funston to better view hang-gliding and ocean scenes - an accommodation to a recreation activity with an impact upon an historic resource.

City and State Park systems seem to be working towards a more positive approach than the Park Service which in recent past has generated ill-will through the mistakes of its own staff. A more restricted Park Service policy and practice regarding dog/people recreation will result in further erosion of public confidence in the agency and increased uses of City or County park areas.

I urge Superintendent O'Neill and Park Service Director Mainella to issue a waiver from the regulatory on-lease and/or prohibition of dog and owner recreation within Golden Gate NRA because of this public use pre-existed Park Service management. I agree that reasonable owner behavior is very important and liability, clean-up, and control are owner's responsibilities in any jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

Marsha C.S. Kelly  
985 Portola Drive  
San Francisco, CA

03/11/2002 14:13 FAX 415 442 0858

STEINHART & FALCONER LLP

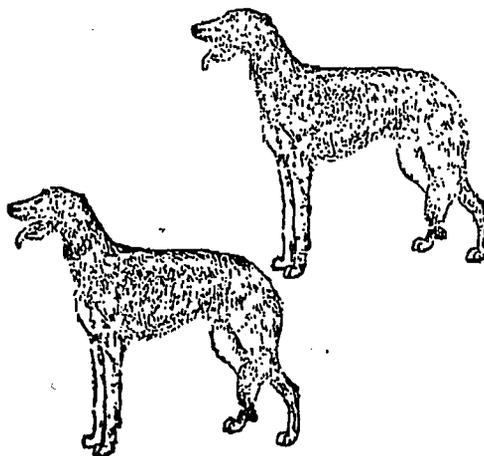
001/002

3300-02-1A

8 March, 2002

FAX (415) 561-4355 and mail

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



Ladies and Gentlemen:

Mine is a clear and definite voice in **support of off-lead dog walking** within the GGNRA, as lands exist now, and for a re-opening of some of the areas closed during the last few years. Mine is also a voice for concern about the fairness and propriety of the process.

Firstly, I believe public comment on this matter is not new: For yet another time, public review is asked for something already several times canvassed, agreed to, paid for by tax dollars, and recognized locally and in Washington.<sup>1</sup>

Further, 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. The GGNRA however has taken an adversarial position against dog walkers and in so doing, has deliberately sabotaged the current process: *Individuals are being ticketed for walking with dogs off-lead in areas where for years this activity has gone on without interruption of any other natural or social use.* Such an aggressive campaign against off-leash dog walking clarifies the magnitude of GGNRA bias and taints this process. Rangers are not ticketing merely in circumstances where problems

<sup>1</sup> 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 on the Bay."

03/11/2002 14:13 FAX 415 442 0858

STEINHART &amp; FALCONER LLP

002/002

3300-02-1A

are clear-cut. Rather, they are ticketing for our status as dog walkers.<sup>2</sup> With one hand rangers hand out cards which include recommendations for dog walking, recommendations that in fact put the safety and welfare of the community at risk, while the other hand writes a ticket to fine a responsible dog owner.

There was for 22+ years in place the 1979 Pet Policy, drafted, reviewed and commented upon by City and federal agencies, used in fund-raising \$34 million private dollars for Crissy Field restoration, which created an exception for off-lead dog walking in the GGNRA. \$34 million private dollars. Documentation exists and has been presented in various forums which confirms GGNRA recognition of this policy. Yet, now we are engaged in yet another costly review process.

A working dog is a dog off-leash and for any owners who have not achieved genuine off-lead control, then there are within these areas space and room where appropriate off-lead control can be taught and learned, which training is not possible now with the current enforcement. I and others look to the day when signs the Park Service painted over, the ones that read "Voice Control," can come out of storage.

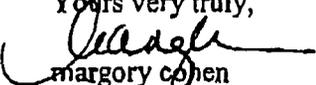
We are all of us safer walking with dogs off-leash on these lands.

There are no birds at Ground Zero finding people and remains; there are no plants standing sentry duty at bridges and airports.

We owe Dog off-lead areas to run and exercise mind and body.

We owe people access.

Yours very truly,



margory cohen

Pier 26, Adrian Studios  
San Francisco, California 94105  
415.999.2054; margory@dnai.com

cc: The Honorable John D. Graham  
Administrator, OIRA  
Office of Management and Budget  
262 EEOB  
Washington, DC 20503  
Fax: (202) 395-3047

SFDOG, [fortfunston@hotmail.com](mailto:fortfunston@hotmail.com)  
Other parties

<sup>2</sup> 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.

330-01-1B



Shawn McGhie  
<ShawnMcGhie@FairIs  
aac.com>

03/11/2002 05:29 PM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Dog leash law

Dear Advisory Committee:

I strongly advise your committee to overturn the policy allowing dogs to run free in the recreation area. Since this law adopted over 22 years ago, the use of the area has changed dramatically from virtual wasteland to a heavily populated public recreation area. Over the past year, in the bay area, one person has been killed and another seriously injured by unleashed dogs. The very dog that killed Ms. Wipple was allowed to run free in your recreation area (there is a picture of the dogs on the beach in the San Jose Mercury News, Jan 31, 2001). You have no control over what kind of dogs people bring down to the recreation areas. Therefore, you must overturn the law because it is your duty to protect the public in the recreation area.

My biggest concern is for my two year old daughter's safety in the park. I take my daughter down there every weekend and go for a walk along the walking path. There have been at least fifty or more occasions where dogs have run up to, or lunged at, my daughter. Every time this happens, I try to block the dog from my daughter or pick her up. Then the dog owner will laugh at my reaction and say, "my dog won't bite her." How do I know if the dog will or will not bite her. The owners of the dog that killed Ms. Wipple said the same thing to people that came into contact with their dog. It's like the drunk driver who says that they never hit anyone before when driving home.

Your organization has made a major investment in the park over the past three years by putting in the walking trail and beach for public use. The unleashed dogs have completely taken over this area, especially the beach area (the beach now smells like urine from the walking trail). It is impossible to have picnics or sunbathing on the beach, when dogs are constantly running across your blanket/towel. The dogs also try to eat any food that you bring down. It would be far to dangerous to even consider taking a child to the beach? I think it is a shame that so much money has been invested in this area, only to have the dogs take it over.

The only reasonable compromise would be to fence in part of the new grass area for a "Bark Park," where dogs could run free and not be a danger to the public. Many cities have established these parks to protect the public and public areas.

Shawn C. McGhie  
9 Circle Dr. Apt. A  
Tiburon, CA 94920  
(415) 492-5769

GGNRA012580

3302-01-1A

Online\_Forms@nps.gov

To: GOGA\_Public\_Affairs@nps.gov

v

cc:

Subject: New Submission

03/11/02 11:01 AM EST

Date Submitted 11-Mar-02

E-mail address (needed for a response)::

Comments:: Every time I go to the GGNRA, I see dogs chasing birds. I think dogs should be kept on leash at all the parks.

Name:: Elaine Vestal

Address:: 294 Carl St.

San Francisco, CA 94117

Phone::

3303-02-10



Marina Gelman  
<marina@bluemartini.com>

03/11/2002 02:51 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Let dogs play without leashes

To Whom It May Concern:

As a dog owner for the last 10 years, I couldn't pass an opportunity to voice my opinion about dog-leash law.

Dogs are men's best friend and as such should have place in the city where they could run free.

How can someone

justify taking a few of the remaining places away from our dogs? In the city that has over 700,000 population

it should be reasonable to expect couple of places for pet owners and their pets to walk to play.

**Also, for your study and**

**information : my dog has never chased birds.**

If you have any questions, give me a call at: 415-235-8680.

Regards,

Marina



marina.vcf

3304-01-1A



RobGemini@aol.com

03/11/2002 06:42 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: National Park Policy on Dogs

Dear Park Staff,

Please don't succumb to the hysteria and terror tactics of the lunatic fringe, otherwise referred to as "animal rights activists," or the strident, militant dog owners who think that they and their pets have a right to do whatever they please EXCEPT obey existing laws and follow the dictates of courtesy and civilized behavior.

I take a 1-2 hour walk everyday, weather permitting, and usually enjoy Ocean Beach (from Fort Funston up to Sutro Heights), Golden Gate Park, or Crissy Field and the Marina.

EVERY SINGLE DAY, I see dogs tearing up groundcover, disturbing other outdoor enthusiasts, including children, and terrorizing wildlife, especially the small birds one finds along the surf at Ocean Beach or gulls along Crissy Field. Just last week, I watched as a man in a horse and buggy had to whip dogs with his riding crop because they were barking and snapping at him and his horse.

EVERY SINGLE DAY, I watch mothers grab terrified children as out-of-control dogs run up to picnic tables, blankets on the beach and other gatherings.

EVERY SINGLE DAY, I see dogs defecating in planted areas, beaches and open meadows - and their owners making no effort whatsoever to pick up the mess. Many owners don't even carry scoops and bags when exercising their dogs.

EVERY SINGLE DAY, I "experiment" by mentioning leash laws and pet pickup laws to scofflaw owners. At best, I'm just ignored. At worst, I'm told "F--k Off!" or "F--k You!"

Clearly, the rights of species to NOT be exterminated by domesticated animals far outweigh the rights of dogs and their owners to ignore the law.

The rights of tax-paying, law-abiding outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy clean, pleasant parklands far outweigh the rights of dogs to run wild and uncontrolled.

The rights of children to enjoy a picnic or a field trip far outweigh the rights of dogs to terrorize our smaller citizens.

I add my voice to the chorus asking for immediate and unrelenting enforcement of the existing laws. I also call for higher fines for offenders. I'll even go so far as to recommend that unleashed, unsupervised and untrained animals be seized - just like towing cars. After paying fines, boarding fees, pet food and other expenses to release their pets, perhaps owners will rethink their lawless, careless, arrogant and selfish ways.

Thanks for providing a forum for people to "vent!"

Sincerely,

Robert Spoor

***Rob Spoor***

San Francisco, CA

robgemini@aol.com

415.864.3168 (voice)

415.864.3191 (fax)

3305-01-1C



Marian Hardin  
<mhardin2@ix.netcom.  
com>

03/11/2002 02:56 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Dog-leash opinion

Unleashed dogs should not be allowed to run freely in the GGNRA area.

I am a long-time resident of Daly City. Over the years, my family and I have frequently visited Thornton Beach--when it was accessible--and Ft. Funston. The vegetation and land are suffering from overuse. Although I like dogs, the unleashed pets can be dangerous.

Thank you for this opportunity to express an opinion.

Marian Hardin

3306-01-1A



"Sarah Colby"  
<sarah@isc-sf.org>

03/11/2002 03:27 PM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_ANPR@nps.gov>

cc: <fortfunston@hotmail.com>

Subject: ANPR Comment: In Support of Off-leash Dog Walking in the GGNRA

As a responsible and loving dog owner and resident of San Francisco, I write begging you to keep the few remaining areas in which dogs may run off-leash free to nonaggressive and nondestructive dogs. It is cruel to confine all dogs to a few small mud pens (called designated dog runs) in the city. I understand that some dogs are unruly and their owners irresponsible. These dogs and owners should be cited and fined. I often tell these dog owners that they must curb their dogs and respect the other inhabitants and users of the parks. It is unkind to make well-behaved dogs pay the price. I believe we can co-exist peacefully without closing off the GGNRA areas to play and fun for responsible dogs and owners.

Sincerely,

Sarah Colby  
21 Seward Street  
San Francisco, CA 94114  
(415) 626-3058

3307-01-3B



barbara  
<speed@fletcho.com>  
03/11/2002 02:51 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject:

To Whom it May Concern:

As a long time dog owner and user of open spaces for our dogs' off leash recreation in the East Bay, I'm writing to urge you to continue to provide spaces for everyone to run their obedient dogs. We've seen this work out successfully at Point Isabel, and now are enjoying using the Albany Waterfront Park. We are especially concerned that this park continue to be available for the off leash recreation of dogs who are under voice control, and feel that their presence is no problem to people or wildlife.

