### 6. Recovery Plan Implementation

The Vegetation Stewardship Program is currently implementing recommendations outlined in the Raven's Manzanita Recovery Plan. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is currently finalizing two additional Recovery Plans which affect 10 rare park species including; Presidio clarkia (Clarkia franciscana), Marin dwarf flax (Hesperolinon congestum), San Francisco lessingia (Lessingia germanorum), San Mateo thornmint (Acanthomintha dutonii), Tiburon Indian paintbrush (Castilleja affinis ssp. neglecta), fountain thistle (Cirsium fontinale), whiterayed pentachaeta (Pentachaeta bellidiflora), San Mateo wooly sunflower (Eriophyllum latilobum), Crystal Springs lessingia (Lessingia arachnoidea) and beach layia (Layia carnosa). Recovery actions in the plans include researching the species' life histories and their ecological and population parameters, as well as removing and preventing direct threats to the populations. Recovery actions also include investigating the need for establishing additional populations in suitable habitat areas. The draft plan for endangered species found within San Francisco dune communities stresses the need for identifying areas that would be ecologically appropriate for potential introduction of Lessingia germanorum in historic localities as well as sites for introduction at Fort Funston. For the Presidio clarkia and Marin dwarf flax, the plan also suggests management guidelines be developed to address the potential for reintroduction.

Current resources only provide for continued rare plant restoration work on the Presidio. Implementation of the larger proposed rare plant program for the park (project statement GOGA-N-009.000) will enable the park to meet the obligations outlined in the Recovery Plans, plus address the recovery needs of species that currently do not have plans.

### 7. Reintroductions

GGNRA's rare plant program includes the reintroduction of rare or extirpated plant species into the park when deemed ecologically appropriate. Vegetation Stewardship staff has developed an approved document format for reintroducing flora. The format includes an evaluation of historical information on population range, monitoring strategies, ecological appropriateness, propagule availability and locations, maps and permit requirements.

Twenty-six species are proposed for use in the re-creation of a tidal marsh at Crissy Field on the Presidio of San Francisco. These species, once found in marshes along the city's shoreline and throughout San Francisco Bay, have been extirpated as tidal marshes have been destroyed during the past 150 years. Several nearby tidal marshes will serve as a source for seeds and propagules. The historic presence of an extensive dune-tidal marsh complex suggests that this site provides unique opportunities to restore a floristically diverse sandy tidal marsh. One species is the federally endangered California seablite.

*Calystegia soldanella* and *Lathyrus littoralis* have been reintroduced at Crissy Field and Baker Beach on the Presidio of San Francisco. *Lathyrus littoralis* is absent from the Presidio at present; the only extant population in San Francisco is a small colony below the Great Highway at Fort Funston.

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### APPENDIX D

## SYNTHESIS OF EXISTING VEGETATION MONITORING PROGRAM

### 1. Site Evaluations, Work Performed Sheets, and the Restoration Database

Each time habitat restoration work is done in the park a work performed sheet is completed and the information is entered into the Restoration Database. This provides the park with an ongoing record of all vegetation work done by resource managers and stewards, referenced by subwatershed. In addition, this provides a forum through which the park's vegetation activities, from rare or endangered native plant enhancement to aggressive non-native plant control, can be regularly evaluated by staff and volunteers.

### 2. Photomonitoring

With some exceptions, each restoration area is photographed before, during, and after major restoration projects. A standard protocol for photomonitoring has been developed and all data records are stored in the Restoration Database. Future efforts will include storing key photographic images in electronic files, which will also be linked to the Restoration Database.

### 3. Mapping

Mapping of vegetation is done on many scales, and on varying levels of detail within the park. Increasingly, mapping in the park is being done with geographic information systems (GIS) software that can manipulate, analyze, and display mapping data. Current data layers include targeted invasive non-native species populations (50 percent completed), rare flora (90 percent completed), restoration planning and implementation areas (80 percent completed), watershed and subwatershed boundaries (100 percent completed), and vegetation communities (85 percent completed).

### 4. Outplant Survivorship Monitoring

Over the last seven years, native plant nurseries have become an integral component of GOGA's habitat restoration projects. The five park nurseries have grown more than 500,000 plants from more than 100 species that have been planted into restoration sites. The result is an increase in the cover, abundance, and diversity of native plants, reducing the competitive advantage of invasive weeds. In order to assess the contribution that nurseries, and direct planting are making to restoration efforts, and to assess the relative success of outplanting among restoration sites in varied habitats, an outplant survivorship monitoring program has been designed. Data records are stored in the Restoration Database. Also see the revegetation section under Native Plant Nursery Program.

### 5. Vegetation Assemblage Monitoring in Re-Created Dune Sites

Much of the habitat restoration that occurs in the park involves working within a degraded habitat to protect and enhance the existing native flora and associated ecosystem features. In two dune sites on the Presidio, however, restoration projects have involved importing sterile sand to re-create native dune habitat. At the Lobos Creek Dunes and Feral Dunes more than 50 species of native plants, including five California Native Plant Society listed rare and endangered

species, have been planted or seeded over the past four years. Beginning in year three of the project at Lobos and year one at Feral Dunes, a monitoring program has been conducted to describe the changes in the composition of the plant community and to track the change in cover of several important dune species. Through working with an ecological design consultant, park managers developed a quantitative monitoring protocol that will allow for the assessment of plant cover data for several indicator species. The average cover of the rare plants and of potential dominant shrub species was compared among planting and seeding zones, soil types, and different slopes and aspects. This information is assisting managers and stewards assess the relative success of re-creation efforts and will help determine planting and seeding mixes for future dune restoration or re-creation projects.

### 6. Rare Plant Monitoring

One of the primary roles of vegetation management in the park is the protection and enhancement of rare or endangered species. Over the years, managers and stewards have improved statewide California Native Plant Society methods for tracking the range and size of populations of the rare plant species that occur in the park, and the restoration efforts intended to enhance them. These data allow for the assessment of the success of management actions and ensure that managers and stewards are apprised of any dramatic changes in population size or range that might necessitate immediate action (see Section 4.6.3, Rare Plant Management, for more details).

### 7. Endangered Mission Blue Butterfly — Associated Vegetation Monitoring

As part of the monitoring program (see Section 4.4, Wildlife Program) for the mission blue butterfly (*Plebejus icarioides missionensis*), the GGNRA has been conducting vegetation sampling in all mission blue butterfly habitats. The goal of the vegetation sampling is to assess the cover of host plants, nectar plants, and other vegetation and substrate features in the areas where the butterflies occur. It is thought that correlations between the abundance of butterflies and vegetation characteristics may assist restoration planning to ensure the long-term health of the butterfly in the GGNRA.

À second vegetation monitoring program was initiated in 1998 to track the potential impacts of an aerial pathogen on the mission blue butterfly's host plant (*Lupinus albifrons*). This program is administered parkwide and the sampling design was developed through consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a biostatistician and a plant pathologist.

Future mission blue butterfly habitat restoration efforts at Fort Baker will include the establishment of permanent vegetation and butterfly transects in degraded habitat proposed for restoration. These transects will be monitored annually to determine correlations between the conversion of vegetation types, plant species composition and the presence/absence of butterflies.

### 8. Seed Collection from Native Plant Species

With the scale of the park's restoration program increasing several-fold over the past decade, it has become important to track the collection of seeds from specific habitat types and locations. The park policy on the collection of seeds is that no more than 5 percent of the seeds from any population can be collected in a given year. With some species being locally or globally rare, the

possibility of over-collecting has become real. To avoid over collection, a monitoring method utilizing maps of field sites and a seed collection data sheet has been developed to track this information. This feasibility and effectiveness of this method is being evaluated on the Presidio. The data sheet provides a format for collecting information that will allow for comparison of seed quality (i.e., germination of the seeds in the nursery) from different sites and from seeds collected at different times of the year.

### 9. Vegetation Community Classification

As part of the Vegetation Mapping Project on park properties nationwide, and as part of the California Native Plant Society's efforts to classify California vegetation (for inclusion in the *Manual of California Vegetation*), GGNRA staff, contractors, and volunteers have been collecting species richness and vegetation structure data for each vegetation community type in the park for two years. At each of 138 polygons identified as containing distinct vegetation (by aerial photography), information has been collected on the vegetation and associated site characteristics. Staff are currently completing an accuracy assessment of the classification data. The information gathered as part of this project enhances the GGNRA natural resource inventory and will serve as baseline data to monitor any large-scale future changes in community type or species cover.

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SUPERVISOR YEE R. Scott



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Chair. Finance and Labor Committee Vice-Chair, Public Utilities and Deregulation Committee Member. Transportation and Land Use Committee

DATE

公共事務及法例制成委員會副主席 交通及土地運用委員會委員

财政及劳工委员會主席

市

FAX TRANSMIT

TIME:

Leland Y. Yee, Ph.D. Board of Supervisors -City and County of San Francisco

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED, AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. If the reader of this message is not the intended racipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify me immediately by telephone (collect), and return the original message to me at the above address via the U.S. Postal Services. Thank you.

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THE FOLLOWING C	ONTAINS PAGES, INCLUDING COVER SHEET.
то:	Rich Goe Weideman
	NPS
FAX NUMBER:	561-4710
****	********
FROM:	LELAND Y. YEE, PH.D.
FAX NUMBER:	(415) 554-7751
COMMENTS:	
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	FOFUAR01729
IF YOU DID NOT RECU QUESTIONS, PLEASE CA	IVE ALL MATERIALS DESCRIBED ABOVE OR HAVE ANY OTHER LL ME AT (415) 554-7752.
	Iton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 • San Francisco, CA 94102, 1680

(415) 554-7752 • Fax (415) 554-7751 • TDD/TTY (415) 554-5227

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SUPERVISOR YEE

PAGE 03

FILE NO.

### **RESOLUTION NO.**

[Urging the National Park Service to provide an explanation of Fort Funston Closures]

Resolution requesting the City Attorney contact the National Park Service reminding the National Park Service of its obligation to submit its construction plans to the City for review, seeking an explanation of how the past and proposed closures serve a recreation or park purpose and inquiring how the National Park Service will provide disability access in light of its removal of a paved path.

WHEREAS, In 1975, the City and County of San Francisco transferred Fort Funsion and other City-owned park lands to the federal government to be included in the Golder Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), to be administered by the National Park Service (NPS); and

WHEREAS, The statute creating the GGNRA (16 U.S.C. Section 460bb) specifically states that the GGNRA was established to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary to the urban environment and planning and requires that the Secretary of the Interior "utilize the resources in a manner which will provide for recreation and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land use planning and management;" and

WHEREAS, Former Charter section 7.403-1(a), as approved by the voters, required that the deed transferring any City-owned park lands to the NPS include the restriction that said lands were to be reserved by the Park Service "in perpetuity for recreation or park purposes with a right of reversion upon breach of said restriction;" and

WHEREAS, The deed transferring these City-owned park lands to the NPS contains the following restriction: "to hold only for so long as said real property is reserved and used for recreation and park purposes; and

Leland Y, Yee, Ph.D. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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WHEREAS, A contemporaneous agreement ("Agreement") concerning the rights and duties of the parties requires the NPS, among other things, to submit its plans for construction on the park lands or changes in the natural environment of these properties to the City's Planning Department for review and comment in order to ensure that the Department of City Planning will be informed and involved during all stages of the planning process and in particular during the conceptual planning stage where potential conflicts can be resolved prior to the development of specific plans; and

WHEREAS, The City Attorney has concluded that the City and County of San Francisco has a right to bring legal action against the NPS in the event the NPS breaches the deed restriction and agreement; and

WHEREAS, Since 1991, the NPS has closed heavily-used portions of Fort Function for the avowed purpose of habitat protection and native plant restoration, thereby precluding any recreational use, without notifying the City and County of San Francisco; and

14 WHEREAS, The NPS now proposes permanent closure of an additional twelve acres
15 of prime recreation space at Fort Funston, without notifying the City and County of Sari
16 Francisco; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco 18 requests that the City Attorney write to the NPS reminding the NPS of its duty to submit to the 19 San Francisco Planning Department for review, comment, and approval plans for construction 20 at Fort Funston, including plans to install or maintain fencing at Fort Funston which precludes 21 recreational use by park visitors; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests the City Attorney to write to the NPS to ask them to provide access to people with disabilities and to explain their plans for resurfacing the previously paved Sunset Trail; and, be it

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Leland Y, Yee, Ph.D. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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1	FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
2	Francisco hereby requests the City Attorney write a letter to the NPS requesting the NPS to
3	explain how the closures that have been effected at Fort Funston since 1991, including the
4	proposed twelve-acre closure, comply with the deed restriction requiring that Fort Funsion be
5	used only for recreation or park purposes.
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Leland Y, Yee, Ph.D. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS





### Briefing on Fort Funston W/ Supervisor Yee

### 8 a.m. Wednesday September 20

Leland Y. Yee, Supervisor San Francisco Board of Supervisors **City Hall, Room 260** 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco CA 94102

- 1. Fort Funston Proposed Habitat Protection Closure Document
- 2. Map
- 3. CFR 2.15 and Current pet policy
- 4. Comment Period and summary of letters (#s and flavors)
- 5. Two CAC meetings
- 6. Litigation (basics)
- 7. SPCA Relationship with Ed Sayer (renewed?)

Author: Monica\_Lim@ci.sf.ca.us at np--internet Date: 9/7/00 3:32 PM Normal

Dear Mr. O'Neill and Mr. Scott,

Thank you for addressing the topic of Fort Funston. The hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20 at 11:30 a.m. sharp. The hearing will take place at City Hall in room 263 during the Finance and Labor Committee meeting. A representative from your office is welcome to speak. Please let us know as soon as possible, if you do plan on speaking or if you have a list of speakers, so that we may submit a schedule.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Monica Lim

Monica Lim, Constituent Liaison Office of Supervisor Leland Y. Yee, Ph.D. City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102-5184 Phone: (415) 554-7752 - Fax: (415) 554-7751

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FOFUAR01735

Brian:

Mary asked that this proposed response be faxed to you to regarding the upcoming hearing on Ft Funston to be held by Supervisor Yee on Wed Sept 20 11:30 am.

Nicole has seen and approved the attached draft.

Mary would like to send out a response by Thursday in order to let them know our intentions and said she would like to proceed with this letter if unless you had specific direction.

Please let Mary your intentions. You can page her at 1-888-213-6335. She is staying at the Hotel del Rio in San Antonio at (210) 518-1000/ Fax (210) 805-5706

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FOFUAR01736



Leland Y. Yee, Supervisor San Francisco Board of Supervisors City Hall, Room 244 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco CA 94102

Dear Supervisor Yee:

This is sent as follow up to your fax indicating that you intend to hold a public hearing regarding Fort Funston on Wednesday, September 20 at 11:30 a.m. The following responses address the topics for discussion as noted in your correspondence.

1. Is the NPS in violation of its agreement with the City of San Francisco? Response: We are unaware of any agreement with the city regarding uses and management of former city lands located at Fort Funston. At time of transfer to the federal government, there were no limitations to fee title of the property, and no memorandums or agreements with the city. If you are aware of any, could you please provide a copy.

### 2. Does the NPS have a current strategic plan for Ft. Funston?

Response: We have a 1980 General Management Plan, which addresses Fort Funston. Further, we have NPS Management Policies and regulations (36CFR) that apply to all national parklands.

3. Has the NPS sought information from park users and organizations concerned with the park?

Response: A 12-acre year round closure project for Fort Funston is currently available for public comment. The public comment period closes October 6, 2000. Comments may be made in writing and addressed to Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123. A public meeting on the proposed closure was held on August 29, and extensive public comment was received at that time. Written comment received to date reflects strong and varying views on the proposed closure, which will be considered in any final decision.

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4. Is the NPS committed to reopen lands previously closed to park users? Response: The current closure is contained within the project undergoing public comment. The prior "closure" to the north has always and continues to permit access

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through it, via dogs on leash and on trail. The closure immediately north of Battery Davis is closed due to ongoing slope erosion.

We would very much appreciate the opportunity to provide an in-depth briefing before the hearing. Unfortunately, General Superintendent Brian O'Neill is out of town this week, but will available to brief the supervisor on Monday or Tuesday, September 18, 19. To make arrangements for a briefing, please call Roger Scott in the Office of Public Affairs at (415) 561-4731.

Thank you for your interest in Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Sincerely,

Brian O'Neill, General Superintendent

CRAFT



United States Department of the Interior

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

# **Briefing for Proposed Habitat Protection Closure at Fort Funston**

### 1. Map and Fort Funston Proposed Habitat Protection Closure Document Explanation of closure areas

- Reasons for Closure
  - Bank Swallow Protection (State Threatened species)
  - Visitor Safety

Increase in dog/visitor cliff rescues, which endanger lives of rescue personnel and make personnel unavailable for any other Ranger response south of Bridge, including surf rescues at Ocean Beach.

> Prior to 1998-approximately 3 per year 1998-25 1999-16 2000 to date-7 (2 in the past 2 weeks)

- Reduce erosion of coastal bluffs and trampling of dunes by humans and dogs.
- Vegetation Management (reintroduction of native plants)

### 2. Public Comment Period

- Noticed for 60 plus days-closes October 6, 2000
- Three GGNRA Advisory Commission Meetings held to solicit comments:
  - 1/18/2000-Informational briefing on project and 14 members of public spoke
  - 8/29/2000-80 members of public signed up to speak
  - 9/26/2000-14 speakers who were signed up on 8/29, but did not speak because of time limits, were invited back to speak
- Next Steps:

Comments compiled after October 6 NPS review of project and comments NPS final decision published in the Federal Register.

### 3. NPS Law, Regulations and Management Policies:

- CFR 2.15: Dogs off-leash are prohibited in that where is the fluere in no authority to designate off-leash are at
- Organic Act of 1916: NPS must promote and required maturnal parks "...which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the maturnal and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

### • General Authorities Act:

Congress declared in the General Authorities Act of 1970 "that the National Park System, which began with the establishment of Yellowstone National Park in 1872, has since grown to include superlative natural, historic and recreational areas in every region...and that is it the purpose of this Act to include all such areas in the system..."

• NPS Management Policies: NPS policies perturbing to natural resource management and land protection.

### 4. Litigation (basics):

- Suit challenged GGNRA's closure notification procedures Audubon intervened in suit on the side of GGNRA.
- Case still pending in litigation-Status Meeting next week
- Current Fort Funston Closure Notice follows judge's impunction, calling for notice and comment, which is what dogwalkers requested
- Current lawsuit has ramifications for the NPS and is potentially precedent setting for other parks.
- GGNRA has been threatened with litigation, by groups favoring natural resources, who want us to adhere to NPS regulations and require conformity to those regulations by requiring all dogs on leash.

### 5. Transfer of City of San Francisco Lands to GGNRA

• No documentation has been found regarding any encumbrances on the transfer of Fort Funston to the NPS from the City of San Francisco.

## 6. Management of Dogwalking as a Recreational Activity in the GGNRA

- GGNRA has more opportunities for dogwalking than any other national park.
- The park must be managed to accommodate all user groups, not just one group such as dogwalkers. The park hears from many park visitors who would like a national park experience without dogs.
- GGNRA has reached out to dogwalking community throughout the years to try to manage dogwalking in the park.
- GGNRA is not prohibiting dog walkers from all of Fort Funston.
- We are continuing to talk with dog walking groups regarding Crissy Field to promote responsible dog walking and to avoid further user group conflicts as the restored area comes on line.

(9/2000)

### National Park Service Pet Regulations Relating to Dogs

### All National Parks

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As in all 379 National Park Sites, dogs must be kept on leash per Code of Federal Regulations 2.15. (see Attached CFR listing)

## Current Golden Gate NRA enforcement

However, we have areas in GGNRA where the park has shown discretion in regard to this regulation.

Golden Gate NRA is reevaluating where the park has applied this discretion and that policy may change in the future.

[Code of Federal Regulations] [Title 36, Volume 1, Parts 1 to 199] [Revised as of July 1, 1999] From the U.S. Government Printing Office via GPO Access [CITE: 36CFR2.15]

[Page 22-23]

TITLE 36--PARKS, FORESTS, AND PUBLIC PROPERTY

. . .\*

CHAPTER I--NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

PART 2--RESOURCE PROTECTION, PUBLIC USE AND RECREATION--Table of Contents

Sec. 2.15 Pets.

(a) The following are prohibited:

(1) Possessing a pet in a public building, public transportation vehicle, or location designated as a swimming beach, or any structure or area closed to the possession of pets by the superintendent. This subparagraph shall not

[[Page 23]]

apply to guide dogs accompanying visually impaired persons or hearing ear dogs accompanying hearing-impaired persons.

(2) Failing to crate cage frestrain on a leash which shall not exceed six feet in length, or otherwise physically confine a pet at all times.

(3) Leaving a pet unattended and tied to an object, except in designated areas or under conditions which may be established by the superintendent.

(4) Allowing a pet to make noise that is unreasonable considering location, time of day or night, impact on park users, and other relevant factors, or that frightens wildlife by barking, howling, or making other noise.

(5) Failing to comply with pet excrement disposal conditions which may be established by the superintendent.

(b) In park areas where hunting is allowed, dogs may be used in support of these activities in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws and in accordance with conditions which may be established by the superintendent.

(c) Pets or feral animals that are running-at-large and observed by an authorized person in the act of killing, injuring or molesting humans, livestock, or wildlife may be destroyed if necessary for public safety or protection of wildlife, livestock, or other park resources.

(d) Pets running-at-large may be impounded, and the owner may be charged reasonable fees for kennel or boarding costs, feed, veterinarian fees, transportation costs, and disposal. An impounded pet may be put up for adoption or otherwise disposed of after being held for 72 hours from the time the owner was notified of capture or 72 hours from the time of capture if the owner is unknown.

(e) Pets may be kept by residents of park areas consistent with the provisions of this section and in accordance with conditions which may be established by the superintendent. Violation of these conditions is prohibited.

(f) This section does not apply to dogs used by authorized Federal, State and local law enforcement officers in the performance of their official duties.

FOFUAR01743

8/14/00

Public Law 92-589 92nd Congress, H. R. 16444 October 27, 1972

### An Act

'To establish the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in the State of California, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

### ESTABLISHMENT

SECTION 1. In order to preserve for public use and enjoyment certain areas of Marin and San Francisco Counties. California, possessing outstanding natural, historic, scenic, and recreational values, and in order to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary to urban environment and planning, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (hereinafter referred to as the "recreation area") is hereby established. In the management of the recreation area, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") shall utilize the resources in a manner which will provide a for recreation and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land use planning and management. In carrying out the ment and uses which would destroy the scenic beauty and natural character of the area.

### COMPOSITION AND BOUNDARIES

SEC. 2. (a) The recreation area shall comprise the lands, waters, and submerged lands generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Golden Gate National Recreation Area", numbered NRA-GG-80,003A, sheets 1 through 3, and dated July, 1972.

(b) The map referred to in this section shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, District of Columbia. After advising the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate (hereinafter referred to as the "committees") in writing, the Secretary may make minor revisions of the boundaries of the recreation area when necessary by publication of a revised drawing or other boundary description in the Federal Register.

### ACQUISITION POLICY

SEC. 3. (a) Within the boundaries of the recreation area, the Secretary may acquire lands, improvements, waters, or interests therein, by donation, purchase, exchange or transfer. Any lands, or interests therein, owned by the State of California or any political subdivision thereof, may be acquired only by donation. When any tract of land is only partly within such boundaries, the Secretary may acquire all or any portion of the land outside of such boundaries in order to minimize the payment of severance costs. Land so acquired outside of the boundaries may be exchanged by the Secretary for non-Federal lands within the boundaries. Any portion of land acquired outside the boundaries, and not utilized for exchange shall be reported to the General Services Administration for disposal under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 377), as amended: *Provided*, That no disposal shall be for less than fair market value. Except as hereinafter provided, Federal property within

Golden Gate National Represtion Area, Calif.

86 STAT. 1299

Boundary revisions, notification of congressional committees. Publication in Federal Register.

Ante, p. 503. 40 USC 471 note,

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86 STAT. 1300

Pub. Law 92-589

Facilities and improvements.

Forts Cronkhite, Barry, and Baker, transfer

Horseshoe Bay, access via Fort Baker.

Baker Beach, right of occupancy.

Crissy Army Airfield, right of occupancy.

Fort Point Coast Guard Station, continued-use permit.