Sincerely,

Barbara Speed

~~~~~  
Fletcher Oakes  
Barbara Speed

There is no trap so deadly as the trap you set for yourself.  
--from The Long Goodbye by Raymond Chandler

3308-01-1C



Gretchen Irion  
<gdirion@pacbell.net>  
03/11/2002 02:39 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Fort Funston dog walking

March 11, 2002

936 Castle Hill Road

Redwood City, CA 94061

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

Dear sir:

I have frequented Fort Funston often in the last five years to walk my pointers off-lead. Some dog breeds require extensive daily exercise which cannot be acquired while the dog is leashed unless the owner happens to be a marathon runner. I always find the park well populated by people with their dogs. Fort Funston was the best place in the Bay Area to walk your dog. That is until the park service started fencing off areas and harassing the dog walkers.

It was my understanding that the land was given to GGNRA with the prerequisite that it would remain as recreational land for the people.

It doesn't really seem fair for the federal government to dictate what type of recreation people should have at Fort Funston, especially since there is a 20 year precedent of off lead dog walking there. I also have a problem with people who do not frequent Fort Funston dictating what type of recreation is appropriate for the people who do frequent the park. If Fort Funston is closed to off lead dog walking, where will I be able to go to walk a few miles with my dogs so we can exercise together?

Sincerely,  
Gretchen Irion Pharm.D

3309-02-1E



Libby Roberts  
<libbyr@reyes.stanford.edu>

03/11/2002 02:09 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_ANPR@nps.gov  
cc: fortfunston@hotmail.com  
Subject: ANPR Comment: In Support of Off-leash Dog Walking in the GGNRA

Dear Sirs/Mesdames,

I am writing to urge you to continue to allow off leash dog walking in the GGNRA. I wish I had an eloquent and persuasive voice that could convey just how important this is to me, and to thousands of dog owners and their canine companions throughout the Bay Area, but I'm afraid this is just a simple plea for you to recognize the importance of allowing dogs to have room to run and exercise and enjoy their bond with their human friends.

I am not suggesting that dogs should be running rampant through the streets. I **am** pointing out that most dogs ARE well behaved and ARE entitled to proper exercise and fresh air and a safe environment. Yes, I say entitled because that is their nature, and that is the way we (as a civilization) have brought them into our culture and our environment. We domesticated these animals, and that makes it our responsibility to provide for their needs.

There is talk of having dogs take their exercise in a restricted, over-crowded, un-natural "dog park." That is not sufficient for me or my dog. She is a dog with lots of energy and needs room to run. And I want to run with her. I also want to throw her ball and watch her run into the ocean to retrieve it. This can't be done on a leash or in a small fenced-in patch of dirt filled with numerous other dogs vying for room to run around in that same small patch of dirt or concrete.

I have been taking my dog to Fort Funston since I adopted her five years ago. There she has run back and forth along the trails, wagging her tail and urging me to hurry to get down to the beach so she can romp in the water. The only time I have had to call her back from chasing another animal is when she has gotten into a game of "tag" with other dogs and it is time to head on back to the car. She doesn't wander into fenced off "areas of restoration" because she tried once and was told "no." Yes, she recognizes the word "no" and obeys me when I say it. Yes, she poops on the trail sometimes. And when she does, I take a plastic bag, scoop it up, and carry it to the nearest trash can (even if it is a hundred yards away and even if she does her business under a bush). In all my time at Fort Funston, I have only witnessed a hand full of people who have not picked up after their dog...and I have seen strangers pick up the mess of the those few irresponsible owners. I have also seen discarded *filled* diapers, beer cans, McDonald's cups, broken glass and various other forms of *human* effluent scattered along the same trails that my dog and I enjoy.

Some people do not care for dogs. That is their right. But it shouldn't be their right to prevent me and my dog from enjoying an hour or two of recreation and pleasure in one of the few places in the Bay Area that allows dogs to be dogs off leash. We don't bother anyone. I do not particularly care for children. But I certainly don't feel that I have a right to prohibit them from enjoying all that Fort Funston has to offer. Their screaming and crying annoy me, but I don't suggest that they be herded into a playground and forced to take all their exercise there. My dog loves children,

and will drop her ball at the feet of the nearest child. Even I have to smile at the enjoyment they get from awkwardly flinging her ball and having her bring it right back to their feet for another go. She gets along with them; but if the child or parent shows fear of her approaching, I call her back to me. Two "different" groups sharing the same place.

I have given you examples of how *my* dog behaves. I have painted her as an ideal dog. She is. That doesn't mean she is without faults, but when she heads towards inappropriate behavior I exercise control and bring her in line. That is what the majority of dog owners do. Most dog owners have dogs because of the desire to share the special love and joy a dog brings to a family's life. They are concerned with the safety and happiness of their companion, and abide by the rules established to allow dogs and people and children and the environment to interact.

The Bay Area is way overcrowded. Dogs, like their human friends, need to have a place to go to get away from the stresses of overcrowding. I do not say open up every park and open space to dogs, but don't take away one of the few remaining places where dogs and people can enjoy life together.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Libby Roberts  
Mountain View, CA

\*\*\*\*\*

Libby Roberts  
Administrative Assistant  
Radiation Oncology, Physics Division  
Stanford University School of Medicine  
300 Pasteur Dr., Rm H-0144  
Stanford, CA 94305-5304  
PH (650) 723-5549  
FX (650) 498-5008

.....  
Q: What are the first requisites of good manners?

A: Kind heartedness, self-respect, consideration, a sense of fair play, and some powers of observation.

Vogue Book of Etiquette - 1925

3310-01-1C



JosephOBrien@amre.com  
03/11/2002 01:32 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
CC:  
Subject: GGNRA and Pets

I understand you are seeking comment on whether unfettered pets (i.e., dogs) should be allowed in the GGNRA.

My vote is no.

As an avid walker (and cyclist), I'm astounded by the number of dog owners who let their pets run free. Dogs chase and frequently bite. Pedestrians -- adults and children -- should not be put in potentially dangerous situations by pet owners. Unfortunately, far too many dog owners are naive about the propensity of their pets to frighten or injure people. Leashes must be mandatory.

Joseph O'Brien  
823 Thornhill Drive  
Colma, CA 94015

GGNRA012590

3311-01-1A



**Roger Scott**

03/11/2002 08:18 AM  
PST

To: Alex Naar/GOGA/NPS@NPS

CC:

Subject: New Submission

FYI Don't know if you saw this or not.

Roger Scott  
Public Affairs  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
National Park Service  
Phone (415) 561-4731  
Fax (415) 561-4710  
E-mail [roger\\_scott@nps.gov](mailto:roger_scott@nps.gov)

----- Forwarded by Roger Scott/GOGA/NPS on 03/11/02 08:11 AM -----



**Online\_Forms@nps.gov**

v

03/11/02 11:01 AM EST

To: [GOGA\\_Public\\_Affairs@nps.gov](mailto:GOGA_Public_Affairs@nps.gov)

CC:

Subject: New Submission

Date Submitted 11-Mar-02

E-mail address (needed for a response)::

Comments:: Every time I go to the GGNRA, I see dogs chasing birds. I think dogs should be kept on leash at all the parks.

Name:: Elaine Vestal

Address:: 294 Carl St.

San Francisco, CA 94117

Phone::

3312-01-3B



"sarah hubert"  
<sarahhubert@hotmail  
.com>

03/11/2002 12:42 PM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: fort funston

I would like to comment on the leash law enforcement of Fort Funston:

The area to the left of the stairway leading down to the beach should be allowed for dogs to run free while under voice command. That area of beach is rarely used by "sunbathers" and predominantly used by walkers, both with dogs and without - as well as horseback riders. There must be an area larger than 10X20 foot fenced area for our dogs to get exercise - they need to run. Must I drive outside of the city to exercise my dog? As for the birds nesting - will kids be ticketed for chasing the birds? Will horses be banished from the beach for stirring the birds away from waters edge? There must be some space and we're asking for just a little - we'll stay on the paths, no venturing into the iceplant - we'll clean up after our pets - we'll discourage the chasing of birds. Just a little space along a beach which is primarily used for walking dogs anyway.....

A loving dog owner AND an environmentally conscious individual,

Sarah Hubert

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>.

3313-01-3A



Charlotte Louis  
<schaduck@aiinc.com  
>

To: "Brian O'Neill" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: I Support Alternative A - Keep Dogs Leashed!

03/11/2002 08:28 PM  
GMT

Monday, March 11, 2002

Brian O'Neill  
Superintendent  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
ATTN: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing to support Option A in the ANPR and further request that the Park Service continue to allow leashed pet recreation where currently permissible, while minimizing pet impacts to visitors and park resources.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the world's largest urban park, provides critical habitat for some of the state's most rare and threatened species including 11 federally listed endangered wildlife species and 9 federally listed plant species. While parks such as GGRNA also provide a great place to recreate with pets, I am concerned that the ANPR could lead to changes in the current leash policy that would put sensitive park resources and public safety in jeopardy.

Numerous academic and government studies identify off leash pets as threats to visitor safety, wildlife, and the integrity of natural and cultural resources. For example, a study by the American Humane Association documents injuries to humans, wildlife, and pets as a result of unleashed pets and recommends that pets be leashed in public areas set aside for natural resource protection purposes. Golden Gate National Recreation Area records indicate numerous incidents of dog bites, threats of dogs to park visitors, and instances where park rangers were forced to risk their own safety to rescue uncontrolled pets and pet owners trapped on cliffs or in the ocean.

For these reasons -- threats to public safety and park resources -- I support Option A. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Louis  
2110 Silver Circle  
Fallon, NV 89406 - 6822  
schaduck@aiinc.com

3314-01-1A



Karl Crawford  
<kcrawford4@yahoo.com>

03/11/2002 11:52 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc: fortfunston@hotmail.com, t\_m\_choa@yahoo.com  
Subject: Please save off-leash areas!

GGNRA

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123 <?xml:namespace prefix = o ns = "urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office" />

To All Those Concerned;

I am a San Francisco dog owner and have been exercising my dog at Crissy Field for ten years. Crissy Field, in addition to be an outstanding place to enjoy the outdoors within an urban city, is the closest place to my house where my dog can legally swim. It is truly one of the reasons I live in San Francisco.

The number of areas where I can exercise my dog off-leash is being steadily reduced. Dogs need a place to exercise and be socialized off-leash. Responsible and knowledgeable dog owners know that dogs are safer and less likely to get into trouble if allowed to mingle with other dogs in less restrictive environments. This is critical for their physical and mental health.

I think the law should be written to enforce dog control and clean up. If dog bites are a problem, then let's focus on those particular dog owners. For instance, legislation that concentrates on owners of *problem* dogs. In ten years of visiting Crissy Field several times a week, I have never seen a single dog bite. There is no need to punish *all* dogs and dog owners.

Please don't implement or enforce laws that create more of a problem then they fix.

Karl Crawford  
267 Francisco Street  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
415-781-3330

***Karl Crawford***

*KCrawford4@yahoo.com*

*text page: 4152156178@mobile.att.net*

*home: 415-781-3330*

*cell: 415-215-6178*

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3315-01-3B



Marie Parti  
<MParti@moraga.k12.c  
a.us>

03/11/2002 11:30 AM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: GGNRA dog rules

I have been going to Presidio for about 27 years, and I have never had a problem with dogs running loose. The dogs are friendly and certainly look forward to their run. I believe that it is unreasonable for a very few to mandate a change in this situation. There are many, many places for people to run free, in fact, too many to even contemplate, but very few places like the Presidio where a dog can have a taste of joyous freedom. Needless to say, I am not in favor of ticketing people who let their dogs run loose. I am, however, in favor of ticketing dog owners who do not clean up after their dog.

GGNRA012595

3316-01-3B



Oexrex@aol.com  
03/11/2002 02:15 PM  
EST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: (no subject)

*Dear ANPR Supervisors:*

*Dog owners seeking open spaces to exercise their " friends " are overwhelmingly decent, responsible people who respect other's rights as well as the environment.*

*Pass and enforce restrictions on dangerous attack dogs, but allow others the luxury of running and enjoying a little freedom.*

3317-01-3B



"Fobes, James"  
<jlfobes@nps.navy.mil  
>

03/11/2002 11:01 AM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: dogs

No dog should ever be loose except in a fenced yard. Many of them represent a danger to the public and there is no justification for permitting that risk to exist.

3318-01-3B



Vadim Sheynkman  
<VSheynkman@ecolor.com>

03/11/2002 11:00 AM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
CC:  
Subject: NO UNLEASHED DOGS!!!!

NO UNLEASHED DOGS!!!!

Nowhere!

Except for their owners' backyard!



Blank Bkgrd.gif

3319-01-3B



"Victor Sr."  
<vecastillo\_13@msn.com>

03/11/2002 11:04 AM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Fort Funston Dogs Policies

Dear Superintendent GGNRA,

For several years I used to walk with my Chocolate Labrador Retriever "Dallas" at the Fort Funston recreational area. Just before he passed away, I took him to his favorite place, Fort Funston, to relax and forget his illness and pains. The park was quite frequented by many pet owners, who socialized among themselves and petted other dogs when they met. It was relaxing for all of us and the dogs felt free of the restrictive homes where they lived. Just like we need some open natural space to revitalize our spirit, they also need this freedom and exercise. The owners were quite responsible and their dogs well behaved. Seldom did I see a dog running through the fields. I never saw any of the dogs bothering any wildlife, since it was almost not existent in the populated areas of the park.

Today, we are all worried about aggressive dogs and inconsiderate owners. It is my experience that these dogs are kept locked up and usually chained in backyards where their aggressive owners use them to intimate their neighbors. These dogs would be less aggressive and even quite docile if they were raised from puppies in a loving environment, with frequent opportunities to interact freely with other dogs and people in a open fields. Normally, aggressive dogs are territorial within their confined area. Like it or not, we have had pets throughout history and will continue to have them for years. We need to create an environment where they are treated as part of the family and the community and not caged like zoo animals. Even zoos are creating more natural environments with more space for the animals to roam, while we interact with them. This is the civilized way to live together in this world.

I urge you to create at Fort Funston and other GGNRA recreational areas designated areas where our dogs can freely enjoy what nature offers in social environment that nurtures them. As an environmentalist at heart and in practice, I believe in the co-existence of man, animals, and nature and not in their isolation into protected areas. That is how our world has survived for so many years.

Sincerely,

Victor E. Castillo

3320-03-1A



"Lillian M. Piol"  
<Lpiol@hansonbridget  
t.com>

03/11/2002 10:23 AM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
CC:  
Subject: LTO GGNRC Re Off-Leash Regs.DOC

I have attached my letter concerning my views regarding off-leash recreation in the GGNRA.

<<LTO GGNRC Re Off-Leash Regs.DOC>>



LTO GGNRC Re Off-Leash Regs.D

3320-03-1A

Via Fax: 415/561-4733

Via E-Mail: ggoa\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

Via Mail:

Superintendent

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Fort Mason,  
Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent:

In response to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area's ("GGNRA") Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("ANPR") FR Doc. 02-568, filed January 10, 2002, I support the long-standing tradition of off-leash recreation in the GGNRA.

My dog is an important member of my family. Off-leash socialization and exercise contributes to my dog being a well-adjusted and healthy dog. It is also personally important for me for my own physical and recreational activity to enjoy walking with my dog off-leash. I know many other dog owners and others who agree with this. If my dog had to be leashed, none of these benefits would be the same for me.

Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when San Francisco transferred its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA and when the GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning" (16 U.S.C., section 460bb). GGNRA should not be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco. Continuing to make off-leash recreation a primary use in areas of GGNRA is a good use of the land.

There is room for off-leash activity in GGNRA's 75,000 acres. Traditionally, off-leash use has occurred in only 0.5% of this land. Off-leash activity can continue while respecting other park uses, including preservation of natural resources and other recreational uses.

I am a responsible dog owner. I pick up my dog's waste. I do not leave trash but leave the parks clean. I watch that my dog does not disturb people, wildlife, or plants. If GGNRA continues to permit

3320-03-1A

off-leash access for people with dogs, I will support it as a community member in whatever way I can. Thank you for your attention to this.

Very truly yours,

Lillian M. Piol  
1 Daniel Burnham Court, Unit 104  
San Francisco, CA 94109  
(415) 749-0970  
[diamondlipiol@earthlink.net](mailto:diamondlipiol@earthlink.net)

3321-01-3A



David Anderson  
<davidinathens@hotmail.com>

03/11/2002 06:20 PM  
GMT

To: "Brian O'Neill" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: I Support Alternative A - Keep Dogs Leashed!

Monday, March 11, 2002

Brian O'Neill  
Superintendent  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
ATTN: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing to support Option A in the ANPR and further request that the Park Service continue to allow leashed pet recreation where currently permissible, while minimizing pet impacts to visitors and park resources.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the world's largest urban park, provides critical habitat for some of the state's most rare and threatened species including 11 federally listed endangered wildlife species and 9 federally listed plant species. While parks such as GGRNA also provide a great place to recreate with pets, I am concerned that the ANPR could lead to changes in the current leash policy that would put sensitive park resources and public safety in jeopardy.

Numerous academic and government studies identify off leash pets as threats to visitor safety, wildlife, and the integrity of natural and cultural resources. For example, a study by the American Humane Association documents injuries to humans, wildlife, and pets as a result of unleashed pets and recommends that pets be leashed in public areas set aside for natural resource protection purposes. Golden Gate National Recreation Area records indicate numerous incidents of dog bites, threats of dogs to park visitors, and instances where park rangers were forced to risk their own safety to rescue uncontrolled pets and pet owners trapped on cliffs or in the ocean.

For these reasons -- threats to public safety and park resources -- I support Option A. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

David Anderson  
130 Broomsedge Trail  
Athens, GA 30605 - 3353  
davidinathens@hotmail.com

3322-01-1C



Lisa.Novak@WellsFarg  
o.COM

03/11/2002 10:15 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_ANPR@nps.gov  
cc: fortfunston@hotmail.com  
Subject: ANPR Comment: In Support of Off-leash Dog Walking in the GGNRA

To whom it may concern-

I am writing due to my concern about the Fort Funston recreation area, in regards to leashed pets. My husband and I enjoy Fort Funston at least once a week with our dog. It is the only place we have found where our dog gets the exercise that she needs and deserves. Plus, my husband and I enjoy the area and get to spend quality time together. We look forward to bringing our children there (as we currently do not have any) from the time they can leave the house. We frequently meet friends at Fort Funston who have children, as it is great exposure for the children.

I urge you to allow us to keep our dogs off leash in this park. Without it, we would not have anywhere to go and I would fear the lack of exercise would cause behavioral problems with my dog, as well as other dogs in the area.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Lisa Novak  
2038 S. Delaware St.  
San Mateo, CA 94403  
650-570-7673

voter and dog owner

---

Lisa Novak - Project Manager  
PCS University Online  
Wells Fargo & Co, Private Client Services  
415-396-1570  
lisa.novak@wellsfargo.com

3323-01-10



"gale justin"  
<galejustin@mindspring.com>

03/11/2002 10:17 AM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject:

**To Whom It May Concern:**

I would like to add my voice to those of others who love dogs and who are seeking to keep some open spaces available for the exercise and socialization of their companion animals. Over the past 20 years I have owned 4 Golden Retrievers. There is no question in my mind that dogs need off leash exercise and that they do overall very little damage to "native vegetation, birds, fish and other dogs." I have no statistics to prove this but I have a beautiful yard that my dogs have over the years peacefully shared with plants, birds, turtles, and cats. Compared to the benefit provided by these well-behaved animals to the blind, the deaf, the disabled, the solitary person, the occasional dog fight, bird chase or canine rescue is a negligible harm. Surely GGNRA can keep some scenic open spaces available for the exercise and outings of our loyal and loving companion animals.

Dr. Gale Justin  
690 Oberlin Avenue  
Kensington, Ca. 94708  
(510)527-2815

3324-01-1A



Kortney  
<kortney@california.co  
m>

03/11/2002 10:03 AM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: off leash dog issue

To whom it may concern,

I strongly believe that it is our right as citizens of San Francisco to have access to off leash recreation in some of GGNRA lands. This is an urban area and open space cannot be closed off entirely to recreation because of some birds who nest there. No one wants to chase away wild life, and there simply isn't the science to back up your claims that dogs chase birds away. To the contrary, the birds seem to come to the off leash areas to nest (maybe to get out of the way of ranger vehicles.) In addition, Fort Funston, Crissy Field, Baker and Ocean Beaches and the West Pacific Trail of the Presidio have absorbed a considerable amount of the off leash recreation for dogs AND tax paying owners of dogs. Without use of these areas, our city parks will be overrun with all who need recreation. We need these areas to exercise ourselves and our dogs so that we can all be healthier and happier citizens.

It's not clear why the GGNRA is taking such a harsh stance against a large group of responsible, tax paying citizens. Why not cite people who break litter, voice control, digging, bird chasing laws, instead of ticketing everyone? We go thru considerable time, effort and expense to train our dogs. We work very hard to educate each other and be the best citizens we can be. Your blanket no-tolerance policy seems lazy and unfair.

I am organizing everyone in my community to fight this. We are in contact with our Representatives. This has become an issue of my quality of life. Thank you for this opportunity to voice my opinion.

Kortney Eichenberger  
139 5th Avenue #3  
SF, CA 94118

---

3325-01-1C



Peter Beck  
<PBeck@lomacleaning  
.com>

03/11/2002 09:35 AM  
PST

To: "goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov" <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: dog leash policy

Dear Sir: I would like to go on record in favor of allowing people to exercise their dogs off-leash in designated areas. I realize that there are two sides to this issue and in the spirit of fairness, to use Fort Funston as an example, why not have off-leash dog walking allowed only at specific times, e.g. 0700 to 1300 daily. After that, no dogs at all until the following day. This allows multiple usage of the park areas and would satisfy both camps. In addition, I would require dog walkers to obtain an annual permit, for a fee, and then police the areas very stringently to insure that dog walkers pick up dog litter and take care of the property. Violation of park rules would result in the loss of their permit and park privileges. Thank you for allowing us this forum to air our views. Sincerely, Peter S. Beck, 944 Lincoln Place, Pacifica, CA 94044.

3326-02-~~33~~ IA



Heidi Hofer  
<heidi\_hofer@yahoo.com>

03/11/2002 08:58 AM  
PST  
Please respond to  
hhofer

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov, Mark Maigatter <mmailgatter@hotmail.com>  
cc: Mark Maigatter <mmailgatter@hotmail.com>  
Subject: Dog Walking in SF

GGNRA

Attn: ANPR

Fort Mason, Bldg. 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

<?xml:namespace prefix = o ns = "urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office" />

**Please save off-leash use areas!**

Surely some compromise can be reached that will afford dogs and their owners designated areas for off-leash recreation. Dogs require the ability to run free for both exercise and for socialization. Dog owners in San Francisco do not have large backyards – most are lucky if they have a deck or patio. Dog owners need parks near their homes and apartments for off-leash recreation, especially to reduce car pollution and parking congestion. Buses only allow one dog per bus, and drivers can refuse dogs if a bus is crowded.

I fully support enforcement of policies for responsible off-leash dog walking and to protect our environment. Dog owners need to pick up after their dogs, and should be severely fined if they do not; the same way other individuals who litter should be fined. In my experience it is dog owners who care more about the environment, especially since they are regular users of it. When my husband and I walk our dog Cozy, we are continually picking up trash; presumably that left by non-dog owners (bottles, cans, wrappers, food waste, soiled diapers, broken glass, etc.). This is something we frequently see other dog owners do. At our local Mountain Lake Park, the volunteer clean-up days are staffed 70-80% by dog owners. Dog owners have a very vested interest in the appearance and safety of San Francisco parks because they are regular users. What San Francisco needs more of is targeted enforcement on violators – those humans who do not clean up after their dogs as well as those who do not clean up after themselves.

Please save our parks for the use of all residents, whether they have 2 or 4 legs!

Regards,

Heidi Hofer  
Voter and SFDOG Member  
66 7<sup>th</sup> Ave.

3326-02-1A

San Francisco, CA 9418  
415-831-8513

hhofer@alumni.haas.org

Heidi M. Hofer, [hhofer@alumni.haas.org](mailto:hhofer@alumni.haas.org)

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3327-01-1A



evestal@WellsFargo.C  
OM  
03/11/2002 08:46 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Off-leash dogs

I think dogs should be kept on leash at all of the parks. I love dogs, but every time I go to Ocean Beach or any other park with dogs, I always see them chasing birds. There is always at least one dog owner who doesn't control their dog. They also run over the dunes messing up the plants. Please don't allow off-leash dogs in the parks. Thank you.

Elaine Vestal  
294 Carl St.  
San Francisco, CA 94117

3328-01-3B



Sasha Futran  
<sfutran@pacbell.net>

03/11/2002 08:51 AM  
PST

Please respond to  
sfutran

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Off-leash Areas Needed

There is a great need for off-leash places to walk dogs. There are many dogs living in the area and people are now well aware that their dogs need places to run for exercise and also the opportunity for socialization.

As a member and former officer of the Ohlone Dog Park Association (ODPA), the first official dog park in the country located in Berkeley, I would like to tell you of the comments at a recent ODPA meeting by the head of Berkeley's Department of Parks and Recreation. Lisa Caronna told us that she gets fewer complaints about the Ohlone Dog Park than other parks in Berkeley.

You see, the problem isn't dogs, but the people. With education and understanding about the difference between play and aggression, knowing when to step in and intervene, etc. dogs and people can have a good and safe time.

Please continue to allow dogs off-leash.

Thank you,

Sasha Futran  
510 - 849 - 9323

3329-02-6



"Janice Zavala-Clark"  
<jzavalaclark@nccwd.com>

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
CC:  
Subject: Pet Mgmt Policy

03/11/2002 08:32 AM  
CST  
Please respond to  
jzavalaclark

Janice D. Zavala-Clark  
Management Analyst  
North Coast County Water District  
PO Box 1039  
Pacifica CA 94044  
(650) 355-3462



pet mgmt policy.doc

3329-02-6

March 8, 2002

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

RE: Pet Management Policy

I would like to introduce myself. My name is George Kanakaris, I am the General Manager of the North Coast County Water District. I was made aware of your Pet Management Policy after reading an article on page 16A of the March 6, 2002 issue of the Pacifica Tribune. It is my understanding, after reading the article, that the public comment period for this issue has been extended to April 12, 2002. Hopefully, this will be adequate.

As the District is interested in commenting on this matter and will make every effort to meet the timetable established, we reserve the right to comment as a property owner that may be affected by your Pet Management Policy. The District owns several acres on Milagra Ridge in Pacifica. I am interested in gaining an understanding of your policy, and any potential impacts it may have on the District. The District, through an agreement established with the GGNRA, has allowed the GGNRA use of portions of North Coast County Water District's property at Milagra Ridge.

I would appreciate a call regarding this matter. I can be reached at (650) 355-3462, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 A.M. and 5 P.M. I would like to thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

George Kanakaris  
General Manager

GK:jzc  
S:\users\George\ggna\pet mgmt policy.doc

GGNRA012613

3330-01-3B



Lee Rudin  
<leewaysf@pacbell.net  
>

03/11/2002 07:36 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov  
CC:  
Subject: Pet management

Greetings,

I support off leash dog walking in the GGNR. I realize it requires pet owners to accept responsibility for the dog's behavior, waste, and not to disturb ecologically sensitive areas. With enforcement, from the ranger and the dog owners, we can coexist peacefully.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kindest Regards,

Lee Rudin  
San Francisco Triathlon Training  
<http://home.pacbell.net/leewaysf/index.html>

3331-01-10



"Verna Osborn"  
<vernaosborn@earthlink.net>

03/11/2002 07:35 AM  
PST

To: <goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Keep Dogs on Leash!!

Dogs should be on leash in all public areas. The GGNRA is for ALL of us to enjoy. Dogs should not be allowed to destroy habitat, menace wildlife, and threaten human beings. Not all dogs are friendly, some are dangerous. Ordinary people like myself cannot tell the difference--and are very threatened by the approach of an unleashed dog. It would be fine to set aside specific, fenced areas as free dog runs--but it is totally unfair to give dogs free run of all public areas. Verna Osborn, 1937 Ascot Drive, Moraga, CA 94556 (member of GGNPA).

3332-02-3B



Kathy Lucas  
<kslucas@pacbell.net>

03/11/2002 06:28 AM  
PST

To: goga\_pets\_anpr@nps.gov

cc:

Subject: ANPR: off-leash issue

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I write this letter to urge the GGNRA to compromise on behalf of dog owners and their dogs who support a portion of Crissy Field being open to dogs running off-leash.

Crissy field is a beautiful resource that San Franciscan's of varied interests can enjoy. There is room enough for people of all types and for a wide spectrum of wildlife to enjoy this treasured recreational area. John Muir and Teddy Roosevelt wrote that we must protect the parks so that our children and their children may enjoy them. This generation must also be able to enjoy these lands.

Crissy Field, now restored, and now under the auspices of the GGNRA and the National Park Service, has never been better. More beautiful, more protected, and more pristine than in it has been at any other point during the past hundred years. The protected lagoon in the center of Crissy is an excellent example of how numerous and varied interests may be accommodated while sharing the park. Since restoration, many indigenous birds have returned to repopulate the protected area faster and to a greater extent than anyone had hoped. This miracle happened over the course of roughly a year. A year in which dogs ran off-leash elsewhere in the park.

Many dog owners are currently up in arms on this issue because they believe their voice has not been heard or perhaps acknowledged by the parks service. Dog owners, by and large, are among the among the staunchest supporters of the GGNRA, The National Park Service, The Sierra Club, and the Audubon Society yet now they are being treated as an adversary. The town meeting last year was a disappointing example of how the issue is being evaluated and which interests are being weighed more heavily than others.

Having investigated the origin and the nature of the gifts of these lands, I am confident that there is solid legal ground to support the multi-purpose use and sharing of this land. Some say that they would like to fight this battle in court and seek to strip the park service of this land. I believe that the GGNRA and the National Park Service are uniquely able to maintain and protect these lands but they must be shared.

The National Park Service has repeatedly promised that it will give the public a fair process with regard to proposed changes to the long enjoyed traditional practice of allowing off leash dog walking recreation in some parts of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. But now the public input process is apparently being subverted by the GGNRA suddenly reversing its longstanding policy that allowed off-leash dogs in certain areas -- before the public input process occurs.

The Park Service says it is setting up an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, which it suggests will fairly allow the public to have input on this highly unpopular change. Nevertheless, the GGNRA employees announce that they have unilaterally reversed the current policy before the ANPR public input process begins. What good is a public input process if the agency is so committed to the change that it insists on abruptly reversing its longstanding policy and aggressively escalating enforcement just prior to the public comment period? Recently, Park Service managers have been extremely antagonistic towards dog owners at Crissy Field by telling them that the 60-day comment period is merely a formality, and that GGNRA has already made their decision. Furthermore, the Park Service managers at Crissy Field have been quoted saying "the Park Service will issue tickets on

3332-02-3B

the first offense, jail the dog owner on the second offense and confiscate the dog on the third offense". Hearing this makes one not only the question the legality of these threats, but also question the Park Service's intentions and ethics.

The impact of this poor public policy is very significant. The change in policy would have a huge impact on the quality of life of so many in this densely populated urban area. Many would not take advantage of the opportunity to visit the parks but for the activity of taking their dogs out to run and play. In a city like San Francisco, it is crucial that dogs be allowed to run in a safe place. The open off-leash environment at Crissy Field provides puppies with the natural dog-dog socialization opportunity needed in raising mentally healthy and well-adjusted domestic dogs. Furthermore, for the many water dogs, the unfettered play they enjoy in the waves at both beaches helps maintain their good physical health and jolly mental disposition. Dogs that are not allowed to exercise sufficiently can become nuisances. In the city, most people do not have the luxury of having backyards for their dogs to run. Furthermore, for most medium and larger dogs, walks around the block or even fenced in cement dog runs are not sufficient to exercise them. Well-behaved dogs, like well-behaved humans, should be allowed to enjoy the open spaces provided by the GGNRA. However, dog owners must be held fully responsible for the actions of their dogs, especially when off-leash. Off-leash dog walking should be treated like driving a car, a privilege that requires responsibility. The solution is not to ban off-leash privileges, but to ban irresponsible behavior.

Please make the dog owners part of the solution. Crissy Field is an amazing resource that can be enjoyed, respected and cared for by all. I am hopeful that you will agree and will support the case for off-leash rights at Crissy Field.

Sincerely,  
Kathy S. Lucas

Kathy Lucas  
kslucas@pacbell.net

FROM : Richard Kurz, MAI, SRA

FAX NO. : 14156817322

Feb. 28 2002 09:17AM P1

3333-01-1A

February 27, 2002  
1910 -17<sup>th</sup> Ave. x  
San Francisco, CA 94116

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

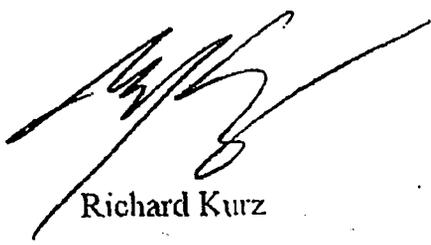
Dear ANPR,

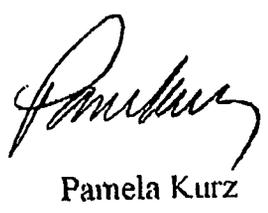
We are in favor of off-leash recreation for dogs in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Even before we had a dog, we were in favor of off-leash areas where ever possible. Man's best friend must have room to run and have fun. We are also in favor of protecting the environment and wildlife, but we fail to see how denying dogs a place to run around would be a detriment to the environment and wildlife.

When San Francisco gave its beaches and coastal bluffs to the GGNRA, it was with the written understanding that the uses, i.e. off-leach dog walking, would be continued. The GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban environmental and planning."

KEEP THE TRADITION OFF-LEASH RECREATION FOR DOGS IN THE GGNRA.

Thanks,

  
Richard Kurz

  
Pamela Kurz

  
Caitlin Kurz

FEB-28-2002 THU 09:44 AM UCSF DEPT STOMATOLOGY

FAX NO. 415 476 4204

P. 01

3334-01-1A

**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,

*Alan Belgard*

Alan Belgard

225 Parnassus Ave.  
SF, CA 94117

3335-01-1A

823 York Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
February 28, 2002

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

Dear GGNRA:

We strongly support off-leash recreation for dogs in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. These are urban parks, and serve an important recreational need for us and our dog that cannot be satisfied anywhere else in San Francisco.

The National Park Service should not blindly end off-leash recreation to match rules in other national parks, but should see that the GGNRA is an urban park that serves vital recreational needs for SF residents, and that was given to the NPS by the city of San Francisco originally.

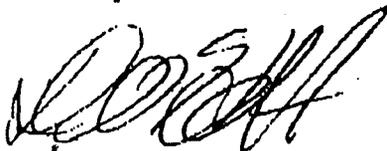
Our dog is under our control, and we clean up after her and keep her out of fenced-off areas in Fort Funston conscientiously. We go to the park every Saturday – this is an important time for us, as well as our dog, and is the only time that our city dog gets to run free in a "natural" environment without fear of being hit by cars or other urban dangers.

Responsible off-leash recreation can absolutely coexist and work with other concerns the park service needs to address. We understand the importance of conservation and maintaining natural resources in the parks, as we are financial supporters of and are active in the following organizations:

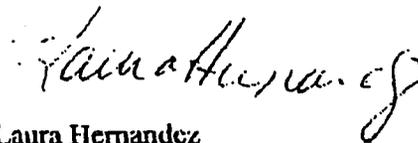
- National Parks Conservation Association
- California State Parks Association
- Friends of Recreation and Parks (SF)

We hope that you will reconsider the recently implemented ban, and maintain responsible off-leash recreation for dogs in the GGNRA.

Sincerely,



David Hecht



Laura Hernandez

3336-01-1A

2519 Pacific Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94115

February 25, 2002

**RECEIVED**  
**MAR 08 2002**  
**SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

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

To Whom It May Concern:  
Subject: ANPR - PET MANAGEMENT IN GGNRA

As a City of San Francisco resident and taxpayer I feel it is very important to maintain an off-leash dog areas in the City environs!

There is adequate space at Crissy Field to have both off leash and on leash areas.

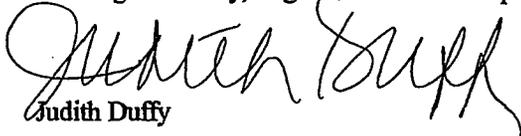
Walking a dog on leash doesn't provide the same benefits as an off leash romp does. When off leash dogs at Chrissy Field, socialize with other dogs. They also play in the ocean both fetching and swimming. A well-socialized and well-exercised dog is a happy, secure, reliable and well-adjusted dog. There are few places where dogs can play off leash and enjoy swimming and other activities. It is a safe place to let your dog off leash without worrying about traffic.