Point Bonita, Point Diablo, and Lime Point, transfer of jurisdiction. Navigation aids, 800ess.

the boundaries of the recreation area is hereby transferred without consideration to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary for the purposes of this Act, subject to the continuation of such existing uses as may be agreed upon between the Secretary and the head of the agency formerly having jurisdiction over the property. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may develop and administer for the purposes of this Act structures or other improvements and facilities on lands for which he receives a permit of use and occupancy from the Secretary of the Army.

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(b) Fort Cronkhite, Fort Barry, and the westerly one-half of Fort Baker, in Marin County, California, as depicted on the map entitled "Golden Gate Military Properties" numbered NRAGG-20,002 and of jurisdiction. dated January 1972, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the National Park Service, are hereby transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act, subject to continued use and occupancy by the Secretary of the Army of those lands needed for existing air defense missions, reserve activities and family housing, until he determines that such requirements no longer exist. The Coast Guard Radio Receiver Station, shall remain under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating. When this station is determined to be excess to the needs of the Coast Guard, it shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act. (c) The easterly one-half of Fort Baker in Marin County, Cali-

fornia, shall remain under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Army. When this property is determined by the Department of Defense to be excess to its needs, it shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act. The Secretary of the Army shall grant to the Secretary reasonable public access through such property to Horseshoe Bay, together with the right to construct and maintain such public service facilities as are necessary for the purposes of this Act. The precise facilities and location thereof shall

he determined between the Secretary and the Secretary of the Army. (d) Upon enactment, the Secretary of the Army shall grant to the Secretary the irrevocable use and occupancy of one hundred acres of the Baker Beach area of the Presidio of San Francisco, as depicted on the map referred to in subsection (b)

(e) The Secretary of the Army shall grant to the Secretary within a reasonable time, the irrevocable use and occupancy of forty-five acres of the Crissy Army Airfield of the Presidio, as depicted on the map referred to in subsection (b).

(f) When all or any substantial portion of the remainder of the Presidio is determined by the Department of Defense to be excess to its needs, such lands shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act. The Secretary shall grant a permit for continued use and occupancy for that portion of said Fort Point Coast Guard Station necessary for activities of the Coast Guard.

(g) Point Bonita, Point Diablo, and Lime Point shall remain under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating. When this property is determined to be excess to the needs of the Coast Guard, it shall be transferred to the iurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act. The Coast Guard may continue to maintain and operate existing navigational wids: Provided. That access to such navigational aids and the installa-tion of necessary new navigational aids within the recreation area shall be undertaken in accordance with plans which are mutually acceptable to the Secretary and the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating and which are consistent with both the purposes of this Act and the purpose of existing

October 27, 1972 - 3 -Pub. Law 92-589 86 STAT. 1301 statutes dealing with establishment, maintenance, and operation of 86 STAT. 1302 navigational aids. (h) That portion of Fort Miley comprising approximately one and Fort Miley, seven-tenths acres of land presently used and required by the Secre-40 USC 261. transfer of tary of the Navy for its inshore, underseas warfare installations shall jurisdiction. Installment remain under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of payments; the Navy until such time as all or any portion thereof is determined interest rate. by the Department of Defense to be excess to its needs, at which time such excess portion shall be transferred to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary for purposes of this Act. (i) New construction and development within the recreation area New construction, on property remaining under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of the Army and not subject to the provisions of subseclimitation. 70 Stat. 694; tion (d) or (e) hereof shall be limited to that which is required to 84 Stat. 782. accommodate facilities being relocated from property being trans-31 USC 724a. ferred under this Act to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secre-75 Stat. 4151 tary or which is directly related to the essential missions of the Sixth 62 Stat. 979. United States Army: Provided, however, That any construction on presently undeveloped open space may be undertaken only after prior consultation with the Secretary. The foregoing limitation on construc- Exceptions. tion and development shall not apply to expansion of those facilities known as Letterman General Hospital or the Western Medical Institute of Research. (j) The owner of improved property on the date of its acquisition Property owners, by the Secretary under this Act may, as a condition of such acquisition, retention rights. retain for himself and his heirs and assigns a right of use and occupancy of the improved property for noncommercial residential purposes for a definite term of not more than twenty-five years, or, in lieu thereof, for a term ending at the death of the owner or the death of his spouse, whichever is later. The owner shall elect the term to be Police and reserved. Unless the property is wholly or partially donated to the fire protec-United States, the Secretary shall pay to the owner the fair market value of the property on the date of acquisition minus the fair market ... tion, cooper tive agree-うまだあるい ち ちちょうい value on that date of the right retained by the owner. A right retained ments. pursuant to this section shall be subject to termination by the Secre-Water resou tary upon his determination that it is being exercised in a manner development inconsistent with the purpose of this Act, and it shall terminate by operation of law upon the Secretary's notifying the holder of the right of such determination and tendering to him an amount equal to the fair market value of that portion of the right which remains State Martin unexpired. (k) The term "improved property", as used in subsection (j), means "Improved Transportat system, stu 22.1.24

which was begun before June 1, 1971, together with so much of the land on which the dwelling is situated, the said land being in the same ownership as the dwelling, as the Secretary shall designate to be reasonably necessary for the enjoyment of the dwelling for the sole purpose of noncommercial residential use, together with any structures accessory to the dwelling which are situated on the land so designated.

(1) Whenever an owner of property elects to retain a right of use and occupancy as provided for in the Act, such owner shall be deemed to have waived any benefits or rights accruing under sections 203, 204, 205, and 206 of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (84 Stat. 1894), and for the purposes 42 USC 4623of those sections such owner shall not be considered a displaced person 4626.

as defined in section 101(6) of that Act. (m) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary Contract shall have the same authority with respect to contracts for the acquisi- authority. tion of land and interests in land for the purposes of this Act as was

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40 USC 261. Installment payments; interest rate.

70 Stat. 694; 84 Stat. 782. 31 USC 724a. 75 Stat. 415; 62 Stat. 979.

Police and fire protection, cooperative agreements. Water resource developments.

Transportation system, study.

given the Secretary of the Treasury for other land acquisitions by  $\leq 3$ , tion 34 of the Act of May 30, 1908, relating to purchase of sites for public buildings (35 Stat. 545), and the Secretary and the owner of land to be acquired under this Act may agree that the purchase price will be paid in periodic installments over a period that does not exceed ten years, with interest on the unpaid balance thereof at a rate which is not in excess of the current average market yield on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the average maturities on the installments. Judgments against the United States for amounts in excess of the deposit in court made in condemnation actions shall be subject to the provisions of the Act of July 27, 1956 (70 Stat. 624) and sections 2414 and 2517 of title 28, United States Code.

### ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 4. (a) The Secretary shall administer the lands, waters and interests therein acquired for the recreation area in accordance with the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1, 2–4), as amended and supplemented, and the Secretary may utilize such statutory authority available to him for the conservation and management of wildlife and natural resources as he deems appropriate to carry out the purposes of this Act. Notwithstanding their inclusion within the boundaries of the recreation area, the Muir Woods National Monument and Fort Point National Historic Site shall continue to be administered as distinct and identifiable units of the mational park system in accordance with the laws applicable to such monument and historic site.

(b) The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with any Federal agency, the State of California, or any political subdivision thereof, for the rendering, on a reimbursable basis, of rescue, firefighting, and law enforcement and fire preventive assistance.

(c) The authority of the Army to undertake or contribute to water resource developments, including shore erosion control, beach protection, and navigation improvements on land and/or waters within the recreation area shall be exercised in accordance with plans which are mutually acceptable to the Secretary and the Secretary of the Army and which are consistent with both the purpose of this Act and the purpose of existing statutes dealing with water and related resource development.

development. (d) The Secretary, in cooperation with the State of California and affected political subdivisions thereof, local and regional transit approximation and of the Army, still make a study for a coordinated public and private transportation system to and within the recreation area and other units of the national park system in Marin and San Francisco Counties.

### ADVISORY COMMISSION

Estailishment; membership. SEC. 5. (a) There is hereby established the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Advisory Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission").

(b) The Commission shall be composed of fifteen members appointed by the Secretary for terms of three years each.

(c) Any vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(d) Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation, as such, but the Secretary may pay, upon vouchers signed by the Chairman, the expenses reasonably incurred by the Commission and its members in carrying out their responsibilities under this Act.

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# The National Park System Caring for the American Legacy

"...to promote and regulate the use of the...national parks...which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

<u>National Park Service Organic Act, 16 U.S.C.1.</u>

The National park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

To achieve this mission, the National Park Service adheres to the following guiding principles:

Excellent Service: *Providing the best possible service to park visitors and partners.* 

Productive Partnerships: Collaborating with federal, state, tribal, and local governments, private organizations, and businesses to work toward common goals.

Citizen Involvement: Providing opportunities for citizens to participate in the decisions and actions of the National Park Service.

Heritage Education: Educating park visitors and the general public about their history and common heritage.

Outstanding Employees: Empowering a diverse workforce committed to excellence, integrity, and quality work.

Employee Development: *Providing developmental opportunities and training so employees have the*, *"tools to do the job" safely and efficiently.* 

Wise Decisions: Integrating social, economic, environmental, and ethical considerations into the decision -making process.

Effective Management: Instilling a performance management philosophy that fosters creativity, focuses on results, and requires accountability at all levels.

Research and Technology: Incorporating research findings and new

FOFUAR01748

Mission Legacy Business Acreage Legal Criteria Local Support Stewardship Field Offices Parks

technologies to improve work practices, products, and services.

Shared Capabilities: Sharing technical information and expertise with public and private land managers.

On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the act creating the National Park Service, a new federal bureau in the Department of the Interior responsible for protecting the 40 national parks and monuments then in existence and those yet to be established.

This "Organic Act" of August 25, 1916, states that "the Service thus established shall promote and regulate the use of Federal areas known as national parks, monuments and reservations... by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The National Park Service still strives to meet those original goals, while filling many other roles as well: guardian of our diverse cultural and recreational resources; environmental advocate; world leader in the parks and preservation community; and pioneer in the drive to protect America's open space.

The National Park System of the United States comprises 378 areas covering more than 83 million acres in 49 States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, Saipan, and the Virgin Islands. These areas are of such national significance as to justify special recognition and protection in accordance with various acts of Congress.

By Act of March 1, 1872, Congress established Yellowstone National Park in the Territories of Montana and Wyoming "as a public park or pleasuring ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people" and placed it "under exclusive control of the Secretary of the Interior." The founding of Yellowstone National Park began a worldwide national park movement. Today more than 100 nations contain some 1,200 national parks or equivalent preserves.

In the years following the establishment of Yellowstone, the United States authorized additional national parks and monuments, most of them carved from the federal lands of the West. These, also, were administered by the Department of the Interior, while other monuments and natural and historical areas were administered as separate units by the War Department and the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture. No single agency provided unified management of the varied federal parklands.

An Executive Order in 1933 transferred 63 national monuments and military sites from the Forest Service and the War Department to the National Park

Service. This action was a major step in the development of today's truly national system of parks—a system that includes areas of historical as well as scenic and scientific importance.

All sites park sites consulted with pauks

Congress declared in the General Authorities Act of 1970 "that the National." Park System: which began with the establishment of Yellowstone National Park in 1872, has since grown to include superlative natural, historic, and recreation areas in every region ... and that it is the purpose of this Act to include all such areas in the System...."

Additions to the National Park System are now generally made through acts of Congress, and national parks can be created only through such acts. But the President has authority, under the Antiquities Act of 1906, to proclaim national monuments on lands already under federal jurisdiction. The Secretary of the Interior is usually asked by Congress for recommendations on proposed additions to the System. The Secretary is counseled by the National Park System Advisory Board, composed of private citizens, which advises on possible additions to the System and policies for its management.

### Back | Home | Search| Visit Your Parks

Last Updated:Tuesday, 26-Oct-99 14:23:09, MLO http://www.nps.gov/legacy/mission.html



# **Total Number of Bank Swallow Burrows**



FOFUAR01751

# of Burrows

# **PROPOSED HABITAT PROTECTION CLOSURE**

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# FORT FUNSTON GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

FOFUAR01752

# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

# CORRECTION TO NOTICE OF PROPOSED YEAR-ROUND CLOSURE AT FORT FUNSTON AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

CORRECTION: Public comments on this notice must be received by September 18, 2000.

Dated: July 17, 2000.