People walking at Chrissy Field generally marvel at the fun the dogs have on the beach. They too believe there is enough space that we can all share it! They too believe we should have a "dog off leash" beach with adequate space for running and playing. All of us know other beach areas with "no dogs". We all believe there should also be a beach area for leashed dogs.

Yes, we all believe dogs should be leashed on the walking/biking path. This way people who don't like dogs can avoid the "dog beach" and in the other areas they will be leashed!

There should be on leash areas and off leash areas that we can all enjoy the wonderful space at Chrissy Field.

In doing it this way, dog lovers have their space. Others have their space too. WE ALL PAY TAXES!!!

  
Judith Duffy

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

3337 - 01 - 1A

**Thomas R. McKewan**

March 6, 2002

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 7 2002**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

Superintendent Brian O'Neill  
Building 201  
Fort Mason  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Attention: ANPR, Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Dear Sir:

I am in favor of creating a special off leash area for dogs in Fort Funston, Baker Beach and Chrissy Field. My reasons include recreation and health benefits of dog owners and dogs. The need for this special exception is due to the fact that the GGNRA was created in a densely populated region, which included these traditional off-leash dog beaches.

I believe that some areas with sensitive flora and fauna should remain closed to dogs and humans. I also believe that allowing off-leash dog-walking only during certain times of day or certain days of the week would solve problems of dogs interacting with certain members of the public, who are averse to dogs. I do not believe that there needs to be a limit on the number of dogs, or the need for a waiver or bond, as in the experience of many, dogs off-leash are better behaved than dogs on leash. I also believe that if funds are needed to create this special exception, dog walkers will raise part of the funds. The NPS is responsible for some of the funds, as they must recognize the cultural history of those areas with respect to off-leash dog use, just as they recognize the cultural significance of say, the Nike Missile sites.

Therefore I ask you to please create a Section 7 special rule for off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in order to bring the general 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, please stop aggressively enforcing the general regulation in the parts of the GGNRA identified by the 1979 GGNRA Pet Policy as allowing off-leash recreation. I ask that you please give citations only for the rare aggressive or destructive dogs.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tom McKewan

3338-01-1A

RECEIVED

MAR 8 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Wednesday, March 6, 2002

Brian O'Neill  
Superintendent  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
ATTN: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing to support Option A in the ANPR and further request that the Park Service continue to allow leashed pet recreation where currently permissible, while minimizing pet impacts to visitors and park resources.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the world's largest urban park, provides critical habitat for some of the state's most rare and threatened species including 11 federally listed endangered wildlife species and 9 federally listed plant species. While parks such as GGRNA also provide a great place to recreate with pets, I am concerned that the ANPR could lead to changes in the current leash policy that would put sensitive park resources and public safety in jeopardy.

Numerous academic and government studies identify off leash pets as threats to visitor safety, wildlife, and the integrity of natural and cultural resources. For example, a study by the American Humane Association documents injuries to humans, wildlife, and pets as a result of unleashed pets and recommends that pets be leashed in public areas set aside for natural resource protection purposes. Golden Gate National Recreation Area records indicate numerous incidents of dog bites, threats of dogs to park visitors, and instances where park rangers were forced to risk their own safety to rescue uncontrolled pets and pet owners trapped on cliffs or in the ocean.

For these reasons -- threats to public safety and park resources -- I support Option A. Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Carole Landon  
1000 Powell Street, Suite 78  
San Francisco, CA 94108  
[clandink@pacbell.net](mailto:clandink@pacbell.net)

To Whom It May Concern: 3341-01-1A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

NELL WOTHERSPON  
2235 LARKIN ST.  
SF CA 94109

RECEIVED  
MAR 8 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern: 3339-01-1A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Judith Reich  
140 Juniper Way  
S.F. Calif 94131

RECEIVED  
MAR 8 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern: 3340-01-1A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Alex  
S.F., CA

RECEIVED  
MAR 8 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern: 3342-01-1A

I strongly support existing regulations that require pets to be on leash and on trail when in national parks. I support Option A as proposed in the recent ANPR.

Changing the leash law for just the GGNRA would set a dangerous precedent for national parks throughout the country. Allowing pets off-leash is inconsistent with the park mission to protect natural resources and the safety of all visitors. Numerous scientific studies—including one by the American Humane Association—identify off-leash pets as a threat to visitor safety and wildlife and therefore recommend that pets be leashed in natural areas.

Lax enforcement at GGNRA has resulted in many documented cases of off-leash pets threatening or biting park visitors and hazardous rescues of uncontrolled pets and their owners. It is no surprise that 82% of Bay Area residents (KPIX poll) prefer pets on leash. I agree!

Sincerely,

Maria Durigella  
62 MARTHA AVE.  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94131

RECEIVED  
MAR 8 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

3343-01-1A

MAR 8 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Following are my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: MRS ANITA KAMAKA (printed)  
Address: 1618 BURROWS ST S.F. CA 94134  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

How sad that a federal agency would accept a city property and then go back on its word!!! GGNRA seems to be employing regulations from other federal (Nat'l) parks that do not apply to this urban recreation area. We visit & use all the beaches on the ocean & the bay & Fort Funston S.F.'s weather allows us to do this almost every day, but GGNRA precludes it.

**Here are some ideas for your letter:**

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now for off-leash recreation? What parts would you LIKE to visit
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for recreation?
- How important to you is the social aspect of off-leash recreation? For example, do you bring out-of-town visitors with you or meet up with friends on your walks? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Anita Kamaka Date 3/1/02 (optional: Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex  M  F Ethnicity W)

Dear Superintendent O'Neill

3344-01-1A

I support the continuance of off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Following are my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Lucie Hager (printed)  
Address: 95 Manchester Street (street) San Francisco (city) CA (state) 94110 (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA? What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

We visit Fort Funston, Bernal Hill and Golden Gate Park with our dog. We visit Bernal Hill daily and Fort Funston almost every weekend. We go to walk our dog, enjoy the weather and visit with friends.

2. The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation? Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area? If so, please explain why.

I feel safer walking in off-leash areas because I know the dogs are under voice command and their owners are responsible dog owners. I also feel safer in off-leash areas like Bernal Hill because there are usually a lot of people around - people I see + recognize because we all walk our dogs.

3. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

We have made many new friends through our dog walking and we often meet up with friends who have children and dogs. If there were no longer off-leash recreation in SF I would have to move out of the area.

4. Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area? Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?

Educate non-pet owners that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible and have their dogs under voice command.

Most of the people at Fort Funston + Bernal Hill are dog owners

5. San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Absolutely not! There are plenty of recreation spaces for non-dogs or on-leash dogs, but very few off-leash spaces.

Signed: Lucie Hager **RECEIVED** MAR 08 2002 Date 3-5-02 (optional: Age: 30 Sex M F Ethnicity )

I support the continuance of off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Following are my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Margaret Sand (printed)  
Address: 45 Dolores Terrace San Francisco CA 94110-1010  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

- 1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA? What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

I try to take the family dog with me at least 2 days a week. Both the dog and I have arthritis; he is 10 years old and I am 69. We both need the fresh air and the exercise. I like to take the dog with me for companionship and to ward off anyone who might bother me. For some reason he will only walk to Dolores Park with my son, but won't budge with me. But I can get him to go for a ride in the car - which is why I've found the places in #

- 2. The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation? Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area? If so, please explain why.

\*See answer to #1.  
When there are other dog owners and dogs off leash, the environment seems friendlier, there are also more people around and I feel more protected and safe. My dog doesn't usually go toward other dogs - and I usually have him carrying a tennis ball - so that he is more interested in guarding his ball from the other dogs - rather than starting a fight.

- 3. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

No it does not provide a social outlet so much, as I am new to SF and California and don't have a lot of friends.

The impact of not having off-leash areas is that I am not as apt to get out for some fresh air walks as I should. And the dog stays at home all day long getting stiffer and stiffer joints.

- 4. Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area? Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?

Continue to provide trash receptacles and plastic bag holder/dispenser in several locations in each area. For the past year I've walked my dog at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and the trail above Seal Rocks and the Boulders.

When my dog is a block from one of these places, even though he is in the car, he gets so excited when he smells the salt air. He wants to run ahead of me - but always checks to make sure I am still with him. On leash, his exuberance, at these spots pulls on my arm and back and aggravates my arthritis - so it's better if I can have him off the leash - because I can still control him with a comma

- 5. San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

NO, NO, and NO!! I really need off-leash areas!

RECEIVED

Signed: Margaret Sand Date MAR 08 2002 5/3/02 (optional: Age: 69 Sex M  F Ethnicity C)

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

3346-01-3A

S 4746 County Road B  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
February 27, 2002

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

RECEIVED  
MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of Wisconsin who was first introduced to Fort Funston about fourteen years ago by my sister and parents, who live in the Bay Area. On each of my three to four annual visits to California, I never miss an opportunity to walk the trails, clamber down the dunes, and roam the beaches at Fort Funston. In this beautiful place, the unbounded and joyful freedom I see--in the hanggliders soaring above the bluffs, in the dogs and their owners romping with such exhilaration--the heart and spirit of San Francisco, are perfectly represented. Fort Funston is one of precious few places I can think of where lengthy lists of rules and regulations do not keep everyone, dogs and people alike, on a depressingly short leash.

Given my strong sentiments about Fort Funston, I was appalled to learn that a law requiring that all dogs be leashed might soon change everything. I am writing to add my voice to those who vehemently oppose this new regulation. There are so many reasons why this new law is a bad idea.

From what I have observed, most users of Fort Funston are in fact dog owners or dog walkers. In my estimation, about 99% of them are impeccably responsible about controlling and cleaning up after their pets. The logic behind imposing a leash law on park visitors who are so law-abiding eludes me.

For some regular visitors to Fort Funston, including my own parents, being required to leash their dog would be difficult to impossible. My mom uses a manual wheelchair. For her, or a parent with a child in a stroller, trying to move along the trails and simultaneously manage a leashed dog would present a very tricky challenge.

We live in a world where too many people are weighed down by stresses of infinite varieties. I don't believe we can afford to regulate ourselves out of one of the few places where it is still possible to shed one's burdens, to enjoy being out under Nature's wide sky, and to revel freely in the companionship of a four-footed friend, whose unconditional love and loyalty are truly precious commodities.

Sincerely,

*Susan A. Thompson*

Susan A. Thompson

3347-03-1A

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 08 2002**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

March 7, 2002

Superintendent  
GGNRA, Building 201  
Fort Mason  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent:

We have a 15-month old puppy that we have been bringing to Crissey Field daily for over a year. Needless to say we are strongly in favor of maintaining the GGNRA's current voice control policy and were discouraged to read the ANPR document, the tone of which bordered on accusatory.

The ANPR document takes the position (and on this, at least, we think everyone would agree) that the most significant concern regarding off-leash pets is public safety. The document plants the logical argument that more people are visiting GGNRA parks while municipalities are increasingly restricting off-leash rights, which in turn causes more off-leash activity at GGNRA parks, thereby increasing the likelihood of, and liability for, dog-bites and other negative events. It's valid, but it's also a lifeboat mentality: local jurisdictions are shifting traffic our way so its fair game to do the reverse. Without choosing sides, reducing or eliminating off-leash areas does not serve public safety it only increases the incidence and level of aggression; dogs aren't born on a leash and socially need to interact off-leash. No one benefits by having a city full of dogs that are not well socialized on leash or off.

If public safety is the main concern than jurisdictions should stop focusing on deflecting responsibility onto some other entity, they should in fact act responsibly, as should dog owners. The city of San Francisco should be concerned about the GGNRA's presumed intentions from a safety perspective. San Francisco's current 19 designated off-leash areas are much too small to absorb the increased dog traffic that would arise if the GGNRA denied off-leash rights. We've read that there are more than 100,000 dogs in San Francisco alone. Even if only 10% of those might be of age and breed, or mixed breed, that require daily off-leash exercise, the numbers become staggering and implausible; the density that would result would cause something closer to mayhem than socialization at these 19 sites.

Page 2

Most likely, people simply wouldn't take their dogs to these locations (nor to any additional parks measured in terms of tennis courts) and the consequence would be a disturbing number of non-socialized dogs in our city.

The fact is, the GGNRA is custodian of all the coastal real estate from south of San Francisco to as far north as Olema. Although the ANPR document clearly states the GGNRA's commitment to national standards over local issues, there must be an inherent obligation to serve the immediate community. These park properties are not in remote areas like Yosemite or Yellowstone, they are in urban settings. As we understand it, the parks were transferred to the GGNRA with the understanding that off-leash privileges would be preserved and there has been significantly more than just an implicit or informal arrangement on this issue. The argument concerning Title 36: "this regulation has always applied to GGNRA and failure to apply it consistently at GGNRA does not in any way limit its applicability today", is the GGNRA's trump card and it does not ring true.

As jurisdictions increasingly reduce permissible off-leash locations, the result will be higher density and negative incidence at remaining off-leash locations and increased non-social behavior, generally. That is something no one wants. We haven't seen any studies, but it seems we are at the point where any additional closures result in observable traffic increases elsewhere. The GGNRA holds the best and greatest amount of off-leash areas, and closure would not only be a disservice to those of us who own dogs, it would be a disservice to the community as a whole. As is currently the case, the rip-tides off Ocean Beach are far more dangerous than any four-legged animals that walk on GGNRA beaches. Let's keep it that way. I would like to see the SF Parks and Recreation work more closely with the GGNRA to develop a better off-leash program that ensures a welcome environment for both those with and without dogs. It is not just a question of space; dog owners should be cited for, among other behavior, dogs straying into protected areas. For the most part we've found that owners police themselves, and collectively are quick to intercede if a dog is too aggressive or an owner is irresponsible. In some instances it could involve reconstituting designated areas. Crissey Field, for example, attracts many families with children, particularly during seasonally warm weekends. Most gravitate to the beach in front of the parking area extending to the estuary. It seems reasonable that the off-leash area begin after the estuary, especially during warmer seasons; there is plenty of space. Families that prefer no dogs can enjoy where they traditionally camp-out, while all can settle beyond the estuary with the understanding that it is an off-leash area as well.

Page 3

Dogs like people become more aggressive as they are increasingly confined, and getting rid of off-leash areas does not eliminate the risk of aggressive behavior, it heightens it. There are responsible measures we as dog owners can improve upon, as can the SF Parks and Recreation Department, but in the whole equation, the GGNRA with the lion's share of off-leash lands deserves the greatest scrutiny, particularly when the only action called for is none at all. There is a disturbingly self-righteous tone behind the ANPR document proclaiming an adherence to higher and greater national principles. We hope this is not an accurate reflection of the GGNRA and that pursuit of the "bigger picture" actually includes acknowledging and maintaining past commitments, and more importantly, serving the immediate community and not burdening it, particularly when it was this same community that entrusted the lands in question to the GGRNA to begin with.

Sincerely,



Dave Herron and Kim Ryden  
1754 Bay Street, Apt. A  
San Francisco, CA 94123

3348-01-1A

# Camille Solyagua

1455 Sixth Avenue San Francisco California 94122  
Telephone 415 661 2757 Fax 415 661 1053

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

RECEIVED  
MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

March 6, 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I cannot begin to tell you how important walking my dogs at Fort Funston is to me. It is how I ritualistically begin each day. It is such a gorgeous and peaceful place which I have enjoyed for over the past ten years. Needless to say, I am greatly dismayed at your proposed changes and feel that whatever your motives are they are misguided. Off leash dog walking is vital to the health of a dog. If they are never allowed to run freely and socialize with other dogs, problems will eventually develop both physically and socially. It is an act of cruelty to keep an animal tethered to a 3 foot leash for its entire life. You must understand the dogs are extremely important to a large percentage of the population and have been for for hundreds of years and most dog owners will go to great lengths to ensure the well being of their animals.

Furthermore, your proposed change violates an agreement with the city to keep Fort Funston as a place for recreational activity and I and many other people would support any move made to remove Fort Funston from the auspices of the GGNRA. Cooperation and understanding is required on both sides. It is never too late to open the dialogue again.

I hope you will reconsider your position.

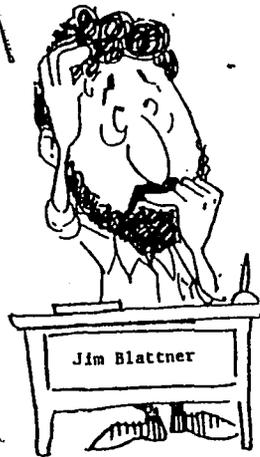
Sincerely,



Camille Solyagua

3349-02-1A

2438 Clay ST  
San Francisco, Ca 94115  
922-3284



attn: ANPK RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Supt O'Neill:

I support off-leash recreation  
for dogs in the GGNRA.

Dogs should be allowed  
in most areas of the GGNRA.

Some areas should require  
dogs to be on leash. Some  
areas should allow dogs  
off leash.

For example, at Crissey  
Field, dogs should be allowed  
on leash on paths and some beaches,  
allowed off leash on the field + some other

1/2

3349-02-1A

beaches, and not allowed  
on the beach at the  
main beach at the ~~beach~~  
South parking lot.

I note that most park  
users enjoy having well  
behaved dogs around.

off leash use continues  
an existing, pre-GGNRA  
use and should be  
allowed in lesser used, non-  
environmentally sensitive  
areas.

Sincerely,  
Joe S. Ball

I am 67, retired, and use  
GNRA areas several times  
a week.

2/2

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

3350-01-1C

Date: 3-1-02

I support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments about continuing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: FRANK MATAZZARO (optional: Age: 60 Sex: M F Ethnicity: CWB)

Address: 2285 SKYFARM DR HILLSBOROUGH CA 94012 (street) (city) (state) (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

ALL EVERY WEEK

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

2. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

YES TO BOTH

3. Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for future generations.

A MUST.

4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

I WOULD NOT USE PARK AT ALL

5. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence?

YES

Signed: Frank Matazzaro

Date: 3/1/02

3351-01-1C

RECEIVED

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

MAR 08 2002

Following are my  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Following are my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: DOMINIQUE WARBELL (printed)

Address: 357 GREENWAY DR. PACIFICA CA 94026  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

I VISIT MORI POINT (SOON TO BE A PART OF GGNRA) & FORT FUNSTON. I WOULD LIKE TO VISIT CRISSEY FIELD. I FEEL VERY SAFE AS THERE OF PEOPLE W/ DOGS IN AREAS WHERE I WOULD NOT FEEL SAFE ALONE MY WHOLE FAMILY 16+ + ~~OUR~~ EXTENDED FAMILY VISITS FORT FUNSTON & HAVE FOR OVER 25 YEARS I WOULD BE DEVASTATED TO LOOSE OFF LEASH AT BOTH PLACES

**Here are some ideas for your letter:**

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: [Signature] Date: 3/3/02 (optional: Age: 42 Sex: M Ethnicity: [initials])  
Version 2.0

MAR 08 2002

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

3352-01 -1A

I support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Following are my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: DAVID ORRIS (printed)

Address: 474 MELROSE AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94127  
 (street) (city) (state) (zip)

I support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA — particularly Fort Funston — for the following reasons:

- 1) Off-leash dogs are much less menacing than dogs on leashes who are "protecting" the space of their masters.
- 2) Many retirees walk at Fort Funston, and state that they appreciate having dogs present when they are walking. Most of these people many from Park Merced — are unable to have pets of their own and enter the "vicarious" relationship with dogs and their owners.
- 3) Dog owners are very responsible about cleaning up after their pet at Fort Funston.
- 4) Families (with children) are a vibrant part of the dog-walking community at Fort Funston.
- 5) The GGNRA should continue to honor its agreement with San Francisco to allow off-leash recreation.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

Thank you.

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite true — that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: David Orris  
Version 2.0

Date 4 March 2002 optional: Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex M F Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_  
GGNRA012637

Dear Superintendent O'Neill: 3353-01-1A

Date: 03.05.02

I support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments about continuing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Nanci Scoular (optional: Age: 44 Sex M  F Ethnicity         )  
Address: 4027 Clement St. San Francisco CA 94121  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

*Every day I visit Land's End, and make weekly trips to Fort Funston. I go to Ocean Beach at least once every 2 weeks and make very regular trips to Fort Wiley. I walk my dogs and exercise. I also meet friends with dogs and socialize.*

2. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

*Yes it is a social outlet. I enjoy the off-leash recreation areas with other dog-orientated friends and often engage in conversations with other dog lovers there.*

3. Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for future generations.

*Off-leash recreation is a MUST for as much of the GGNRA as possible. I am a dog lover and need to walk my large dogs in areas where they can run free and exercise themselves off-leash. The parks are crowded and so we need open areas like Ocean Beach and Fort Funston as designated off-leash areas.*

4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

*I would not get as much exercise. I would not be able to get together with friends and other dog lovers and my dogs would be extremely unhealthy. I work very hard and do not have time for long walks so the sheets of my dogs exercise themselves in a shorter time and more effectively when off-leash. I would not feel welcome in a city that didn't allow off-leash recreation.*

5. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence?

*Completely - my dogs are a great protection when I walk alone. Dogs are also more aggressive when on leashes.*

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date 03 05 02 GGNRA012058

*Nanci Scoular*

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

3354-01-1A

RECEIVED

Date: 03-05-02

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments about continuing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: ANDREW SCOLLAR (optional: Age: 45 Sex  M  F Ethnicity           )  
Address: 4027 CLEMENT ST, SAN FRANCISCO, CA, 94121  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

I visit Fort Miley & Lands End on a daily basis with my dogs for the purpose of exercising them. I also visit Fort Funston and Ocean Beach, also with my dogs for the purpose of exercising them with other dogs and community members.

2. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

When new to San Francisco 7 years ago, we met people through ~~dog~~ walking <sup>our dogs</sup> in areas like Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Fort Miley. <sup>dog</sup> Exercising our dogs is an ~~an~~ important part of our daily routine - twice a day (morning & evening).

3. Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for future generations.

With the absolute lack of space in San Francisco, exercising ones dogs cannot take place in ones front gardens or in the limited number of city parks. The GGNRA areas mentioned above are perfect areas for my recreation with my dogs. With the cold foggy climate along the coast, the GGNRA areas are seldom used by anyone other than dog owners.

4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

It would have a financial impact because I would have to drive to areas where I can exercise my dogs off leash. It would have a psychological impact because I love animals and I feel it is my responsibility to care for them properly - and that includes proper exercise & socialization with other dogs.

5. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence?

Definitely feel safer - dogs are a mans best friend - ~~and a~~ so I like have dogs around. It provides a better sense of security whilst walking in open areas as well as along concealed paths.

Andrew Scollar

Date 03-05-02

GGNRA 012639

3355-01-11E

Anja Finseth  
384 Curtner Ave  
Palo Alto, CA 94306

March 4, 2002

ANPR-GGNRA  
Building 201  
Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

**RECEIVED**  
**MAR 08 2002**  
**SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

Dear National Park Service,

For the record, please allow off-leash dog walking in the GGNRA. My two kids, my dog and I desperately depend on it.

But you and I know that you couldn't care less about this letter or any other letter during this public input period for your ANPR. You have shown your contempt for the process and the people by "educating" us and enforcing your new leash regulation before the process is even completed.

You don't care about the public, and why should you because, as a federal agency (which, by the way, you have no business being), Congress has given you all the power. You make the rules AND you enforce them.

You will no doubt dedicate every inch of the 74,000 acre GGNRA to your absurd idea of conservation and only an act of Congress could stop you, as you have frequently and shamelessly pointed out.

You will do so knowing that the GGNRA is not and was never intended to be another Yosemite and is in fact in the middle of an urban population which has used parts of the GGNRA for off-leash dog walking for decades without any significant impact on the environment. As a matter of fact, your outdoor gardening stint caused more damage to GGNRA land than dogs would ever do.

You will do so knowing that the land for the GGNRA was given to you by the city of San Francisco with the understanding that recreation, including off-leash recreation, was to be a priority. But deals apparently mean nothing to you.

My only hope is that one day more and more people will feel as bitter as I am now and be fed up with your broken deals, with your increasingly absurd regulations, of which the leash law is but an example, with your self-righteous agenda and with your general disregard for the people. There is a slight chance that some day there will be a backlash. I have personally seen such a backlash only once in my life on a much larger scale, in communist East Germany, with the fall of the Berlin Wall that swept away a regime that, among even more evil things, also "educated" the people in the service of their own holier-than-thou agenda.

God willing I will see such a backlash again.

Sincerely,



3356-01-1A

Florence Sarrett

437 Diamond Street  
San Francisco, California 94114

March 7, 2002

RECEIVED  
MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

GGNRA  
Bldg. 201 Fort Mason  
San Francisco CA 94123

Re: ANPR

This document does not qualify as an impartial presentation of the facts. It is so heavily weighted in favor of the Park Service as to be ludicrous.

The National Park Service knows very well that it specifically agreed to continuation of off-lead recreation as a consideration for establishment of the GGNRA, and further formalized its agreement in the 1979 Pet Policy. These two separate decisions by the Park Service are now termed a "mistake" and the Park Service imputes grave error to previous employees and government lawyers in allowing 30 years of off-lead recreation in the GNRA. Such a maneuver is nothing more than "bait and switch," a practice we normally do not expect from our government or its civil servants.

There is ample space to allow for traditional off-lead recreation as it has been enjoyed for generations; the land in question comprises only one-half of one percent of the total area of this *recreation* area. The entire Bay Area is densely populated, and in San Francisco 25% of households include one or more dogs. For many citizens, off-lead play and recreation constitute both their social life and their physical exercise. Under these conditions, sequestering 74,000 acres from their use is unconscionable. Plenty of land is available in the GGNRA for cultivating native plants and encouraging wildlife. But the beaches and bluffs and parks immediately adjacent to the city should and must remain available to all.



Florence Sarrett

3357-01-1A

PHIL AND LINDA MYHRE  
601 Van Ness Avenue, #442  
San Francisco, CA 94106  
(415) 771-3073

March 6, 2002

RECEIVED  
MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is being written to request that the Crissy Field area of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area be kept open to dogs off leash. Dog owners have used this area for many years. In all of our visits to this area with our dog, we have found it to be extremely clean and all the dogs well behaved. It is the only area in San Francisco where dogs can play in the water, chase Frisbees, and play with their owners without the encumbrance of leashes. It would be a shame to close this area to off leash dogs.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Yours very truly,

  
Phil and Linda Myhre

3358-01-3B

March 6, 2002

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

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 08 2002**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

I am writing to cast my vote to keep and expand off leash dog walking in our GGNRA park system.

Sincerely,

Susan Wong

3359-01-1C

40 Palm Court  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
March 7, 2002

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

**RECEIVED**

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Sirs:

The Bay Area needs more off-leash areas, not fewer. The 1979 Citizen's Advisory Commission pet policy should be kept or the off-leash area expanded, not eliminated.

The Bay Area is, in general, already a very pet-hostile environment compared to many other areas, even urban areas. Population pressure in the Bay Area has crowded out pet recreation areas, which are essential for both pets and their owners. Dogs need to be able to sprint, to play fetch, to swim, just as people need exercise. As with people, exercise makes for a longer, healthier life. An active dog cannot get the kind of exercise he or she needs while on leash.

People who do not want to be around off-leash dogs can choose from a multitude of recreation areas. People who want to play and run free with their dogs are down to a handful of places left. Please do not reduce that number even further.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Bonnie Linde

3360 - 01 - 1A

March 7, 2002  
Lisa Nagel  
131 Belvedere St.  
San Francisco, CA. 94117  
(415) 664-0660

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Pet Management (ANPR)  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Franklin & Bay St.s Bldg 201  
San Francisco, CA. 94123

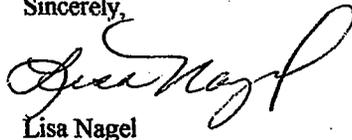
To whom it may concern: .....

This letter is to address the dogs off-leash issue in San Francisco, currently being considered by the GGNRA. As a responsible dog owner and property owner in San Francisco I very much advocate open space to run and play with my dogs. There are so few places left where we can even play fetch or run free.

Please do not let the spaces that we do have be taken away. (1979 Citizens Advisory Commission of the GGNRA implemented a Pet Policy allowing people to walk off-leash dogs in certain areas) We have enjoyed for decades living in this urban environment because we have open spaces, Ocean Beach, Crissy Field, Fort Funston, and Baker Beach have all been favorite areas for our kids and our dogs.

We the San Franciscan voters urge the importance of letting the Pet Policy stand to allow us a few of the freedoms that made us move here in the first place.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Sincerely,



Lisa Nagel

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

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MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

March 7, 2002

Dear Sir,

I am writing regarding the issue of pet management in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I am struck by the reference, in the National Park Services ANPR document, to "all the people of the United States." The Park Service seems to believe that these "people" are the true owners of the National Park System. I agree! I am an eighth generation American, a San Francisco native, and a voter. I have always voted an environmental ticket. I have always believed in preserving the natural areas of this country. I also believe that it is my right to enjoy these areas with due respect. My primary and most enthusiastic outdoor companion is my dog. I am now dismayed to find that I can no longer enjoy our local open spaces with my canine friend. I am being made to feel like a criminal for playing fetch or running on the beach. There are now no beaches in the Marin and San Francisco area where we can run. Why? Because they are controlled by the National Parks. My parks. Are they really mine? I am now having to rethink my voting patterns.

Please, I am a woman who cannot walk alone on remote trails or beaches for safety reasons. My dog is well behaved and comes when called. I am asking you to reopen those areas listed in your document which allowed off-leash dogs under voice control under the 1979 GGNRA recommended pet policy. It is a small (0.5%) percentage of your land.

Here are some of my recommendations:

1. Reopen all 1979 Pet Policy areas for off leash use.
2. Require that people pick up after their dogs providing bags and disposal areas.
3. Keep the San Francisco parks such as Crissy Field Beach and Fort Funston open to off leash use.

4. Make the Marin Headlands trails more user friendly allowing "loops" and continuous trails. For example: open Alta Avenue to dogs to make it possible to go from Marin City Trail to Oakwood Valley Trail. Open Morning Sun Trail and connectors to dogs to make it possible to hike from Sausalito to Rodeo beach. Some sensitive areas could be leash only to connect to other voice controlled areas. (Perhaps all of this would be accomplished by reinstating the 1979 policy.)

5. Allow dogs to be off leash on Rodeo Beach on the ocean side of the dune crest away from the lagoon area.

6. The Humane Society and SPCA could provide an off leash class for people and their dogs. On successful completion the dogs could receive a permit to walk off leash.

7. If there are areas with wild animals who would be disturbed at certain times of day, such as dawn and dusk, leashes could be required during those hours.

8. Finally, I ask you to think about what you are restricting:

Retrievers cannot chase balls.

"Waterdogs" cannot swim.

Sighthounds cannot run.

Puppies cannot be properly socialized.

Disabled people cannot exercise their dogs.

Elderly people cannot enjoy walking their young dogs.

I thank you for reading this letter and considering my thoughts on this important issue.

Sincerely,

*Christina Strelova*

Christina Strelova  
94 Cloudview Road  
Sausalito, CA 94965

cc:

Senator Dianne Feinstein

Senator Barbara Boxer

Representative Lynn Woolsey

SFDOG

Date: 3/7/02

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

RECEIVED

MAR 08 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:

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)

Clinton Jones (name)

1398 McAllister St. (address)

San Francisco, CA 94115

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

3363-01-1A

Date: 3/7/02

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

RECEIVED  
MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

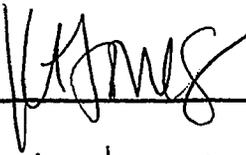
As a response to the National park Service ANPR intended to solicit comments from the public regarding pet management within the GGNRA:

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)

Kimberly Jones (name)

1398 McAllister St. (address)

SF, CA 94115

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

3364-01-1B

March 6, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Re: Dog Regulations

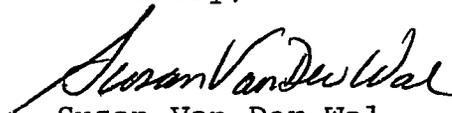
I strongly support any proposed rulemaking for pet management in the GGNRA and a 12-acre clousre at Fort Funston. I also support more stringent leash requirements and enforcement due to the volume of use, public safety, the negative impact on wildlife and vegetation. The tremendous increase of people with dogs, some own 2-3 and many of these people are very self-centered and nasty when requested to leash or control their dog; they aren't concerned about the natural resources. I have seen where "voice control" does not work where most dogs are untrained. There are also trained vicious dogs with their owners.

I live in Inverness which borders PRNS/Tomales Bay State Park/ GGNRA is nearby. I am a volunteer for the PRNS as a marine mammal surveyor and I see what happens to the mammals and birds with unleashed dogs with people ignoring "leash your dogs" signs. Vegetation is trampled; I witnessed a local's dog out at one of the beaches kill a garter snake - I was too far away to stop it. The dog owners have brought these regulations to top priority - more of everything brings more stringent and enforced laws. You must do this.

Please do not have my name given in case this letter is read or written as part of public comment.

Good luck and keep up the good but hard work.

Sincerely,



Susan Van Der Wal  
PO Box 264  
Inverness, CA 94937

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

RECEIVED

I support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) and I would like to share my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Name: SUSAN TURBIN (printed)Address: 125 VIA LERIDA, GREENBRAE, CA 94904  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