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Brian O'Neill Superintendent, GGNRA

FOFUAR01753

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### **GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA**

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED YEAR-ROUND CLOSURE AT FORT FUNSTON AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

DATE: Friday, July 14, 2000

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the resource protection mandate of the National Park Service (NPS), the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS, is announcing its proposal to close year-round approximately 12 acres of Fort Funston to off-trail recreational use by the public. The closure is located in the northwest portion of Fort Funston. This closure is necessary to protect habitat for the California threatened bank swallows (Riparia riparia), enhance significant native plant communities, improve public safety and reduce human-induced impacts to the coastal bluffs and dunes, a significant geological feature. NPS invites comments on this proposed year-round closure.

**BACKGROUND:** Section 1.5 of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations authorize the Superintendent to effect closures and public use permits within a national park unit when necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, aid to scientific research, implementation of management responsibilities, equitable allocation and use of facilities, or the avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities. The proposed closure at Fort Funston is necessary to protect public safety, to protect environmental values and natural resources, and to implement management responsibilities. Because of a May 16, 2000, Federal District Court ordered preliminary injunction against the NPS, disallowing the closure until such time as appropriate public notice and opportunity for comment was provided, NPS is providing this notice and invites comments from the public on this proposed year-round closure.

**REFERENCE:** Public Law 92-589 of October 27, 1972, as amended, as codified in Title 16 United States Code Sections 460bb through 460bb-5. Title 16 United States Code Sections 1 and 1a-1. Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations Sections 1.5, 1.7, 2.1, and 2.15. Ft. Funston Dog Walkers v. Babbitt, No. C 00-00877 WHA, N.D. Cal., Preliminary Injunction, May 16, 2000.  $Q \neq fended nor h | 10/b/60$ COMMENTS: Public comments will be accepted for a period of **60 calendar days from the date** of

this notice. Therefore, public comments on this notice must be received by September 12, 2000. Public comments should be submitted to NPS as early as possible in order to assure their maximum consideration. Comments will be considered and this proposal may be modified accordingly, and the final decision of the National Park Service will be published in the Federal Register.

If individuals submitting comments request that their name and/or address be withheld from public disclosure, it will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Such requests must be stated prominently at the beginning of the comments. There also may be circumstances wherein the NPS will withhold a respondent's identity as allowable by law. As always, NPS will make available for public inspection all submissions from organizations or businesses and from persons identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses; and, anonymous comments may not be considered.

SEND COMMENTS TO: Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Bay and Franklin Streets, Building 201, Ft. Mason, San Francisco, 94123.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** Detailed information concerning this proposal, including a map depicting the closure area and open park trails, is available at the following locations:

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- Fort Funston Visitor Center and Ranger Office, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile south of John Muir Drive, on the west side of Hwy 35, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service, San Francisco
- Pacific West Information Center, National Park Service, Building 201, Fort Mason, Bay and
   Franklin Streets, San Francisco
   The Marina Branch Library is closed for
- San Francisco Public Library, Marina Branch,

The Marina Branch Library is closed for renovation. Please use other sites listed on this notice.

• San Francisco Public Library, Sunset Branch, 1305 18th Avenue, San Francisco

CONTACT: For further information, contact Scalla Sheen, Office of Public Affairs, GGNRA at 415-561-4730.

Dated: July 14, 2000.

Stin O.

Brian O'Neill Superintendent, GGNRA

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### I. INTRODUCTION

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As part of the resource protection mission of the National Park Service (NPS), approximately **42**-acres of Fort Funston is being closed year-round to off-trail recreational use by the public. This action will protect habitat for a nesting colony of California state-threatened bank swallows (*Riparia riparia*), a migratory bird species once more common along the California coast that has declined significantly due to habitat conversion and increased recreational use **\* This closure** is also necessary to enhance significant native plant communities, improve public safety, and reduce human-induced impacts to the coastal bluffs and dunes; a significant geological feature.

Part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), Fort Funston spans approximately 230<sup>(h)</sup> acres along the coastal region of the northern San Francisco peninsula. It is located south of Ocean Beach and north of Pacifica, and is flanked to the east by both John Muir Drive and Skyline Boulevard, and to the west by the Pacific Ocean. The proposed year-round closure is located within the northern region of Fort Funston and is depicted on the attached map as "Project Area (Year-round closure)." It is defined to the west by the edge of the coastal bluffs; to the east by the Coastal Trail; to the north by protective fencing installed in the early 1990s for habitat protection; and to the south by a pre-existing "beach access" trail west of the Battery Davis "Y". There is currently fencing erected around the eastern and northern perimeters of the proposed year-round closure area. Additional fencing will be peeler post and wire mesh design, consistent with the existing fencing that was erected in February-April 2000.

The entire 12-acre project area will be closed year-round to visitor access. There is a portion of one designated trail located within the footprint of this closure. This trail, known as the "Spur trail" (see map), will be closed to visitor use because southern sections of this trail have become unusable due to increased sand deposition on the trail surface. This has compounded the establishment and use of unauthorized "social" trails in the northern section of the project area. Visitor use of and access to all "social" trails including "the Gap" (see map) within the project footprint will be prohibited by this closure.

### II. HISTORY - Fort Funston

Prior to Fort Funston's purchase by the Army, the site supported a diversity of native dune vegetation communities. During the 1930s however, the Army built an extensive system of coastal defense batteries, drastically altering the dune topography east of the bluffs and, in the process, destroying much of the native plant communities that inhabited the dunes. Following construction, the Army planted iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) in an attempt to stabilize the open sand around the batteries.

By the mid-1960s, extensive areas of Fort Funston were covered with invasive exotic plants such as iceplant and acacia. Some years after Fort Funston was closed as a military base, it was transferred to the National Park Service in 1972 to become part of the GGNRA. As a unit in the national park system, Fort Funston today is used extensively by beachcombers, walkers, hang gliders, paragliders and horseback riders, and other recreational users. Approximately three-quarters of a million visitors enjoy Fort Funston annually.

### III. CLOSURE INSTIFICATION

This closure is necessary to protect habitat for the California State-threatened bank swallows (*Riparia riparia*), enhance significant native plant communities, improve public safety and reduce human-induced impacts to the coastal bluffs and dunes, a significant geological feature. The National Park Service has authority to effect closures for these purposes pursuant to Section 1.5 of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Specifically, Section 1.5 authorizes the Superintendent to effect closures and public use limits within a national park units when necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, aid to scientific research, implementation of management responsibilities, equitable allocation and use of facilities, or the avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities. As discussed in detail below, the proposed closure at

Fort Funston is necessary to protect environmental values and natural resources, to protect public safety, and to implement management responsibilities.

### A. The Threatened Bank Swallow

One of the many unique features of Fort Funston is that it supports one of the last two remaining coastal cliff-dwelling colonies in California for the bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*). Once more abundant throughout the state, their numbers have declined so dramatically that in 1989 the State of California listed the bank swallow as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act. The bank swallow is also a protected species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and for nearly a century, the bank swallows have returned to Fort Funston each March or April to nest and rear their young along the steep bluff faces. NPS regulations, policies and guidelines mandate the protection and preservation of this unique species and its habitat.

Its preferred habitat—sheer sandy cliffs or banks—has been altered throughout its range by development, eliminated by river channel stabilization, and disrupted by increased recreational pressures. The Fort Funston colony is particularly unique in that it is one of only two remaining colonies in coastal bluffs in California, the other being at Año Nuevo State Park in San Mateo County. Bank swallow habitat at Año Nuevo remains closed to visitor access.

Mortality of bank swallows results from a number of causes including disease, parasites and predation. Destruction of nest sites, including collapsed burrows due to natural on human-caused sloughing of banks, appears to be the most significant direct cause of mortality (Recovery Plan, Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*), State of California Department of Fish and Game 1992). The Recovery Plan recommends a habitat preservation strategy through protection of lands known to support active colonies or with suitable habitat features for future colony establishment. It also acknowledges that isolated colonies, like Fort Funston, are at particularly high risk of extinction or severe population decline. Additionally, the State of California Historic and Current Status of the Bank Swallow in California report (1988) recommended that nesting colonies be protected from harassment and human disturbance.

The Fort Funston colony has been recorded since at least **1905**. Records indicate that the colony fluctuated in size and location over time. A 1961 study of the Fort Funston colony documented a total of 84 burrows in 1954, 114 in 1955, 157 in 1956, and 196 in 1960. GGNRA staff counted at least 229 burrows in 1982 and more than 550 in 1989. In 1987 the California Department of Fish and Game documented 417 burrows at Fort Funston. Approximately 40 to 60 percent of burrows are actively used for nesting in a given year.

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Between 1992 and 1995, NPS implemented other protection and restoration measures for the Fort. Funston colony, including a year-round closure of approximately 23-acres in the northern most portion of Fort Funston to off-trail recreational use. The current proposed closure area lies directly south of this previous closure area. From 1954-56 and from 1989-97, the colony was located along the bluffs within the footprint of this previous closure. However the colony shifted during 1959 and 1960, and again since 1998, such that birds are now nesting within the current proposed closure area.

In 1993, GGNRA established an annual monitoring program to track the abundance and distribution of bank swallows at Fort Funston. Trained personnel conduct weekly surveys during nesting season (from mid-April through early August). From 1993 to 1996, burrow numbers were over 500/each year. The number declined dramatically to only 140 in 1998 and 148 in 1999 when the colony shifted to the current proposed closure area (then unprotected). This event coincided with the storms during the winter of 1997 that caused significant cliff retreat and slumping. In an attempt to protect the colony from recreational disturbance of nesting habitat, protective fencing was installed along the bluff top in 1998 with interpretive signs to encourage visitors to reduce impacts on the nesting colony. These efforts proved unsuccessful in preventing recreational disturbance to the colony. NPS observed increased erosion due to visitor use adjacent to the fenceline. Moreover, the rate of natural bluff erosion, approximately one foot per year, and the constant deposition and erosion of sand material caused the fence to collapse and fail within just a few months. Fence posts near the bluff face also provided advantages to swallow predators that perch on the posts with a view to the swallow nests.

A wide array of disturbances to the swallows at Fort Funston have been observed and recorded during monitoring, and/or photo-documented. While bank swallows are known to be quite tolerant to some disturbance, few colonies are subjected to the intense recreational pressure at Fort Funston. Documented disturbance events at Fort Funston include: cliff-climbing by people and dogs: rescue operations of people and dogs stuck on the cliff face; people and dogs on the bluff edge or in close proximity to active burrows; graffiti carving in the cliff face; aircraft and hang-glider over-flights; and discharge of fireworks within the colony. The potential impacts from such disturbances include: interruption of normal breeding activity, such as feeding of young; crushing of burrows near the top of the cliff face (nests can be located within a foot of the bluff top); casting shadows that may be perceived as predators; accelerating human-caused bluff erosion; and active sloughing and land-slides that may block or crush burrows and the young inside.

The NPS has determined that the designated trails (see map) at Fort Funston provide adequate access to the park area and that continued use of unauthorized "social" trails within the project footprint has adverse impacts on park resources, including the bank swallow.

The institution of the proposed 12-acre closure area, coupled with increased interpretive signs and strategically located protective barriers at the base of the bluffs will protect the bank swallow colony by preventing most of these disturbances. There will be no visitor access to the bluff edges above the nesting sites, thus preventing falls and rescues on the cliff face, as well as human-induced erosion, crushing of burrows, and casting of shadows. Visitor access up the bluffs from the beach into the closure area will be prohibited, thus avoiding human-induced erosion of the bluffs and habitat disturbance.

### В. <sup>1</sup> Geology and Erosion

The bluffs at Fort Funston provide one of the best continuous exposures of the last 2 million years or more of geologic history in California, covering the late Pliocene and Pleistocene eras. This exposure of the Merced Formation is unique within both the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the region. It is a fragile, nonrenewable geologic resource. NPS regulations, policies and guidelines mandate preservation of such resources by preventing forces (other than natural erosion) that accelerate the loss or obscure the natural features of this resource.

Recreational-use-along-the bluff top contributes to a different type of erosion than the natural processes of undercutting and slumping. Concentrated wave energy at the base of the bluffs naturally leads to bluff retreat typically occurring during winter season when the bank swallows that nest in the vertical bluff faces are absent. Natural weathering and erosion from rainfall runoff and wind contribute to loss of the bluff face. During spring and summer, when park users clamber around the bluff tops erosion occurs from the top to the bottom, compromising the bluff face; Slumps caused by heavy visitor traffic along the bluff top can induce sand slippage and may even wipe out burrows during nesting season. Geologist Clyde Warhaftig described areas of this unique sand bluff formation as crushable with the fingers and indicated, in 1989, that people climbing the cliff faces would induce additional erosion and that such activity should be prevented.

Additionally, etosion has been both documented and observed throughout the inland topography of the closure area. Continued heavy visitor use in this inland dune bluff area and associated human-caused erosion along unauthorized "social" trails is likely to further shorten the lifespan of the bluffs, and is an additional threat to the long-term existence and sustainability of suitable habitat for the Fort Funston bank. swallow colony.

The proposed closure will preserve the unique bluffs by preventing destructive human activity around the bluff tops and permitting the inland dune features to recover from human-induced erosion.

C. Conservation and Restoration of Dune Habitats <sup>1</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> largest dune system in the state that covered more than 36 square kilometers of San Francisco. More than 95% of the original dune system has been drastically altered by urbanization and development

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(Powell, 1978). The flora inhabiting the dunes of San Francisco was quite diverse. Historical accounts documenting San Francisco's native dune species can be used to reconstruct the likely historic flora of Fort Funston. Recent surveys of Fort Funston confirm that its remnant flora is clearly allied with other dune localities documented in the 1958 <u>Flora of San Francisco</u>. NPS regulations, policies and guidelines mandate protection of this unique resource.

Removing iceplant and other invasive exotic plant species is one of the most important strategies for restoring dunes. At Fort Funston, iceplant dominates more than 65% of the dunes. The California Exotic Pest Plant Council rates iceplant on its "A" list, which includes those species that are the Most Invasive and Damaging Wildland Pest Plants. "Even when [natural] processes are protected, the very nature of dunes, which are prone to disturbance and characterized by openings in the vegetation, renders them constantly susceptible to the invasion of non-native species—especially in urban settings. For these reasons, restoration is an essential component of dune conservation in northern California." (Pickart and Sawyer 1998).

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

In a report last year, the Director of the National Park Service wrote that "it is undisputed that without decisive, coordinated action the natural resources found within the National Park System will disappear as a result of invasive species spread" (Draft NPS Director's Natural Resource Initiative – Exotic Species Section, 1999). Emphasis on the need to address invasive exotic species issues and control was further stressed through *Executive Order 13112 on Invasive Species signed February 3, 1999.* "Sec. 2 (a) each Federal Agency whose actions may affect the status of invasive species shall ... (2) (i) prevent the introduction of invasive species; (ii) detect and respond rapidly to and control populations of such species in a cost-effective and environmentally sound manner; (iii) monitor invasive species populations accurately and reliably; (iv) provide for the restoration of native species and habitat conditions in ecosystems that are invaded... (vi) promote public education on invasive species and means to address them..."

Increasingly heavy off-trail use has contributed to the deterioration of native dune communities at Fort Funston. Native dune vegetation is adapted to a harsh environment characterized by abrading winds, desiccating soils, low nutrient conditions, and salt spray, but it is not adapted to heavy foot traffic. Only a few species (a few annual plants, coyote bush (*Baccharis pilularis*)) are able to survive repeated trampling. NPS has determined that the designated trails (see map) at Fort Funston provide adequate access to the park areas, including ingress and egress to the beach, and that continued use of unauthorized "social" trails within the project footprint has adverse impacts on the park resources, including the native dune vegetation.

Increasingly, heavy off-leash dog use has also led to the detenoration of native dune communities. When on a leash, the effects of dogs on vegetation and other resources is focused along a trail corndor already disturbed by other recreational activities. When dogs are off-leash, their impacts are spread throughout a larger area. Trampling of vegetation caused by roaming dogs weakens the vegetation in the same manner as trampling by humans; in areas where off-leash dog use is concentrated, such intensive trampling destroys all vegetation, even the extremely tolerant iceplant. Also, the dune soils at Fort Funston are naturally low in nutrients. Deposition of nutrients via dog urine and feces may alter the nutrient balance in places and contribute to the local dominance of invasive non-native annual grasses that prosper in high-nitrogen soils (e.g., farmer's foxtail (*Hordeum* sp.), wild oats (*Avena* sp.), ripgut brome (*Bromus diandrus*)). Other adverse impacts documented and observed by park staff include off-leash dogs digging and uprooting vegetation.

The proposed closure area will allow for the recovery and expansion of remnant native plant species and communities currently threatened by spread of iceplant, and concentrated visitor and off-leash dog use in the project area. Revegetation efforts will promote the establishment of more than 50 dune plant species, including several rare plant species, such as the San Francisco wallflower and the San Francisco spineflower. Expansion of native coastal dune habitat at Fort Funston is also critical to enhancing the diversity and abundance of locally rare wildlife populations thus making them less vulnerable to extinction. It will also aid in preserving habitat for common wildlife species.

# D. Public Safety

Cliff rescues in the Fort Funston area are a serious threat to public safety and have a direct impact on the bank swallow colony. Numerous rescues of dogs and people every year are necessary as a result of falls and/or when those climbing the unstable cliffs find themselves unable to safely move up or down. These rescues can cause injuries to both the rescued and the rescuers, compromising public safety and natural resources at Fort Funston. Additionally, technical rescues, such as cliff rescues at Fort Funston, tie up a large number of park personnel and equipment, leaving major portions of GGNRA unprotected. NPS must take all measures to reduce these preventable emergency rescues to ensure that the limited rescue personnel are available for emergencies throughout the park.

Visitor use at Fort Funston has increased significantly over the past five years, with annual visitation now reaching more than 750,000. Fort Funston has also become the focal point for cliff rescues in San Francisco. An updated review of law enforcement case incident reports indicates the following statistics. Prior to 1998 there was an average of just three cliff rescues per year involving dogs and/or persons stranded on the cliffs at Fort Funston. In **1998** the number of cliff rescues at Fort Funston jumped to 25. In 1999, park rangers performed 16 cliff rescues at Fort Funston.

By contrast, there were a total of 11 cliff rescues in 1998 along the remaining nine miles of San Francisco shoreline from Fort Point to the Cliff House. In 1999, there were four rescues along this stretch of coastline which includes a myriad of hazardous cliffs, and supports an annual visitation of approximately 2 million visitors. There were however, no dog rescues within this region during the past two years, largely because the leash laws are enforced, and because several especially hazardous areas are closed and fenced off for public safety.

There are several factors that have contributed to the increase in cliff rescues at Fort Funston. First, the severe winter storms in 1997/98 significantly eroded the bluffs, creating near-vertical cliff faces adjacent to and below some unauthorized "social" trails along the bluffs and causing more falls over the cliffs. Second, the increasing numbers of off-leash dog walkers at Fort Funston have resulted in many dog rescues, as well as three injured dogs and one dog death from falling off the cliffs at Fort Funston in just the past two years.

The National Park Service has determined that the designated trails (see map) at Fort Funston provide adequate access to the park areas, including ingress and egress to the beach, and that continued use of unauthorized "social" trails within the project footprint is a safety hazard for visitors and park rescue personnel.

The proposed closure will protect visitors, their pets, and the rescue personnel from unnecessary injury and will reduce the costly and time-consuming cliff rescues at Fort Funston by preventing access to dangerous cliff areas, and unauthorized use of "social" trails.

# IV. PREVIOUS PROTECTION EFFORTS

GGNRA began pro-active management of the bank swallow colony in 1990, following ranger observations of destructive visitor activities including climbing the cliffs to access nests, carving of graffiti in the soft sandstone, and harassment of birds with rocks and fireworks.

The first dune fences we erected in 1990 at the bluff's edge north of the currently proposed year-round closure to deter visitors from the edge of the bluff. This effort was ineffective. NPS observed increased erosion due to visitor use adjacent to the fenceline. Moreover, the rate of natural bluff erosion, approximately one foot per year, and the constant deposition and erosion of sand material makes the construction of bluff-top fences a short-term solution. To further evaluate the effectiveness and anticipated maintenance needs of a potential fenceline constructed parallel to the bluffs and within 100-150 feet of the bluff edge, GGNRA established sand deposition/erosion monitoring points at selected distances from the bluff top in 2000. The monitoring points were established along a fenceline erected in April 2000. Data gathered at these points was used to make preliminary calculations of the rate of sand deposition/erosion along the northern cliffs at Fort Funston within the currently proposed closure. To date, after 3 months of data collection, data indicates that deposition/erosion of sand varies from +27" to -36" along the monitored fenceline posts, demonstrating the dynamic nature of the habitat and, consequently, the inefficiencies and difficulties of constructing the fenceline close to the bluff edge.

Implementation of an approved bank swallow protection and management strategy began in the fall of 1991, and continued for the next five years. This management strategy included: (1)-closing and protecting-23 acres of the bluff tops by installing barrier fencing and removing exotic vegetation above the bank swallow colony; (2) requiring all dogs to be on-leash and all users to be on an authorized, existing trails when travelling through the closed area - all off-trail use was prohibited; and (3) creating a 50-foot seasonal closure at the base of the cliffs where the swallows nest to create a buffer area during breeding season, further protecting bank swallows from human disturbance. GGNRA hang-gliding permit conditions also prohibit flight over the nesting area during breeding season to reduce colony disturbance.

Between 1992 and 1995, over 35,000 native plants were propagated at the Fort Funston nursery and outplanted in the newly restored dunes within the 23-acre closure. This was accomplished through thousands of hours of community volunteer support. This restoration area now supports thriving native coastal dune habitat and several locally-rare native wildlife species including California quail (Callipepla californica), burrowing owls (Athene cunicularia) and brush rabbits (Sylvilagus bachmani), and a diversity of other native wildlife. California quail now survive in only a few isolated patches of habitat within San Francisco and is the subject of a "Save the Quail" campaion by the Golden Gate Audubon Society. Burrowing owls are designated as a state species of concern. California quail are considered a National Audubon Society WatchList species in California because of declining populations. Brush rabbits are not known to occur in any other San Francisco location within GGNRA.

#### V. **PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

The National Park Service is proposing to extend the existing 23-acre protection area based upon the following factors:

- southern movement of the bank swallow colony in 1998 to an unprotected area:
- significant decline in the colony size: .

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- ineffectiveness of a fence installed in 1998 along the bluff top of the unprotected new nesting area designed to prevent recreational use up and down a landslide on the cliff face;
- ineffectiveness of signs above the new nesting area warning of the sensitivity of the area;
- increase in the total visitation numbers, including off-leash dog walkers;
- increase in the number of clift rescues staged along the bluff top;
- increase in erosion and loss of vegetation cover within the dunes between the bluff edge and coastal trail from visitor and pet disturbance;
- habitat restoration, including removing tracts of iceplant and restoring with native species.

In order to address the factors listed above, NPS determined that the current proposed closure must meet the following goals and objectives:

1. Provide increased protection to the new nesting location of the bank swallow colony at Fort Funston. and the NEBRITH AT CARE

- prevent disturbances from visitor use above and along the bluffs
- control off-leash dog activities in and above the colony habitat
- prevent disturbances from cliff rescues

- 2. Increase biological diversity by restoring native coastal dune scrub habitat
  - reduce invasive exotic species (specifically iceplant) cover to less than 5% and revegetate protected area with native dune species
  - prevent visitor access to unauthorized "social" trail use and prohibit off-trail use
  - reduce impacts of off-leash dog activities within coastal dune scrub habitat
  - reduce disturbances from visitor use within this sensitive coastal dune scrub habitat
  - restore natural dune processes
  - expand native coastal dune habitat at Fort Funston to enhance the diversity and abundance of locally rare wildlife populations, such as California quail
- 3. Increase public safety
  - reduce risks of falling over cliffs and need for cliff rescues
  - close unauthorized "social" trails along bluff top and close access to back dunes

4. Protect the geologic resources including bluff top and interior dunes from accelerated human-induced erosion.

An interdisciplinary team of GGNRA staff determined the size and footprint of the proposed closure and the design of the protective fence. In considering alternatives, the team evaluated whether the project goals and objectives were met, the ability to achieve compliance within the closure, the long-term maintenance required, the feasibility and costs of construction, and the impacts to recreational uses.