I take my dog to Ft. Funston every weekend. It is not only one of the few places dogs can enjoy off-leash, it is also a beautiful open space with plenty of room for everyone. I would like to see Crissy Field become off-leash as well. When S.F. transferred its beaches and parks to GGNRA, off-leash activities were included in the activities to be allowed in these areas. How can the GGNRA now reverse this agreement? Let off-leash dogs + people enjoy the GGNRA areas as intended.

**Here are some ideas for your letter:**

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Susan Turbin  
Version 2.0Date: 3/4/02

(optional: Age: \_\_\_\_\_)

Sex M F Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_

GGNRA012651

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

3366-01-1A

Date: 3/7/02

I support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments about continuing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Michelle + Sean Tobin (optional: Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex M F Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_)

Address: 400 38<sup>th</sup> Ave San Francisco CA 94121  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

We take our dog to the beach (~~San~~ Ocean, Mania Green) everyday. We allow our dog to run with the other dogs to play and tire him out.

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

2. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

We have met a lot of friends through walking and dog. We meet several couples every weekend so the dogs can play together.

3. Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for future generations.

I think it is extremely important for dogs to be off-leash and to socialize with other dogs. Dogs need to run and get exercise. Could the Park Service make hours for off-leash say 7 AM - 10 AM and 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Very few people are at the beaches in San Francisco.

4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

We have a 10 month old child and another baby on the way. Without our dog daily runs with friends she would be very hyper and destructive in the house.

5. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence?

I feel perfectly safe with off-leash dogs. All owners I have ever run into are very respectful of other people. The Park Area.

Signed: Michelle Tobin

Date: 3/7/02

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Following are my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Doriane Heyman (printed)  
 Address: 35 Citrus Court Hillsborough CA 94010  
 (street) (city) (state) (zip)

For dogs to be well-behaved it is vital that they are socialized with other dogs, running freely. Without socializing they tend to become more aggressive. Besides they need the exercise.

Fort Funston is one of the few areas remaining for dogs to be off-leash.

I have been enjoying the Fort Funston area for many years and hope to be able to continue to do so - with my dog off-leash.

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

**Here are some ideas for your letter:**

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
- Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Doriane Heyman  
 Version 2.0

Date March 2, 2002 (optional: Age: 65 Sex M F Ethnicity CA  
 GGNRA 12653

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

MAR 08 2002

I support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Following are my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: BONNIE WEISER (printed)

Address: 2786 BRYANT SAN FRANCISCO CA 94110  
 (street) (city) (state) (zip)

As a mother, and now a grandmother who is also a dog owner for many years, I would like to encourage the GGNRA to provide areas which meet the needs of all San Franciscans. That would mean providing areas for families to play with their dogs. Some of my son's fondest memories (A mine too) are warm afternoons at the beach throwing balls into the ocean & watching our dog retrieve them. I would like to be able to provide those memories for my new grandson some day soon, without worrying about being arrested. Please consider providing areas where this will be possible.

**Here are some ideas for your letter:**

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
- The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
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- Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
- Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. **Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area?** Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
- San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed: Bonnie Weiser  
Version 2.0

Date 3/5/02 (optional: Age: 55 Sex M  F Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_)

3369-01-16

Thomas Sabel  
1252 Sharon Park Drive  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

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

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to oppose enforcement of leash laws at Chrissie Field. I understand that significant restoration has occurred there. But certain areas, especially the far beach area, should be able to be used peacefully by dogs and their owners. Enforcement actions can take place if the dogs are allowed to run in the sensitive, restored areas. But the far beach should be left for dogs and their owners to walk and exercise; dog owners should be able to responsibly use some open spaces in the Bay Area.

Sincerely,



**RECEIVED**  
MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

~~336~~ 3370-01-10

Superintendent Brian O'Neill  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Fort Mason  
Building 201  
San Francisco, California 94123

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

6 March 2002

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

I would like to comment on the proposed rulemaking for appropriate pet management in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

I feel that the primary consideration should be that the Golden Gate National Recreation Area should not implement a unique set of regulations different from every other National Park. Disregarding Service regulations in one instance can imply that other regulations can be relaxed or disregarded. This implies that the regulations vary depending on the administrator or supervisor in charge of a given Park. Additionally, visitors to a National Park should expect to follow the same rules here as they do in others.

I have been visiting the Marin Headlands and Fort Funston for over 20 years. It is astounding how many more people visit these areas today than in years past. The Tennessee Valley parking lot frequently becomes full by 10 a.m. on the weekends.

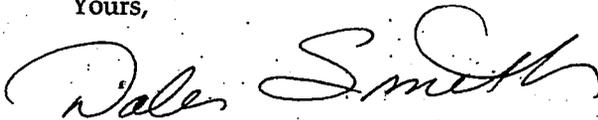
20 years ago there were very few dogs on the cliffs of Fort Funston; they were on the beach. I started removing iceplant from the base of the cliffs as a volunteer with Gary Mott. We started at the north end of the cliffs near what is left of the parking lot. It was revolting work because of all the dog feces in the iceplant. We have restored much of the back dunes on the top of the cliffs and it has become apparent that excessive dog roaming has had a negative impact on the vegetation. In some areas the iceplant doesn't even survive!

I have been growled at, threatened and bitten by loose dogs. I have been harassed by the owners. I also have observed some walkers to be unable to control their dogs, even when on a leash. If my children were little I would be afraid to bring them to Fort Funston for their safety.

One weekday not long ago, I was in Tennessee Valley (which, by the way, does *not* enforce the leash law, contrary to the Federal Register). I watched a coyote hunt for brunch, not more that 300 feet from the road. People quickly gathered to watch the animal, who had no interest in or fear of us. There were no dogs present. I doubt we would have had such a wonderful experience if there were. Dogs reduce the quality and variety of wildlife experiences people can have in the Park, not to mention degrading the natural resources.

It is the Parks' mandate to preserve and protect the historical sites and their scenery and wildlife therein for all to enjoy and preserve them for future generations, not just a few who are indifferent to their surroundings. Enforce the federal laws as other Parks do so that more people can have enriching experiences without fear in the Park.

Yours,



Dale Smith



510-841-2115  
2935 OTIS STREET  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94703  
DALE SMITH

GGNRA012656

8

3371-02-1A

Janet Fowler  
434 Hoffman Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94114  
March 6, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

I strongly support the healthy, wholesome, and easily accessible activity of off-leash dog walking at Fort Funston and other GGNRA areas in San Francisco where residents take their dogs in their simple pursuits of happiness.

I am a native of the Bay Area and have lived in San Francisco since 1968, and during my first twenty years here I lived across the street from Ocean Beach. So it is that I remember the assurances made by the GGNRA that San Franciscans would benefit by giving its coastal areas to the GGNRA to be maintained in a way that would be harmonious with the needs of the people who reside in this wonderful urban area.

About a year ago, I started using the Fort Funston area to walk the dogs of a friend who was hospitalized and very seriously ill. I could not have given her dogs (along with my little dog) the type of exercise they require had they been on leash. In fact, I could not have handled the tangle of leashes. Now, my friend is once again able to take her dogs to Fort Funston herself. However, she's still very weak and, on several occasions, when she has had to leash her dogs (due to your "education efforts"), she has fallen. The most important thing about my friend's trips out to Fort Funston (to give her dogs what they need) is the improvement it has made in her health and stamina. My friend says, "My dogs are the only enjoyment I have left."

On a fine, sunny day at Fort Funston, you will see a lot of urbanites who don't have the means or ability to leave the City to go backpacking in the Trinities, skiing in the Sierras, or camping in Yosemite. There are elderly people who meander slowly along the paths as their dogs sprint around them. I've seen people with disabilities walking their dogs as they are supported by a son or daughter. I've seen people in wheelchairs taking their dogs for an unleashed walk, the only kind of walk they can take with their dogs. You will see mothers with strollers and kids and the family pet, all enjoying themselves together. You will see people who don't have dogs, but enjoy looking at them and playing with them. You will also see that there is a community of people who know each other only from their walks. When I walked my friend's dogs, there was a wonderful outpouring of concern for my friend. Although, I didn't know any of these people, they knew my friend's dogs. The greetings from this special community were very important to my friend's recovery. There are a lot of people who share special bonds only because of their walks with their dogs.

1/2

Recreation is important for both mental and physical health (of people and dogs). When I read the GGNRA ANPR, I was totally baffled at how the following could be a reason to halt off-leash dog walking: "The park has experienced increased use of the area for off leash dogs, and, as a result, there is increased conflict and potential for conflict between other user groups and dogs and their owners, as well as heightened sensitivity on the part of the visiting public." The report goes on to mention a lawsuit brought by off-leash dog walkers who were seeking to prevent the closures of off-leash dog walking areas. **How can increased use of off-leash dog walking areas mean anything other than an increased need to provide such areas?**

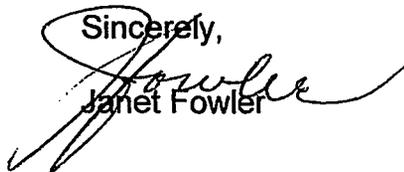
It is clear from reading the ANPR that the GGNRA has ignored the "R" in its abbreviation. The GGNRA's lack of sensitivity to the need for urban recreation is underscored by its efforts "to meet NPS mandates as outlined in the 2001 NPS Management Policies." The following mandate is cited in the ANPR:

*The fundamental purpose of all parks also includes providing for the enjoyment of park resources and values by the people of the United States. The "enjoyment" that is contemplated by the statute is broad; it is the enjoyment of all the people of the United States, not just those who visit parks, and so includes enjoyment both by people who directly experience parks and by those who appreciate them from afar. It also includes deriving benefit (including scientific knowledge) and inspiration from parks, as well as other forms of enjoyment.*  
(2001 NPS Management Policies, Section 1.4.3)

I suggest that the GGNRA take a close-up look at what I and many others enjoy (not from afar) about Fort Funston. First of all, our coastal area was never covered by lovely and diverse native plants as in suggested in the ANPR. It was covered with sand, sand, and more sand. But, amazingly, trees have taken root over the sand-covered bunkers, and the iceplant, which takes root so well anywhere, has covered the sand fields, helping to stabilize the sand and keep it from blowing over the highway. Gophers, lots of them, make tunnels below the iceplant. Stately hawks roost surreptitiously in the tree branches, watching for gophers, lots of them. Hummingbirds sometimes swarm around blossoming trees. There are a lot of birds that enjoy the area (not from afar). And then there are the diverse people and the diverse dogs...coexisting beautifully with the diverse wildlife and the hearty plants.

I urge the GGNRA to focus on the needs of the people who entrusted their land to its agency. Please allow off-leash dog walking.

Sincerely,

  
Janet Fowler

3372-01-1A

March 7, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Att: NAPR  
Fort Mason; Building 201  
San Francisco, California 94123

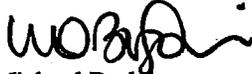
RECEIVED  
MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear ANPR:

I am writing to you as a humanist, a dog owner, and a citizen of San Francisco for the past nineteen years. I am urging you to support off-leash dog walking at Crissy Field. In order to raise happy, healthy, well adjusted pets it is imperative that our dogs have the opportunity to run off-leash. San Francisco has always been a city that represents tolerance, freedom, and diversity. I have no idea what the statistics of dog owners are in our incredible city, but I am aware that we are a community of dog lovers.

Three seasons a year I regularly take my dog to Crissy Field for fun and frolicking after work and on weekends. This activity has become a regular part of my lifestyle and by observation I can say, many others. I can't imagine rulemaking that would limit my freedom to run and play with my dog off-leash in a public park such as Crissy Field. Our parks are for everyone to enjoy. Don't punish responsible pet owners (and their pets) because of selfish acts and narrow mindedness of few others. Crissy Field is a jewel of nature in San Francisco which can and should be used and enjoyed by all. Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Michael Bodziner  
585 Laurel Street  
San Francisco, California 94118

3373-01-1A

LORI N. SMOLINSKI

March 4, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

To whom it may concern

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I understand and respect the GGNRA's concerns about off-leash pets. As a long-term citizen of San Francisco, I urge you not to rescind the "1979 off-leash policy". I am a dog owner and firmly believe that my dog's off-leash activity is essential to her well being. She is well socialized, due to her interaction with other dogs and does not show any signs of aggression. I do believe that under stimulation can lead to behavior problems in dogs. I currently visit one of the GGNRAs at least three times a week.

It is my understanding that San Francisco intended off-leash dog walking as an activity to be considered when they gave the parklands to the NPS. San Franciscans were assured that traditional recreational uses would continue, which includes off-leash dog walking.

The GGNRA is unique in that it is an urban park and not a traditional wilderness preserve. Though I appreciate and value the NPS's commitment to maintaining the wildlife in our national parks, I do not believe that this should be the sole consideration in the GGNRAs. Within the 75,000 acres of park land there must be enough space to accommodate everyone's recreational needs. I understand the need to limit off-leash activity in some areas, but do not believe that banning it entirely is fair to the dog owners of this city. Currently, I believe off-leash dog walking is permitted in .5% of the 75,000 acres of GGNRA. That does not seem excessive considering there are 120,000+ dogs residing in this city.

I urge you **NOT TO RESCIND** the 1979 off-leash policy! Please be fair, and consider all San Franciscans.

Sincerely,



Lori N. Smolinski

I support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments ~~about continuing~~ <sup>received</sup> off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Jennifer Platt (optional: Age: MAR 08 2002 Sex: M  F Ethnicity:                     )  
Address: 2793 Golden Gate Ave (street) San Francisco (city) CA (state) 94118 (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

I visit daily Fort Funston, my main activity there is to exercise myself and my dog - ~~mentally~~ <sup>mentally</sup> and socially. On occasion Lands End, Baker Beach, Clissy Field, The benefits in general are I am a better citizen and my dog is too. This has changed over the years on the reduction of dog-friendly spaces in San Francisco.

2. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

My off-leash dog walking is a major social outlet for me. Over the 7 years, I have made many new friends through this activity. During our walks we discuss many local issues, make contacts for jobs, home repair and even dates. As a home owner, parent, and full time worker - it is an important part of my day to be able to get out, discuss issues with others, get fresh air, and exercise my dog.

3. Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for generations.

Yes, areas of GGNRA should be off-leash, these are urban recreation areas and urban needs include dog exercise and socializing. ~~Some~~ Areas like Ft. Funston which are not "set-up" for picnicking, handicaps, young children, i.e. no water, bbqs, bathrooms, paved trails should allow off-leash, other portions of GGNRA with lawns, tables, easier parking, toilets etc... then could have designated off-leash areas within the parks. Word of mouth as a "good" place will be its own preservation.

4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

Yes, I feel the biggest impact would be on my dog - without being able to run, interact with known & unknown dogs and people - she at home would become more agitated, territorial, and lose physical and mental strength - which I fear could lead to more aggressive behaviour towards neighbors, mail persons, P&E, other tenants, etc... and shorten her life expectancy.

5. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence?

Safety around the dogs is not an issue for me, the issue is the safety around the dog owners/handlers and because these are public lands ~~whether~~ whether or not the dog is leashed doesn't affect ~~my~~ my safety if the person is ~~an~~ inconsiderate. My other fear is harassment of park police.

Signed: Jennifer Carol Platt Date: 7 March 2

Perhaps "offleash" times, would be a possible solution

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

3375-01-1A

I support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments about continuing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Karl Shibayama (optional: Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: M F Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_)

Address: 379 Joost Ave San Francisco CA 94131  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

Between Crissy Field and Fort Funston I probably enjoy visiting these parks at least once or twice a week. Before my dog Bo I never would've been out there so much, but I love it out there, and enjoy the fresh air, people, beauty, exercise, and wonderful dog friends that we meet. The threat of citations has added much tension, I think the rangers could better spend their time educating and reprimanding bad or damaging behavior rather than just handing out tickets.

2. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet u with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

I've made many new friends and often meet friends at the parks. It's been a great new part of my life, and I'd hate to see it go away because of uncompromising politics and viewpoints. This city has great natural resources but they are limited. We need to find a way to work together and share them so everyone has a chance to enjoy them.

3. Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for f generations.

I already see fenced off areas in Fort Funston and Crissy Field. I have no problem with this as long as there are other parts that are off leash. I think the fenced off areas could easily be expanded if done creatively with thoughtful planning, without having a negative effect on dog users. The key would be education and not tolerating bad behavior. There

4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA? could be also

Most of the benefits mentioned in points one and two would be lost. **RECEIVED** fragile areas where human may hike b not dogs.

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

5. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence?