To achieve the goals and objectives listed above, the proposed closure was initially selected by NPS in 1999. However, in January 2000, NPS began implementation of a less restrictive closure that was developed after a series of NPS meetings with representatives of the dog walking community. The less restrictive closure entailed reducing the project footprint and opening over half of the area to visitor access when bank swallows were not present at Fort Funston. Since that time, extensive litigation regarding the closure has resulted in the development of an exhaustive record of evidence that, when re-evaluated, supports the currently proposed permanent closure. NPS has determined that the less restrictive closure is inadequate to meet the mandate of the National Park Service, in light of significant adverse impacts on natural resources, threats to public safety, infeasibility of fence maintenance and difficulty of closure enforcement.

NPS has determined that the currently proposed permanent closure, as depicted on the attached map, is necessary to achieve the goals and objectives outlined above, and is the least restrictive means to protect the resources and preserve public safety at Fort Funston and elsewhere within GGNRA.

# VI. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Because of a May 16, 2000, Federal District Court ordered preliminary injunction against the NPS, which disallows the closure until such time as appropriate public notice and opportunity for comment was provided, NPS provided notice of the proposed closure in the Federal Register on July 18, 2000, and invites comments from the public on this proposed year-round closure.

Public comments will be accepted for a period of 60 calendar days from the date of the notice. Therefore, public comments on this notice must be received by September 18, 2000. Comments will be considered and this proposal may be modified accordingly, and the final decision of the NPS will be published in the Federal Register.

If individuals submitting comments request that their name and/or address be withheld from public disclosure, it will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Such requests must be stated prominently at the beginning of the comments. There also may be circumstances wherein the NPS will withhold a respondent's identity as allowable by law. As always, NPS will make available for public inspection all submissions from organizations or businesses and from persons identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses; and, anonymous comments may not be considered.

SEND COMMENTS TO: Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Bay and Franklin Streets, Building 201, Ft. Mason, San Francisco, 94123.

GGNRA ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING: Comments will also be received at the August 29, 2000, GGNRA Advisory Commission meeting to be held at 7:30 p.m. at park headquarters, building 201, Upper Fort Mason at the intersection of Bay and Franklin Streets, San Francisco, California.

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# NEWS RELEASEU.S. department of the InteriorNationalPark Service

# <u>Fort Funston Habitat Protection Closure</u> <u>Approved by National Park Service</u>

**December 18, 2000** 

Contacts: GGNRA Public Affairs Rich Weideman, (415) 561-4730 Roger Scott (415) 561-4731 Christine Powell (415) 561-4732

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) today announced that a 12-acre portion of Fort Funston, as proposed in July 2000, will be closed year-round to park visitors and pets in January 2001. Visitor access to all undesignated trails including "the Gap" and the designated Spur Trail are affected.

However, in light of recommendations by the GGNRA Advisory Commission, NPS will study the option of removing the fences and permitting public access and on-leash dog walking on designated trails within the closure area as an alternative means of protecting the resources and protecting public safety. This option would take effect, if at all, only after native plants are established in the closed area and the public is adequately informed of and accustomed to the prohibition on access to the cliff areas and the regulatory dogson-leash requirement. This consideration may take the form of an overall NPS planning effort for Fort Funston or parkwide.

The closure will meet the goals and objectives of this project and the NPS Congressional mandate by: protecting of the site's coastal bank swallow community, a California threatened species; protecting geological resources through erosion control; restoring native plant communities to promote biodiversity and increasing public safety in dangerous cliff areas.

"The National Park Service's mission is to protect the natural and cultural resources of this nation, while providing for the recreational needs of visitors where possible. We are aware of the GGNRA's recreational mandate, yet NPS regulations clearly state that when there is a conflict between recreation and resource protection, conservation is to be predominant. I believe that this decision provides a balance by allowing recreational use to continue at Fort Funston--including dog walking---while protecting the state-threatened bank swallow, native plants, and coastal bluffs," stated GGNRA Superintendent Brian O'Neill.

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

The project went though an extended 12-week public comment period, during which both written and oral comments were taken and two public meetings were held. Approximately 1,500 comments were weighed from the dog walking community, environmental organizations and other interested parties.

While the closure was official when the decision document was signed on December 14, the fences remain open at this time and will not be closed until after a notice appears in the Federal Register in January. Notice of this closure will soon be posted at Fort Funston and on the GGNRA website at <u>www.nps.gov/goga</u>.

For further information call the Public Affairs office at the above numbers..

(2000-09)



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Here are the names of those who signed up to speak, but either left or did not get a chance to speak at the August 29 Advisory Commission meeting.

The addresses are as complete as they gave and some of the handwriting was a little suspect, but I tried to note where there were potential questions.

Mike says we can mail out an announcement for the September 26 meeting to any names we get a complete address for. Let us know if you would like us to do that or if you want to mail out the announcement cards, we can get them to you as soon as they come into Mike.

Either way, give Michael Feinstein a call at 415-561-4733 and let him know what you find out about the attached list. There are a few other groups we will be checking with to see if they recognize any of the names.

Please call if I can clarify any of the attached names or addresses.

Roger Scott

# FOFUAR01773

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# United States Department of the Interior

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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Dear Resident:

You signed up at our recent August 29<sup>th</sup> GGNRA Citizens Advisory Commission Meeting to give comment on the Proposed Habitat Protection Closure for Fort Funston. However, because of time constraints, you did not have the opportunity to speak.

The National Park Service is extending an invitation to come back and give your comments at the Tuesday, September 29 GGNRA Advisory Commission Meeting.

As you can see by the enclosed agenda, the Fort Funston issue is the first major topic on the evening's agenda and will come at the beginning of the evening. We hope to see you there.

If you have questions about this notice, please call Michael Feinstein in the Office of Public Affairs at (415) 561-4733



# Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore Advisory Commission

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The Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) and Point Reyes National Seashore Advisory Commission will meet on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>September 26, 2000</u> beginning at <u>7:30 p.m.</u> at GGNRA Park Headquarters, Bldg. 201, Fort Mason, Bay and Franklin Streets, San Francisco, California.

## AGENDA

- 1. Approval of Minutes of 08/29/00 meeting
- 2. Swearing In of Commissioner Fred Rodriguez
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT FROM PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED SPEAKERS ON FORT FUNSTON CLOSURE NOTICE

[Public comment period has been extended to October 6, 2000. Written comments can be sent to: Superintendent, GGNRA, Bldg. 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123]

- 4. FORT BAKER AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT
- 5. PRESIDIO MOUNTAIN LAKE ENHANCEMENT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)
- 6. Reports: Superintendent's Report Presidio Trust Director's Report
- 7. Committee Reports
- 8. Non Agenda Issues

For further information on this FUBLIC MEETING contact Michael Feinstein at (415) 561-4733. Minutes of this meeting can be received by writing to Staff Assistant, GGNRA, Bidg. 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123 or calling (415) 561-4733. Large print agendes are available by request. Sign language interpreters are available by request for this meeting but some be requested at least 1 WEEK prior to the meeting. The TDD phone number for GGNRA is (415) 556-2766.

GGNRA007950

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# Individuals who signed up to speak at the August 29, 2000 GGNRA Citizens Advisory Commission meeting, but did not have an opportunity to speak on the proposed Fort Funston Closure Project.

- 1. Nena Beach 2835 22<sup>nd</sup> Street SF 94110
- 2. Chris Vulpe No Address (510) 642-1834 Fax (510) 642-0535
- Mike Doane

   Mike Doane
   1786 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue
   SF CA 94122
   (415) 731-1984
- 4. Eric Finseth 384 Curtner Avenue Palo Alto 94306-3417
- 5. Corinne San Francisco
- 6. Nancy Stafford 1377 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue SF 94122 (415) 681-2649
- 7. Joy Durighello San Francisco (415) 584-1828 Fax (415)-585-0407
- 8. David Perry 2134 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue SF 94116-1505 (415) 661-4345
- 9. Ron Dillon (sp) or Gillon (?) 37 Hartford San Francisco CA 94114-2013
- 10. Tom Kanaley 150 Lenox Way SF CA 94127

- 11. Susan Scher 350 Church# D SF 94114 (415) 522-0950
- 12. Paricia LaCava 1445 Stevenson SF CA 94103 (415) 553-8862
- Hazel Walter
   451 Niantic Ave
   Daley City 94014
   (650) 757-1757
- 14. Laura Herlen 255 Ortega San Francisco, CA 94122

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consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexis London, Rules Processing Team, telephone (703) 787–1600. For details on the proposed survey or to obtain a copy of the survey questions, you may contact Harry Luton, in the MMS Gulf of Mexico Regional Office, telephone (504) 736–2784.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* Survey—Labor Migration and the Deepwater Oil Industry.

OMB Control Number: 1010-NEW. Abstract: The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, 43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq., requires the Secretary of the Interior to preserve, protect, and develop oil and gas resources in the OCS; make such resources available to meet the Nation's energy needs as rapidly as possible; balance orderly energy resources development with protection of the human, marine, and coastal environment; ensure the public a fair and equitable return on the resources offshore; and preserve and maintain free enterprise competition.

The OCS Lands Act (at 43 U.S.C. 1346, Environmental Studies) instructs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct studies to establish environmental information as he deems necessary and to monitor the human, marine, and coastal environments. The purpose of the studies is to provide time-series and data trend information which can be used to identify any significant changes in the quality and productivity of such environments, to establish trends in the areas studied and monitored, and to design experiments to identify the causes of such changes. This authority and responsibility are among those delegated to MMS.

MMS proposes to conduct a survey to examine the consequences of international labor on four port communities in southern Louisiana. The information collected will aid MMS in understanding the impact of foreign labor on the well-being of communities in southern Louisiana. The scientific information is needed to understand the concerns, fears, and desires of communities with respect to OCS activities, and it is necessary for successful operation of the OCS oil and gas program in the region.

Questions in the survey will address the respondent's historical ties to the oil and gas industry; current views about his/her community, impact of the presence of foreign-born immigrants in the four communities, and background and household information.

Responses are voluntary. No proprietary items or questions of a

sensitive nature will be collected. Frequency: This will be a one-time data collection activity.

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: Approximately 200 randomly selected households in each of the four communities (800 respondents).

respondents). Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden: Approximately 25 minutes per survey for the primary data collection effort. Follow-up discussions, when held, will average approximately 20 minutes. The total annual burden is estimated at 340 hours (333 hours for primary survey + 7 hours for follow-up conversations)

7 hours for follow-up conversations). Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost" Burden: We have identified no non-hour cost burdens to the respondents.

Comments: The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA requires each agency "\* \* \* to provide notice \* \* \* and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information \* \* \*" Agencies must specifically solicit comments to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

To comply with the public consultation process, on June 22, 2000, we published a Federal Register notice (65 FR 38852) with the required 60-day comment period announcing that we would submit this ICR to OMB for approval. We have received no comments in response to that initial notice. If you wish to comment in response to this notice, send your comments directly to the offices listed under the ADDRESSES section of this notice. The OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, to ensure maximum

consideration, OMB should receive public comments by October 19, 2000. MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer: Jo Ann Lauterbach, (202) 208–7744.

Dated: August 29, 2000.

### E. P. Danenberger,

Chief, Engineering and Operations Division. [FR Doc. 00–24014 Filed 9–18–00; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4310–MR–U

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### **National Park Service**

#### Golden Gate National Recreation Area; Extension of Comment Period to Notice of Proposed Year-Round Closure at Fort Funston

A notice of proposed year-round closure at Fort Funston in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area was published in the Federal Register on July 18, 2000 (65 FR 44546), and amended on July 26, 2000 (65 FR 45988). The comment period closed on September 18, 2000. This document extends the comment period. Public comments on this notice must be received by October 6, 2000.

Dated: September 15, 2000.

#### Brian O'Neill,

Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area. [FR Doc. 00–24071 Filed 9–18–00; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4310-76-M

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

ACTION: Notice of information collection under review: Application for naturalization.

The Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The information collection was previously published in the Federal Register on July 5, 2000 at 65 FR 41490, allowing for a 60-day public comment period. No comments were received by the INS on the proposed extension of the current information collection.

On June 28, 2000 at 65 FR 39926, the INS published a notice in the Federal

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9/14/00

1. Neva Beach, 2835 22nd St, SF 94110 (not in Linda's data base - SFDOG member)

2. Chrus Vulpe (can't find)

3. Mike Doane, 1786 36th Ave, SF 94122 (good address - phone is 415-731-1984)

4. Eric Finseth, 384 Curtner Ave, Palo Alto (not in Linda's data base)

5. Corinne \_\_\_\_, SF (none in SF. FFDW has a "Corinne" in Pacifica - Corinne Gelhaye/547 Manor/Pacifica/94044

6. Nancy Stafford, 1377 16th Ave, SF 94122 (good address - phone is (415) 681-2649)

7. Joy Durighello, SF (not in Linda's data base)

8. David Perry, 2134 46th Ave, SF (good address - phone is 415-661-4345; email sarahnoelmary@yahoo.com)

9. Ron Dillon or Gillon, 37 Hartford, SF (not in Linda's data base)

10. Tom Kanaley, 150 Lenox Way, SF 94127 (not in Linda's data base)

11. Susan Schultz or Schatz, 350 Church, SF 94114 (Susan Scher, 350 Church #D, phone 415-522-0950, email shsmd@mindspring.com)

12. Patricia LaCava, 1445 Stevenson, SF 94103 (good address, phone 415-553-8862)

13. Haley Whala, 451 Niantic Ave, Daly City 94014 (name is "Hazel Walter", good address, phone 650-757-1757)

14. Laura Hake, 255 Ortega, SF 94122 (FFDW has a Laura Herlen at that address)

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Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore

### CITIZENS

ADVISORY COMMISSION

Building 201. Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

## FORT FUNSTON RESOLUTION #1 CLOSURE OF TWELVE ACRES AT FORT FUNSTON

WHEREAS, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) is part of the National Park System and subject to its policies and regulations as well as to federal law, and

WIIEREAS, the GGNRA has proposed to close 12 acres of Fort Funston to

- Reduce cliff and bluff failure
- Encourage the restoration of natural habitat
- Protect the lives and habitat of bank swallows, a species listed as "threatened" by the State of California Endangered Species Act
- Assure the safety of visitors, and pets, and,

WHEREAS, the naturally eroding cliffs of Fort Funston have lost many feet of land since the GGNRA was established, exacerbating loss of species habitat and creating safety issues, and

WHEREAS, this Commission has, during an extended comment period between January and October 2000, heard testimony from park users and other interested parties on four occasions and has received approximately 1,500 written comments, and

WHEREAS, this Commission, in part at the request of the Fort Funston dog walkers, has reviewed applicable National Park Service law including the GGNRA enabling legislation, the hearing record on that legislation, the House and Senate Committee Reports on that legislation, National Park Service regulations including Title 36, Chapter I, Part 2, Sec. 2.15 "Pets," the National Park Service Director's Order #55 of September 8, 2000 and the September 15, 2000 "Notice of New Policy Interpreting the National Park Service (NPS) Organic Act, the results of the 1973 election at which 66.8% of San Francisco voters approved the transfer of lands from the jurisdiction of the city to the GGNRA, the 1975 agreement between the City of San Francisco and the Federal Government for the transfer of the city lands to the National Park Service, the 1977 City Planning Commission "Staff Response to GGNRA [Management Plan] Alternatives," the General Management Plan for the GGNRA approved in 1980 after Bay Area-wide public hearings, the City of San Francisco's Western Shoreline Area Plan, the results of several court cases regarding NPS land and resource management, and the sustainability plan of the City of San Francisco,

now therefore be it

### FOFUAR01804

Richard Bartke, Chano Amy Meyer, Pice Chano Michael Alexandero Susan Giacomuni Allano Gondon Bennetto Anna-Marie Bootho Betsey Cutlero Redmond Kernano Yvonne Leeo Doug Nadeauo Trent Orr Lennie Robertso Dennis Rodomo Fred Rodriguezo Doug Sideno John J. Springo Edgar Wayburn, **GGNRA007979**  Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore

CITIZENS

ADVISORY COMMISSION

Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

RESOLVED, that the decision of the GGNRA superintendent to close twelve acres of Fort Funston to dogs is appropriate and necessary, and be it further

RESOLVED, that in preference to permanent closure, the Commission requests the superintendent consider removing the fences and having a trail through the area accessible to dogs on leash.

-Adopted by unanimous vote by the Advisory Commission on November 28, 2000

Richard Bartke, Chair

FOFUAR01805

Richard Bartke, Chair®Amy Meyer, Lice Chair®Michael Alexander®Susan Giacommi Allan® Gordon BennetteAnna-Marie Booth®Betsey Cutler®Redmond Kernan®Yvonne Lee®Doug Nadeau®Trent Orr Lennie Roberts®Dennis Rodoni®Fred Rodriguez®Doug Siden®John J. Spring®Edgar Wayburn, M.D. GGNRA007980 Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore

CITIZENS' A D V I S O R Y C O M M I S S I O N

Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

## FORT FUNSTON RESOLUTION #2 GMP UPDATE

RESOLVED, that the Advisory Commission requests that the National Park Service as early as practicable update the General Management Plan (GMP) for Fort Funston and in that process work with neighbors and user groups.

--Adopted by unanimous vote by the Advisory Commission on November 28, 2000

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Richard Bartke, Chair

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**FOFUAR01806** 

Richard Bartke, Chair®Amy Meyer, Free Chair®Michael Alexander®Susan Giacomini Allan® Gordon Bennett®Anna-Marie Booth®Betsey Cutler®Redmond Kernan®Yvonne Lee®Doug Nadeau®Trent Orr Lennie Roberts®Dennis Rodoni®Fred Rodriguez®Doug Siden®John J Spring®Edgar Wayburn, M.D GGNRA007981



# **DIVISION CHIEFS:**

O'Neill, B. Bartling, M. Scott, M. Borjes, R. Espinoza, H. Hornor, N. Hurst, S. Kates, B. Levitt, H. Mannel, D. Merkle, Maj. Ruan, Y. Shine, G. Thomas, T. Gray Shine Chris Powell Roger Scott Rich Weideman Tamara Williams Daphne Hatch Maria Alvarez Marc Albert Darren Fong





**U.S. Department of Justice** 

B. O'Neill Cy: M. Scott

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SUPERNIERING

United States Attorney Northern District of California

10th Floor, Federal Building, Box 36055 450 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, California 94102 (415) 436-7180 FAX: (415) 436-6748

October 20, 2000

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

> Re: <u>Ft. Funston Dog Walkers v. Bruce Babbitt</u> No. C 00 0877 WHA, U.S. District Court, ND, Cal.

Dear Brian:

This is to reiterate the need to retain all Park Service documents pertaining to the subject matter of the referenced case, i.e., dog walking issues at GGNRA.

Judge Alsup emphasized this point and his standing orders to preserve evidence in pending matters during the recently held Case Management Conference. Enclosed are two copies of an excerpt of the transcript from that hearing wherein Judge Alsup particularized his concerns in this case and gave specific requirements for the GGNRA personnel. I recommend that you disseminate this information to those personnel as soon as possible so that there will be no misunderstanding of the Court's expectations in this regard. If you have questions, please give me a call at the number listed above.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT S. MUELLER, III United States Attorney

CHARLES M. O'CONNOR Assistant United States Attorney

CMO: sc

Enclosures

cc: Nicole Walthall, Esq.

FOFUAR01809

	PAGES 1 - 30
UNITED STAT	ES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DIST	RICT OF CALIFORNIA
BEFORE THE HONORABLE WILLIAM	H. ALSUP, JUDGE
FT. FUNSTON DOG WALKERS, A ) MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION, ) ET AL., ) PLAINTIFFS, )	
) VS. )	NO. C 00-0877 WHA
) BRUCE BABBITT, SECRETARY ) OF THE INTERIOR, ET AL., )	COPY .
DEFENDANTS.	
GOLDEN GATE AUDOBON SOCIETY,)	
, INTERVENOR/DEFENDANT. )	
EXCERPT	N FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA URSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2000 このデ OF PROCEEDINGS
APPEARANCES :	
. ATTOR 2995	<b>B. KEATING</b> RNEY AT LAW WOODSIDE ROAD, SUIT 350 SIDE, CALIFORNIA 94062
(APPEARANCES CONTI	NUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE)
	FOFUAR01810
	TH N. THOMSEN, CSR, RPR, RMR, FCRR CIAL REPORTER, USDC
COMPUTERIZED TR	ANSCRIPTION BY ECLIPSE

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JUDITH THOMSEN, CSR 5591 - USDC - (415)255-6090

Π	······································
1	THE COURT: AND IF IF YOU DON'T HAVE A MOTION,
2	PLEASE DO ANOTHER JOINT STATEMENT A FEW DAYS BEFORE, AT LEAST
3	TEN DAYS BEFORE.
4	I DO SECONDLY, I AM GOING TO STAY ANY AND ALL
5	DISCOVERY BETWEEN NOW AND JANUARY 18TH. BUT WITH ONE IMPORTANT
6	PROVISO, AND THAT'S WHAT I AM GOING TO CALL A
7	PRESERVATION-OF-EVIDENCE ORDER. AND THIS GOES TO AUDUBON, TOO,
8	AS WELL AS THE PARK SERVICE. AND THAT IS THAT WITH RESPECT TO
9	THE EMERGENCY CLOSURE THAT OCCURRED A FEW MONTHS AGO, I WANT
10	THE PARK SERVICE AND AUDUBON TO PRESERVE AND TAKE AFFIRMATIVE
11	STEPS TO PRESERVE EVIDENCE, INCLUDING E-MAILS, SO THAT LATER ON
12	IT DOESN'T TURN OUT THAT SOMEBODY SAYS, "OOPS WE, YOU KNOW,
13	THREW THAT OUT, " BECAUSE THAT'S ONE WAY MR. KEATING COULD BE
14	PREJUDICED BY A STAY IS THAT THE EVIDENCE GETS DESTROYED.
15	AND I WANT YOU TO INSTRUCT THE RANGERS THAT IF THEY
16	ARE USING THEIR PERSONAL COMPUTERS TO SEND E-MAILS THAT RELATE
17	TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS, THEY HAVE GOT TO PRESERVE THOSE, TOO,
18	BECAUSE, HUMANS BEING WHAT THEY ARE, I DON'T WANT THEM THINKING
19	THAT THEY CAN WRITE THE SAME KIND OF E-MAILS THEY WROTE BEFORE
20	ON THEIR PERSONAL COMPUTERS AND NOT HAVE TO PRODUCE THEM FOR
21	THE COURT. THAT SHOULD BE PART OF THE IF IT'S GOVERNMENT
22	BUSINESS, I DON'T CARE WHETHER THEY ARE DOING IT ON THEIR
23	PERSONAL COMPUTERS OR THE GOVERNMENT COMPUTERS. SO I WANT THE
24	PARK SERVICE PEOPLE TO BE INSTRUCTED THAT THEY'VE GOT TO
25	PRESERVE THAT EVIDENCE. FOFUAR01811
ſ	JUDITH THOMSEN, CSR 5591 - USDC - (415)255-6090

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I AM NOT SAYING YOU HAVE GOT TO PRODUCE IT YET. Т 1 JUST DON'T WANT LATER TO BE IN A POSITION THAT BECAUSE OF THIS 2 DELAY, THE STAY, THAT EVIDENCE HAS BEEN DESTROYED. 3 ALL RIGHT. 4 MS. WALTHALL: MAY I ASK A POINT OF CLARIFICATION? 5 THE COURT: OF COURSE. YES. 6 MS. WALTHALL: YOU REFERRED TO THE EMERGENCY 7 WERE YOU -- THAT YOU SAID WAS BEFORE YOU BEFORE. WE CLOSURE. 8 HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO THAT, I THINK, AS THE MARCH 2000 9 CLOSURE, AND THE EMERGENCY CLOSURE WAS SUBSEQUENT TO YOUR 10 CONSIDERATION OF THE MARCH 2000 --11 I THOUGHT THAT -- LET'S MAKE SURE WE ARE THE COURT: 12 TALKING ABOUT THE SAME ONE. AND I AM NOT TALKING ABOUT THE ONE 13 THAT I HAVE ALREADY SEEN THE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD ON. I THINK 14 AFTER THE PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION CAME OUT THERE WAS YET ANOTHER 15 EMERGENCY CLOSURE, WASN'T THERE? 16 MR. KEATING: THERE WAS. 17 MR. O'CONNOR: THAT WAS A SEASONAL AREA, YOUR HONOR. 18 MR. KEATING: WHEN THE BANK SWALLOWS CAME BACK, TWO 19 OR THREE DAYS PRIOR TO THE INJUNCTION HEARING, THEY ANNOUNCED 20 AN EMERGENCY CLOSURE, IF YOUR HONOR REMEMBERS, WHICH WE HAD THE 21 **FOFUAR01812** PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION --22 THE COURT: LOOK, WHAT I AM TRYING TO GET AT IS ANY 23 EMERGENCY CLOSURE SINCE THE -- THAT THE EVIDENCE HADN'T BEEN 24 PRODUCED ON YET, WHICH I AM ASSUMING WOULD BE LAST SPRING TO 25

> JUDITH THOMSEN, CSR 5591 - USDC - (415)255-6090 GGNRA007987



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## Talking Points for City Attorney's Meeting Regarding Resolution Passed by San Francisco Board of Supervisors (Not to be Handed Out)

1. The Board of Supervisors' resolution asks that NPS be reminded of its obligation to submit Fort Funston construction plans to the SF Planning Dept. for review, comment and approval, including plans to install or maintain fencing at Fort Funston.