Of course I feel safer in the presence of off-leash dogs. As most people know, dogs that have more opportunity to exercise and socialize are better behaved and a benefit to people and society. That's why I can't understand why anyone would want to create an environment that causes more harmful problems than it resolves.

Signed: [Signature] Date: 3/6/2002

people and animals can coexist with nature, I think it's a part of their nature, maybe, more so with dogs than with humans.

[Signature]

I support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments about continuing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Mai Shibayama (optional: Age: 30 Sex: M (F) Ethnicity: Asian)  
Address: 1785 Divisadero St San Francisco CA 94115  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

I love Crissy Field, Golden Gate Park and Fort Funston the most. I take my dog out there at least 2-3 times a week and we enjoy all the beauty and trails they have to offer. Lately I feel suffocated because of the rangers strolling around handing out unnecessary tickets. I cannot enjoy our free time that my dog and I can share together as much.

2. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

Yes! It is definitely a social activity for everyone! We also learn from each other as well such as being a more responsible dog owner and just getting along with new people and cultures. Ever since Sept. 11th I truly feel that we've all learned how to help one another and make more friends all the way through the off-leash social activity.

3. Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for future generations.

I believe that off-leash rec is appropriate just as long as we can all work together and share our parks. I know that there are areas blocked off already and I understand why. There is plenty of room for all of us just as long as we are responsible dog owners. My suggestion would be to keep the areas that you would like preserved blocked off yet still have off-leash areas marked. Maybe a few more signs could be put up which designate the certain areas.

4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

Basically if all parks have no more off-leash privileges, then my life would be a boring, living hell without any social activity and just NO FUN! My doggy and I look forward to spending time with our friends where we can run and play.

5. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence?

I feel safe with the presence of dogs with their responsible owners by their side, regardless of any leash.

Signed: Mai Shibayama

mail by 3/9

RECEIVED 3/6/02

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE  
GNRA 12663

3377-0151A

RECEIVED

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

MAR 08 2002

I support off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Following are my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Daniel Lang (printed)
Address: 1685 7th Ave SF CA 94122
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

Dear GGNRA

I & my wife walk our dog at Fort Funston often, and it is truly one of the most "San Francisco" things residents here can do. The community comes alive. People are friends enjoying in various activities. Last week I saw 2 brother who are quadriplegic at Fort Funston, enjoying the landscape, people & dogs. I am a minority, & the Park Service's concern of off-leash laws alienating the minority group is unfounded.

Here are some ideas for your letter:

- What parts of the GGNRA do you visit now? Where would you LIKE to visit if off-leash was permitted?
• The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite true - that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation?
• Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area?
• Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?
• Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas a good use of this recreation area? Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?
• San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

Signed:
Version 2.0

[Signature]

Date

3/6/02

(optional: Age: 31)

Sex M

Ethnicity A

GGNRA012664

Dear Superintendent O'Neill: 3378-01-1D

I support the continuance of off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Following are my comments on this activity as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Karl Olson (printed)  
Address: 5511 Mamila Ave (street) Oakland (city) CA (state) 94618 (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA? What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

GG Park visited monthly, for walks. Great place to relax within the city.

2. The Park Service has stated that children, the elderly, racial and cultural minorities, and people with disabilities may avoid areas with off-leash dogs. Can you give personal examples where the opposite is true – that these groups seek off-leash areas for their recreation? Do you feel safer when walking in an off-leash area? If so, please explain why.

RECEIVED  
MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

3. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity? What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

Yes.

Yes

4. Since the early 1900's, off-leash dog recreation has been a primary usage of some areas now within the GGNRA. Do you think that continuing to make off-leash recreation available in these areas is a good use of this recreation area? Do you have suggestions as to how the GGNRA can make off-leash areas more enjoyable for everyone?

Yes - keep areas available and open.

5. San Francisco transferred its beaches and parks to the GGNRA with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. Do you think the GGNRA should be allowed to renege on this part of its agreement with San Francisco?

No

Signed: Karl Olson Date 3/6/02 (optional: Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex M F Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_)

3379-02-1A

March 5, 2002

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANRP

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

**Subject: Off-Leash Dogs at Crissy Field**

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

I would like to express my support of the current policy of allowing dogs off-leash at Crissy Field. As resident of San Francisco for over 20 years and owner of a Labrador retriever, I hope that you will consider the necessity of preserving open space for off-leash dogs for several reasons:

- **Health:** Larger dogs often suffer from joint ailments, which makes running on pavement and hard surfaces difficult. The grass and especially sand at Crissy Field enable dogs to run and jump on softer ground and help to prevent common, yet costly, hip and shoulder injuries.
- **Activity:** Dogs, like people, rely on diet and exercise to maintain in good shape. Responsible dog owners exercise their active dogs daily so that dogs are healthy, fit, and relaxed. Most dogs need to exercise outdoors to burn off energy, which helps to prevent destructive behavior at home.
- **Socialization:** Dogs that are well-socialized with other dogs and strangers are friendly, unlikely to bite, and relaxed in new surroundings. Crissy Field offers a safe and inviting environment for socializing young dogs and exposing them to the outdoors and water. The majority of dogs are well-trained and under voice control of their owners. Crissy Field is a large area that accommodates dogs that want to run and play as well as those that want to be left alone to walk alongside their owners.
- **Space:** San Francisco's dog parks are small and often fenced, with space limited and confined. Dogs are known pack animals, and within these boundaries, dogs establish rank with other dogs upon first encounter. Dogs that play less aggressively or are quiet, shy, or small, seem to be uneasy or intimidated in these areas. The dogs we encounter at Crissy Field and Baker Beach are generally less aggressive and domineering than the dogs in the City's dog parks. In addition, these parks often are muddy and unclean.

3379-02-1A

- **Water:** Many dogs, including my Labrador retriever, love wading and swimming. The calm waters and easy tides of Crissy Field make it the best swimming area for dogs in the City. The beaches are cold, and the surf is high and rough. My dog has been swept out to sea and swum with difficulty to reach shore.
- **Joy:** A day with my dog at Crissy Field is one of the pleasures of my life. I walk knowing that my dog is healthy, active, and playful and that I am privileged to enjoy such vast and beautiful surroundings as Crissy Field with my fellow urbanites.

I understand the concern that Crissy Field does not have enough space to accommodate dogs and people. Responsible owners do not allow their dogs to run amok or harass others. The space can be enjoyed by both well-trained people and dogs. Responsible owners pick up after their dogs and make sure that others do so as well. I have not hesitated to offer a bag to another owner. Dog owners have an interest in protecting the natural resources of Crissy Field; we, too, want to enjoy and preserve one of the City's greatest treasures. It is in the best interest of the City and its residents to allow everyone equal and unrestricted access to Crissy Field.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope you will decide to keep Crissy Field's an off-leash area for dogs.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Chan

563 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94118

415.951.7134

P.S. Our personal plea: Our Labrador retriever is almost two years old, with her first year having been spent in obedience training courses in private and public facilities located throughout San Francisco. She has been socialized with other pups and people, and we continue to reinforce basic and intermediate commands. Her activities consist of daily walks around the neighborhood and Golden Gate Park, bi-weekly visits to Crissy Field, and occasional visits to Baker Beach, Mountain Lake dog park, and Stern Grove. It is our preference, and undoubtedly hers, to come to Crissy Field.

3380-01-1A

1966 48th Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94116

March 4, 2002

Dear Sir or Madam:

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

In accordance with the ANPR process, I'm writing this letter to request that off leash dog walking remain legal at Fort Funston.

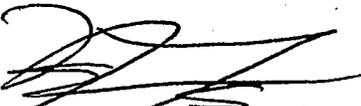
When San Francisco gave this land to your trust, it was stipulated that off-leash dog walking remain one of the primary uses of this land. Please do not renege. Dogs are allowed off leash in certain national parks to assist in the hunting and killing of wildlife. All we ask is that our closely knit community be able to enjoy this small bit of land, while allowing our dogs the chance to exercise and socialize with their own kind.

I recognize that the large number of dogs that use this land may create extra maintenance needs. If this is true, why not create a reasonable per dog fee? This could end up an unexpected boon for the Park Service.

Finally, I sincerely hope this ANPR process is being enacted in good faith by the Park Service. As you've already accepted UN funding to turn our Golden Gate National Recreation Area into a Biosphere Reserve, I have my doubts.

Please prove my distrust of the Park Service to be unfounded and preserve the over 25-year-long tradition of off -leash dog walking at Fort Funston.

Sincerely,



Norma Tennis  
415.731.2661

3381-02-1A

March 1, 2002

Superintendent O'Neill  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

I am writing to express my strong support for allowing off-leash dog walking in designated areas of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I am a disabled older American who finds great joy in having the opportunity to explore the GGNRA with the companionship of dogs and the community of dog-walkers.

My husband and I spend extended periods of time in San Francisco with my daughter, her partner and two dogs. One of our great pleasures is to be able to take the dogs for a walk. Because of my disabilities, it is impossible for me and my husband to take the dogs on leashed walks. I have limited vision, arthritic hands, and poor mobility, so my husband needs his hands free to help me walk. Because our daughter's dogs are well-trained, we can be confident that they will stay near us and respond to our commands. Enjoying the dogs' explorations when I can no longer explore so well on my own gives me tremendous vicarious satisfaction.

One of the hardest things about being disabled is the feeling of inadequacy that results from being unable to do what seem to be the simplest things. Being able to take the dogs for a walk, without having to be accompanied by my daughter, makes me feel competent and useful. Even cleaning up after the dogs provides a certain level of satisfaction - we carry our poop bags with pride.

Some might think that my physical limitations might make me nervous about being around unleashed dogs. Actually, since my husband is able to hang onto me instead of onto a leash, I feel pretty secure! I don't have to worry about not being able to see entangling leashes, and I can see well enough to make out the forms of the dogs. The dogs spend most of their time at a bit of distance from us, so that I feel safer in an off-leash area than I do walking down the sidewalk with leashed dogs. It has also been my experience that if I do stumble or become short of breath, there are many people around who are quick to offer a hand.

The community of people we have encountered while walking dogs is an extremely warm and supportive one. People who would never talk to each other otherwise get into friendly conversation because of their dogs. This is particularly important to us, as visitors from out of town who don't know many people. We have had long conversation with other older people who thrive on the social outlet that dog-walking provides.

1/2

3381-02-1A

The opportunity to walk dogs off-leash is important to this disabled older American's mental, physical, and social well-being. Please take people like me into account when you consider plans for off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. The Recreation Area is large, the area we use is small, the importance to us is great. Thank you for your consideration.

*Helga K. Fuchs-Orth*

Helga K. Fuchs-Orth  
c/o Annette Huddle  
305 Meritcalm St.  
San Francisco, CA 94110

March 5, 2002

Superintendent O'Neill  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Superintendent:

I am writing in support of the continuance of off-leash recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA).

The GGNRA is a remarkable tract of public land, providing essential recreational opportunities for a highly populated urban area, as well as for visitors from around the country. As most environmentalists recognize, the best hope for protection of natural landscapes lies in reducing the impact of urban sprawl. When people concentrate in cities, less land is lost to roads, homes, and fences. However, cities must provide for the needs of their inhabitants. Livable cities provide infrastructure, housing and appropriate recreational opportunities for their citizens. As a result, these citizens are willing to live in smaller homes, rely more on public transportation, and have a smaller footprint on the land than suburban dwellers.

When the City of San Francisco transferred its parks and beaches to the GGNRA, it was done with the understanding that existing activities, including off-leash recreation, would continue. This hardly seems unreasonable, given that the land was designated a "Recreation Area" rather than a "National Park." A policy for off-leash recreation was developed with citizen input that worked well for decades. City dwellers have been able to meet their recreational needs and the GGNRA has gained an active and involved constituency. But now the changing priorities within the park administration threaten this long-standing relationship. I believe this is extremely short-sighted and counterproductive to the environmental values many of us share.

I have two dogs, and I pride myself on being a responsible dog owner. My responsibilities are to the community that I am a part of as well as to my dogs. My dogs are well-trained, socialized, licensed, and micro-chipped. I clean up after them and after other dogs as well, although for the most part I have found the dog-owning citizenry of San Francisco to be way ahead of citizens of other areas! As a city dweller, I do not have a large yard where my dogs can run in order to get the exercise they need, so I rely on off leash opportunities in nearby parks and public lands. Of course, this is not simply a chore for me - being with my dogs as they roam is a real pleasure. By paying attention to my dogs as they explore I have come to be a more careful observer and participant in the natural world, even such as it is in our altered urban landscape. And there is no denying that significant portions of the GGNRA have been altered by humans. Why not protect the least altered areas and designate the more altered areas for recreational uses?

3382-02-1A

Off-leash recreation will continue to be a priority for me no matter what happens in the GGNRA. I dread the thought of having to drive to the East Bay every time I want to enjoy legal off-leash recreation, but I will if that becomes my only option. I suppose I could move to the suburbs so I could have a larger yard, but I certainly hope I will never feel the need to go as far as one of my coworkers, who has bought 20 acres of land in the countryside so she can fence it off and have a place for her dogs to run legally. Continuing to allow off-leash recreation in small portions of the GGNRA will support broader environmental goals by helping keep an urban area livable, reducing traffic congestion and pollution, and reducing habitat destruction from urban sprawl.

It is essential that policy makers take into account that the Golden Gate National Recreation Area is a park in an urban area. It is not a Yosemite or Yellowstone. It was created with recreation as an expectation, not an afterthought. The citizens who turned over these lands to the federal government deserve to have their concerns taken seriously. Please undertake rule-making to allow continued off-leash recreation in designated areas of the GGNRA.



Annette Huddle, M.E.S.

(Master of Environmental Studies, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, 1991)

305 Montcalm St.  
San Francisco CA, 94110  
(415) 206-0684-

P.S. My partner and I have elderly parents who love to visit Ft. Funston because of, not in spite of, the dogs. The broad generalization that elderly people avoid the area is truly overblown.

2/2

I support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments about continuing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: Moli Sternert + Donna Canali (optional: Age: 49 (54) Sex: M  Ethnicity: white)  
Address: 148 Bocana SF CA 94110  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

I visit Chissy Field and Pt. Funston, at least once a week each where I take my dog for a walk. I am now limited in this activity at Pt. Funston because of the enforced leash law

2. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

Yes - it is great source of enjoyment for me and my partner to take our dog on off leash areas because she (our dog) enjoys it so much. We often meet friends with their dogs and all take a walk together. You always engage with the other people doing this activity. I feel more connected to my community and city.

3. Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for future generations.

More needs to be significant open space in SF designated as off-leash. Dogs need space to run, especially in a city where they have many restrictions. People need dogs for companionship. The city must incorporate and accommodate the needs of people and their dogs. In Santa Cruz they designate off-leash hours for dogs on their beaches as a compromise.

4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

This city would no longer feel like my city in some intrinsic way. This ability to enjoy the city's open spaces would be limited because I could not more freely off-leash with my dog.

5. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence?

I feel safe in the presence of off-leash dogs whose owners are present and have control their dogs by voice. I think I would feel more unsafe around pent-up, frustrated dogs who don't get enough exercise and release of their energies.

Signed: Moli Sternert

RECEIVED  
Date: 3-6-02  
MAR 08 2002

PLEASE MAIL BEFORE MARCH 10<sup>th</sup> SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

3384-02-1C

March 6, 2002

Superintendent Brian O'Neill  
Attention: ANPR  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Building 201, Fort. Mason  
San Francisco, California  
94123

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

I would like to briefly add my comments about dog access in the GGNRA. I strongly support allowing dogs – including off leash dogs in some locations – in most areas of the GGNRA. Allowing hikers with dogs in the GGNRA is a very legitimate use of the public lands that comprise the GGNRA, and one that is much appreciated by urban dog owners. As a responsible dog owner residing in San Mateo County, I would like to see more areas where I can hike with my dog (such as the Phleger Estate), and support dog owner groups such as the Fort Funston Dog Walkers Association or Peninsula Access for Dogs that help mitigate the impact of dogs in open space areas.

I also want to comment about the failure of ANPR document to fairly present the current dog access regulations in nearby open space areas and park districts. The ANPR states that:

“Several jurisdictions in the Bay Area are moving toward more stringent leash requirements and enforcement, due to the volume of use and negative impacts associated with off-leash use. “

This is not an accurate and complete representation of the facts. As I read the ANPR, I get the impression that the rules of other land management agencies are consistent with the notion of limiting dog access in the GGNRA. For example, when presenting the rules in force in the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), the ANPR states:

“East Bay Regional Park District requires pets on leash in developed areas, which are defined as public road, lawn or play field, parking lot, picnic area, campground, concession area, equestrian center, archery facility, gun ranges, paved multi-use Regional Trail, or any other areas designated by the Board; the number of dogs is limited to three. Dogs are prohibited at swimming beaches, pools, wetlands, marshes or designated nature study areas, wildlife protection areas (for listed species at risk), golf courses, public buildings, major fishing piers, stream protection areas, and district lakes.”

All of the above is true, but the ANPR document fails to mention that other than the places quoted above, everywhere else, dogs are allowed off leash! In reality, off leash

1/2

dogs are allowed in most areas of the EBRPD. This impression is also reinforced (at least in my mind) when the ANPR states that:

“The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District permits dogs on leash in seven of 24 preserves. Of the seven, there is one preserve that has a 16-acre off leash area. Dogs are not permitted in the remaining 17 preserves.”

In the context of this ANPR, it is only fair to mention that while currently 17 preserves are off limits to dogs, since 1995, that Open Space District has more than doubled the number of trail miles open to hikers with dogs, as well as allowing off leash dog access.

In summary, I would like the GGNRA to continue, and to expand, on leash dog access in those places where off leash dogs pose a clear and significant threat to the wildlife or public, and to allow off leash dogs in locations that can accommodate that type of use.

Sincerely,



Dan Bernstein  
POB 1236  
El Granada, CA.  
94018

3385-01-1A

March 4, 2002

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

RECEIVED  
MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in to state my **profound belief in off-leash dog walking within the GGNRA**. Off-leash dog walking was an intended recreational activity when the GGNRA was established to maintain "needed recreational open space necessary for urban environment and planning" (16 USC 460bb)". There is room for this activity in the GGNRA's more than 74,000 acres. Traditional off-leash use occurs in only 0.5% of this land. I urge you not to take away one of the intended uses of the GGNRA.

Sincerely,



Brett Penfil  
San Francisco

3386-01-1A

Kate Sheehan  
414 Spruce Street  
San Francisco, CA 94118

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

March 7, 2002

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

Dear GGNRA:

I am writing in favor of allowing OFF-LEASH dogs in the GGNRA, especially Crissy Field and Fort Funston.

While I sympathize with non-dog lovers, I strongly believe that off-leash areas allow dogs the socialization and exercise necessary to keep them happy and harmless companions. When dogs are restricted to on-leash exercise, they are more likely to act defensively towards other dogs and people. Off-leash, they learn to negotiate the social systems of urban life. Thus it is in everyone's best interest to allow dogs local off-leash play.

Crissy Field is a rare opportunity for dogs to play within San Francisco. There is plenty of room for all sorts of activities: running, biking, *and* dog play. Please allow us to continue to enjoy the natural beauties of our City with our dogs. It is the best for everyone.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Kate Sheehan

3387-01-1A

Leslie Kornblatt  
1015 Pierce St Apt 201  
San Francisco CA 94115-4571 3.6.02

Dear Superintendent O'Neil,

I strongly support off-leash recreation in the GGNET.

Walking my dog off-leash in these beautiful areas is one of my true pleasures in life. I am a single woman in the city and my dog is my family - using our vest and wild coast-lands is what we do for ourselves to maintain our joy for living here.

I am a staunch environmentalist and deeply respect the land and its ecosystems and value the wildlife wholeheartedly.

There must be a compromise found to insure both the existence of wildlife & wild lands and the needs of urban dwellers (including dogs) to get out and play in our surrounding coasts.

Sincerely,  
Leslie Kornblatt



Member

The Humane Society of the United States

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MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

3388-01-1A

March 7, 2002

RECEIVED  
MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Attention ANPR  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area,

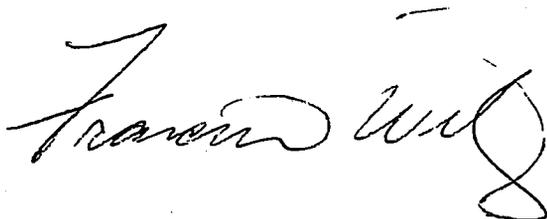
As I walk thru various parts of GGNRA and find broken glass, rubbish and evidence of human disregard for the natural beauty of GGNRA, I think how unfortunate it is that you are considering reversing the policy for off leash dog walking. Off leash dog walking has somehow gained the reputation for destruction of the land. Yet dog people regularly pick up cans, glass, discarded clothing and any thing else can be carried on walks with our dogs. We care about the condition of the land and ocean. It is odd that in turn we should be penalized for walking our dogs off lead, when in fact we make a significant contribution to maintaining GGNRA.

In our increasing urban environment, the dog community has organized and actively educated people about how to keep this precious resource available to us. Signs have been posted, bags provided and we pick up after our own animals as well as dog feces that some other dog owner missed. Is that not responsible behavior on our part? By and large the dog community respects fences and areas closed off to the public. There are some errant dog owners who do not, but can't that also be said of the of people that disrespect GGNRA and leave condoms, beer cans, bottles and other non-biodegradable trash? Most visitors do respect the area. It is a minority of people that leave trash and a mess behind them. The dog community helps keep the area free from garbage so in turn the majority is allowed to appreciate the GGNRA, a little cleaner.

We are active participants in other ways; many dog people volunteer to help maintain the area. If there is another area of the park that needs to be restricted and a fence needs to be built, sign me up. I'll happily volunteer for that. Need a volunteer to dig up introduced plant species so that the indigenous plants can take hold? I'm in. The same is true of many dog owners in our community.

Who belongs the dog community? There is a wide cross section of society represented amongst us. We are teachers, lawyers, waitresses, cabdrivers, housewives, we work for the city, we work for the state, we work for corporations, we work at the co-op, we pay taxes, we are young, we are old, we are disabled, we are aids victims, we are in perfect health, we are brown, black yellow and white, some of us even have multi-colored hair, we are poor and some of us are wealthy. But the one thing that we all have in common is that we love our dogs and care about their health and the quality of their lives. For me how my dog lives is a reflection of my life. I cannot over emphasize how important it is to me to exercise with my dog in the few remaining off leash areas. Please don't take this away from me. We can work together on preservation and conservation of GGNRA.

Francine Weiley



GGNRA012679

3389-01-1D

March 6, 2002

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

Dear Superintendent:

This letter is written in support of strong restrictions on pets (and their owners) in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Asking dog owners to keep their animals on a leash is not an arbitrary imposition. In public areas dedicated primarily to recreational use by people it would seem punitive to those people to give priority to the "needs" of dogs.

I have rarely seen a dog respond immediately to the verbal command of its owner. Even leashed dogs often seem out of the control of their walkers. We have seen too many incidents recently in the Bay Area and beyond where dogs have killed or seriously maimed humans. It is time for GGNRA to take decisive action; prohibit the use of public land by unleashed dogs and set a precedent for parks throughout the nation. We have too many truly important issues confronting us as a society at this moment. To prolong this debate over leash law is a disservice to the public. Let those who love their dogs love them enough to prevent them from doing harm to others.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I hope your decision will be guided by the aesthetics of John Muir and Theodore Roosevelt who perceived the national parks as a sanctuary for humankind and not a dog run.

Sincerely,



Elaine and Ward Anderson  
1326 Devonshire Drive  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

3390-01-1A

March 5, 2002  
Gordon Prioreshi  
246 Second St. #807  
San Francisco, CA 94105

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Superintendent O'Neill  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

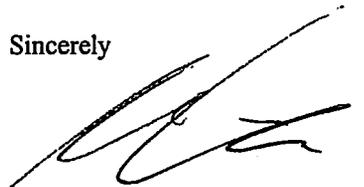
As a San Francisco resident I would like to speak out in favor of off-leash dog recreation in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Living as I do in a very crowded city, there are very few places I can go to play, bond, and exercise with my dogs in the manner that they and I both need to be happy and healthy. I would ask you not to close yet one more door on the dog owning community in San Francisco.

I have been to Fort Funston with my dogs many times over the last few years, and on every occasion I have had the pleasure of meeting a large number of happy, healthy dogs and warm, friendly dog owners. It is rare in large cities like San Francisco to be able to interact with strangers as freely as one seems to be able to in an off-leash dog park. Perhaps the shared experience of dog ownership breaks down social barriers, or perhaps the energy and enthusiasm of the canine at play is contagious; regardless, I don't think any words I could put on paper would be quite as persuasive as a sunny weekend afternoon spent at Fort Funston. I would invite you to do just that, with or without dog, and spend an afternoon meeting and watching dogs and their owners. After such an experience, I'm sure you will agree that there is no other use for a place like Fort Funston that would bring so much joy to human and canine alike.

Present hysteria aside, this is not a safety issue. Neither is it an issue of race, age, or disability. (How ridiculous! I know from personal experience that dog ownership crosses *all* of those lines. In fact, some of the most devoted dog owners are children, the elderly, and the disabled.) The issue is purely and simply whether an activity that has always been a part of the GGNRA is going to continue to bring happiness to so many people and their pets, or is going to be prohibited simply because a one-size-fits-all regulation was promulgated thirty years ago and three thousand miles away.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely



Gordon Prioreshi

cc: SFD OG

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

3391-01-1A

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I support off-leash recreation in the GGNRA. Following are my comments about continuing off-leash recreation in the GGNRA, as well as information about me that may be relevant to this issue.

Name: ERNA MATULA (optional: Age: 83 Sex M  Ethnicity C)  
Address: 431 41 AVE SF CA 94121  
(street) (city) (state) (zip)

1. Please describe how often and where you visit the GGNRA. What are your main activities or reasons for visiting? What are the benefits to you of your visit(s)? If this has changed over the years, describe why.

LANDS END - OCEAN BEACH BECAUSE I WAS BORN HERE AND ALWAYS LOVED THE WILDNESS AND FREEDOM OF BOTH. WALKING EITHER ONE SEEM TO LIFT ONES SPIRITS AND SENDS THEM FREE

2. Please describe whether off-leash recreation is a social outlet for you. Do you bring your friends and family along or meet up with friends? Have you made new friends through this activity?

Used to meet all sorts of friendly people. We went as a family and enjoyed chatting as much as walking. Our dog made friends also, would romps with the ones she liked best.

Do you believe that off-leash recreation is appropriate for portions of the GGNRA? Why? Please make specific recommendations for ways the Park Service can accommodate and expand this activity while preserving these areas for future generations.

YES DEFINITELY. DOGS NEED TO RUN FREE JUST AS WE DO. IMAGINE YOURSELF ON THE END OF A ROPE EVERY TIME YOU LEFT THE HOUSE. AS LONG AS OWNERS PICK UP FECEES OR BURY IN ON SPOT THERE IS NO REASON LANDS END IN PARTICULAR WON'T BE THE SAME FOR THE FUTURE.

4. What would be the impact on your life if there were no longer off-leash recreation in the GGNRA?

I would be sad. Dogs are such fun & enjoyment to watch when they run free. They run, they jump, they twist, they zig & they zag, they dig & they swim. some retrieve but they all gallop free

5. Do you feel safer with the presence of off-leash dogs or would you feel safer without their presence?

Safer with. All dogs I have ever met off were good natured, friendly & well mannered. The abusive ones have always been kept on leash.

Signed: Erna M Matula Date 3/6/02 GGNRA012682

3392-01-1D

Date: 3/7/02

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

RECEIVED  
MAR 08 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:

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,

Emily King Colwell (signature)

EMILY KING COLWELL (name)

961 HILDALE AVE (address)

BERKELEY CA 94708

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

3393-01-1D

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Date: MAR. 5, '02  
To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Attention: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

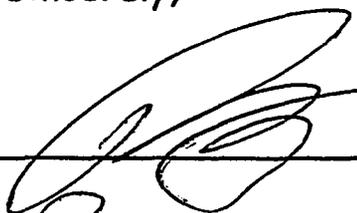
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I ask that the current regulation be changed to designate former "voice control" areas for off leash dog walking at Fort Funston, Ocean Beach and Lands End at the very least.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

RICHARD LOPEZ  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(name)

455 JACKSON ST  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(address)

ALBANY, CA 94706  
\_\_\_\_\_

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

Date: 05 March 2002  
To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
Attention: ANPR  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED  
MAR 08 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,

Annelise Blomberg (signature)

Annelise Blomberg (name)

455 Jackson Street (address)

Albany, CA 94706

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

March 7, 2002

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

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear GGNRA:

I have been taking my yellow lab to Fort Funston since he was born over seven years ago. A number of things have struck me about this very special area. First, the interesting combination of hang-gliders and dogs. Second, the cleanliness of this area. Third, and most relevant to the current controversy, the sheer joy on the faces of all those, both animal and human, who enjoy this spectacular area.

Last week, however, the situation was a bit different. Most dogs, including mine, were on leashes, and park rangers were apparently issuing warnings or tickets to dog owners who dared allow their pets the freedom to be off-leash.

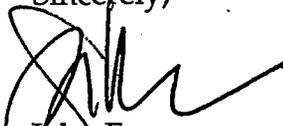
For the following reasons, I think it preposterous and grossly unfair that the GGNRA may begin requiring leashes in this area:

- Unless I'm totally misinformed, when the GGNRA received this land from the City of San Francisco, it did so agreeing to maintain the recreational options San Franciscans had enjoyed prior to the change in ownership. Does this agreement mean nothing to those who would ignore it?
- The areas where dogs run off-leash are minimal.
- This is a beach! Do you really expect dogs to play in the water on a leash?
- In all my years of visiting Fort Funston, I have never seen an aggressive or trouble-making dog.
- Even people without dogs are clearly enjoying the joyous atmosphere at Fort Funston. I've even seen seniors and people in wheelchairs having a ball with all the animals.
- People who go to Fort Funston go **because** it is dog-friendly. There are plenty of places in this city for people to go who wish to avoid dogs, yet very few where these animals can get the kind of exercise that is natural to them and important to their well-being.
- Fort Funston is uncommonly clean. Why? Probably due to the monthly cleanups that take place — sponsored by the dog walking groups! While there are clearly exceptions, I believe dog owners are an exceptionally responsible group as a whole. Rather than demonizing us, you should be encouraging our presence.
- And finally, to attempt to take away what is rightly ours (see the first bullet if this statement is unclear) is extremely mean-spirited. If you cannot appreciate this, I beg you to go out to Fort Funston on a weekend and see the wonderful camaraderie of animals and humans. See how nearly every person has a smile on his or her face and how you are greeted with "good morning" or "how are you today" or "beautiful day isn't it." And after you do, please let me know where else in this city you encounter this kind of attitude?

3395-02-1A

I look forward to continuing using Fort Funston as it was intended and has been enjoyed for decades.

Sincerely,



John Ferrare  
950A Kansas Street  
San Francisco, CA 94107

3396-01-ID

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

RECEIVED

MAR 08 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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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,

Robert C. Blomberg (signature)

Robert C. Blomberg (name)

706 Hilldale Avenue (address)

Berkeley, CA 94708

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

3397-01-ID

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

RECEIVED

MAR 08 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,

Judith Blomberg (signature)

Judith Blomberg (name)

706 Hilldale Ave. (address)

Berkeley, CA 94708

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

Date: FEB. 14, 2002

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

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MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Suzanne McKee Laber (signature)

SUZANNE MCKEE LABER (name)

4631 DOLORIS AVE. (address)

OAKLAND, CA 94602

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

3399-01-1B

Date: Feb. 11, 2002

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

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MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

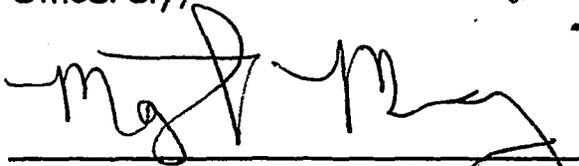
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

 (signature)

Margaret Murray (name)

100 Waldo Ct. (address)

Sausalito, CA 94965

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

3400-01-1A

Date: 11 Feb 2002

To: Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Attention: ANPR

Fort Mason, Building 201

San Francisco, CA 94123

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

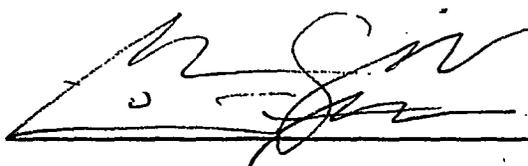
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Thank you.

Sincerely,

 (signature)

MORGAN STETLER (name)

3682 20TH ST (address)

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

**GGNRA  
ANPR**

**PUBLIC  
COMMENTS  
No. 3401 - 3800**

**NAU Copy**

**Book 10  
2002**

3401-01-1D

Date: 2/11/02

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

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MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark Faber (signature)

MARK FABER (name)

4631 DOLORES AVE. (address)

OAKLAND, CA 94602

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

3402 - 01 - 1B

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MAR 08 2002  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julian Garfalo (signature)

JULIAN GARFALO (name)

28 MARIN ST. (address)

SAN RAFAEL, CA. 94901

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

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

RECEIVED  
MAR. 08 2002  
COMMENTS OFFICE

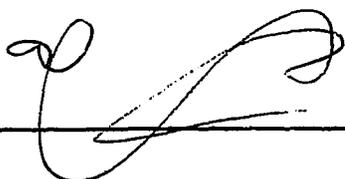
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Thank you.

Sincerely,



\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

Elysa Chuang

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name)

1126 Cherry Ave, #95

\_\_\_\_\_  
(address)

San Bruno, CA 94066.

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

Date: 2/8/02

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

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2002

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

J. Sharpe (signature)

Jenny Sharpe (name)

17 Harcourt Apt. A (address)

San Rafael, CA 94901

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002

Date: 2/8/02

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

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Thank you.

Sincerely,



(signature)

Gretchen Throop

(name)

1808 8th Avenue

(address)

San Francisco, CA 94122

Comments accepted Jan. 11, 2002 through March 12, 2002