NPS understands this obligation in regards to the agreement with the City and County of San Francisco, but does not feel the placing of a fence falls under this agreement.

The agreement between NPS and the City and County of San Francisco (April 29, 1975), states "As any planning process moves from the conceptual stage to that of proposed construction plans, the General Superintendent shall formally notify and consult with the Department of City Planning on all proposed construction plans of any building, roadway, parking lot or facility, pier, or any structure or substantial alteration of the natural environment of the above mentioned lands."

The placing of a fence surrounding 12 acres at Fort Funston does not fall under the category of construction of a structure or building nor does it substantially alter the natural environment.

2. The resolution asks how NPS will comply with disability access and plans for resurfacing the Sunset Trail.

The northern portion of the Sunset Trail was paved in the 1970s with the intention of providing access for visitors with special needs. It did not meet ADA guidelines; that legislation passed some years later. The trail was closed in October 1999 as it had become a hazard due to continual coastal erosion. The NPS then repaired and reopened the unpaved trail with a sand surface in March 2000. The Golden Gate National Recreation Area Project Review/Environmental Compliance Form states, "That portion of the Sunset Trail will not be re-paved due to ongoing erosion and therefore will not be completely handicap accessible." The NPS informational sheet, which was

handed out to the public in March 2000, stated "Park Visitors using this trail should be aware that this is sand dune topography and that the trail surface will change due to blowing sand and erosion. Coastal erosion occurs regularly on the cliffs of the Pacific Ocean causing changes in trail alignment and visitor use."

NPS does provide trail access for visitors with special needs. It constructed an ADA-compliant portion of the Sunset Trail, which runs south from the southern end of the parking lot to the ranger station.

3. The resolution asks NPS to explain how closures comply with the deed restriction requiring that Fort Funston be used only for recreation or park purposes.

The agreement between NPS and the City and County of San Francisco (April 1975) calls not only for recreation (consistent with sound principles of land use), but for the preservation of the scenic beauty and natural character of the area. The agreement states "WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior is charged with management of GGNRA and mandated to utilize the resources of the GGNRA in a manner which will provide for recreational and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land use, planning and management, and to preserve the GGNRA in its natural setting and protect it from development and uses which would destroy the scenic beauty and natural character of the area..."

Approximately 80% of Fort Funston is available for recreational activities.

Per the agreement, sound principles of land use call for protection of the state-threatened bank swallow and habitat restoration, amongst other land management activities. Protection of the bank swallow area and coastal dunes will help preserve the scenic beauty and natural character of the area, as was stated in the agreement.

4. The Supervisors' resolution states that since 1991, NPS has closed heavily used portions of Fort Funston for the purpose of habitat restoration without notifying the City and County of San Francisco.

In fact, the NPS has discussed this issue with representatives of the City and County of San Francisco on numerous occasions, including the Office of Mayor Brown, Supervisor Leland Yee, and the City Attorney's office. Additionally, the closure document was filed in the Federal Register seeking public comment, and numerous media stories appeared.

Additionally, the Supervisors' resolution also uses the words "avowed purpose" of habitat protection and native plant restoration when discussing reasons for the closure. The purposes of the closures were for the stated reasons, including bank swallow protection, habitat restoration, geology and erosion and safety, and not to eliminate recreational use. Approximately 30 acres were marked for restoration, with 23 acres restored today. In the restored area in the northern section of Fort Funston, non-native vegetation, which contributes to degradation of the resources, was replaced with native vegetation. The restoration now provides much-needed habitat for wildlife, including the City of San Francisco's official bird the California quail. Recreation does take place in this area on a designated trail.

The 1980 Golden Gate National Recreation Area General Management Plan, a document that underwent extensive public review before adoption by the NPS in which the City and County of San Francisco took part, states the "natural area of Ocean Beach, Fort Funston, East and West Fort Miley, Lands End, and Baker Beach will be maintained. Wooded areas from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Cliff House will be protected, and wherever possible along the ocean shoreline the dune environment will be restored. These lands will continue to have a relatively natural character, but intensive management actions such as reforestation of the Monterey cypress stands may be required to preserve wooded areas. This part of the park will attract people seeking closer contact with nature within the city." (pgs. 95-6 of GMP).

Additionally, the San Francisco Western Shoreline Area Plan, (Fort Funston Policy 1), states "Maximize the natural qualities of Fort Funtson. Conserve the ecology of entire Fort Funston and develop recreational uses which will have only minimal effect on the natural environment."

# CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO



LOUISE H. RENNE City Attorney

## OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

MARIAM M. MORI FY Deputy City Attorney

RECEIVED DIRECT DIAL: (415) 554-4654 E-MAIL: mariam\_morley@cl.sf.ca.us

JAN 02 2001

December 19, 2000

SUPERINTEN VENT'S COTIES

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

B. O'Neill Cy: M. Scott, N. Walthali R. Weidaman R. Scott

Re: Fort Funston Closures

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

We are writing at the request of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors with respect to the permanent closures of portions of Fort Funston, the erection of fences in those areas, and the removal of pavement from the Sunset Trail, which provided access to a portion of Fort Funston to senior citizens and persons with disabilities. The Board of Supervisors recently held a hearing on the closures and subsequently adopted a resolution requesting that we contact you to seek an explanation of how past and proposed closures serve a recreation or park purpose, to inquire how the National Park Service will provide disability access in light of its removal of pavement from the Sunset Trail, and to remind you of the National Park Service's obligation to submit its construction plans to the City for review. (A copy of the Board's resolution (Resolution 971-00) is attached as Attachment 1.

As you know, property at the northern-most bluffs between the beach and the coastal trail that is currently closed to off-trail recreational use (the "1995 closure") and the 12-acre portion of Fort Funston that the GGRNA has decided to close on a year-round basis (the "2000 closure") are part of the land that the City conveyed to the United States in 1975 for inclusion in the GGNRA. The 1975 deed, a copy of which is attached as Attachment 2, specifically requires that the United States shall hold the land "only so long as said real property is used for recreation or park purposes." The land comprising the 1995 and 2000 closures is, or was, heavily-used by City residents and others for varied recreational pursuits.

We hereby request, on behalf of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, that the GGNRA provide us with a written explanation of how closure of portions of Fort Funston to recreational use, including the 1995 and the 2000 closures, is consistent with the deed restriction obligating the GGNRA to use former City land at Fort Funston for recreation or park purposes.

In connection with the transfer of City-owned property for inclusion in the GGNRA, the City and the United States entered into an agreement dated as of April 29, 1975 (the "Agreement"), a copy of which is attached as Attachment 3. The Agreement requires the GGNRA to consult with the City's Planning Department on all planning matters relating to construction on the transferred lands, and to submit its construction plans to the Department for

CITY HALL - 1 DR. CARLTON B. GOODLETT PLACE, SUITE 234 - SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102-0917 RECEPTION: (415) 554-4700 · FACSIMILE: (415) 554-4699

## CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Letter to Mr. Brian O'Neill Page 2 December 19, 2000

any "building, roadway, parking lot or facility, pier, or any structure or substantial alteration of the natural environment of [the transferred lands]." After reviewing the construction plans, the Planning Department must consult with the General Manager of the Recreation and Park Department and the Director of the Department of Public Works, and must then transmit its findings to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission will review the Planning Department's findings and will convey its agreement, disagreement or suggested modifications to the GGNRA's General Superintendent. The Agreement provides that the General Superintendent will make every effort to accommodate the City's recommendations.

We have consulted with the Planning Department, which reports that it has received no request from the GGNRA to review construction plans related to the 1995 or the 2000 closure. We write to remind the GGRNA of its obligation under the Agreement to submit to the City's Planning Department for review and comment any fencing or other construction plans associated with the closures.

In addition to receiving numerous complaints regarding closures at Fort Funston, members of the Board of Supervisors have been contacted by members of the public protesting the removal of pavement from the Sunset Trail, which was closed in November 1999 and reopened in March, 2000. Organizations such as the Golden Gate Senior Services have complained that a major portion of the trail is no longer paved and is therefore inaccessible to persons with limited mobility. We are writing to request a written response from the GGNRA explaining how this diminution of recreational opportunities is consistent with the GGNRA's responsibilities under the Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794). Please include in your response a description of the GGNRA's plan to make its programs accessible to persons with disabilities, including those with mobility impairments.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and look forward to receiving your response. Please call if you have questions about any of these requests.

Very truly yours,

LOUISE H. RENNE City Attorney Manan Morley

MARIAM M. MORLEY Deputy City Attorney

cc: Members, Board of Supervisors Gerald Green, Director of Planning

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FILE NO. 001928

# RESOLUTION NO. 971-00

[Urging the National Park Service to provide an explanation of Fort Funston Closures]

Resolution requesting the City Attorney contact the National Park Service reminding the National Park Service of its obligation to submit its construction plans to the City for review, seeking an explanation of how the past and proposed closures serve a recreation or park purpose and inquiring how the National Park Service will provide disability access in light of its removal of a paved path.

WHEREAS. In 1975, the City and County of San Francisco transferred Fort Funston and other City-owned park lands to the federal government \* e Golden Gate Astachment National Recreation Area (GGNRA), to be administe ervice (NPS); and

pecifically

WHEREAS, The statute creating the GGNRA states that the GGNRA was established to provide for Juneeded recreational open space necessary to the urban environment and planning and requires that the Secretary of the Interior "utilize the resources in a manner which will provide for recreation and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land use planning and management;" and

WHEREAS, Former Charter section 7.403-1(a), as approved by the voters, required that the deed transferring any City-owned park lands to the NPS include the restriction that said lands were to be reserved by the Park Service "in perpetuity for recreation or park purposes with a right of reversion upon breach of said restriction;" and

WHEREAS. The deed transferring these City-owned park lands to the NPS contains the following restriction: "to hold only for so long as said real property is reserved and used for recreation and park purposes; and

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Leland Y, Yee, Ph.D. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Page 1 10/30/2000 WHEREAS, A contemporaneous agreement ("Agreement") concerning the rights and duties of the parties requires the NPS, among other things, to submit its plans for construction on the park lands or changes in the natural environment of these properties to the City's Planning Department for review and comment in order to ensure that the Department of City Planning will be informed and involved during all stages of the planning process and in particular during the conceptual planning stage where potential conflicts can be resolved prior to the development of specific plans; and

WHEREAS, The City Attorney has concluded that the City and County of San Francisco has a right to bring legal action against the NPS in the event the NPS breaches the deed restriction and agreement; and

WHEREAS, Since 1991, the NPS has closed heavily-used portions of Fort Funston for the avowed purpose of habitat protection and native plant restoration, thereby precluding any recreational use, without notifying the City and County of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The NPS now proposes permanent closure of an additional twelve acres
of prime recreation space at Fort Funston, without notifying the City and County of San
Francisco; now, therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, That Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
18 requests that the City Attorney write to the NPS reminding the NPS of its duty to submit to the
19 San Francisco Planning Department for review, comment, and approval plans for construction
20 at Fort Funston, including plans to install or maintain fencing at Fort Funston which precludes
21 recreational use by park visitors; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests the City Attorney to write to the NPS to ask them to provide access to people with disabilities and to explain their plans for resurfacing the previously paved Sunset Trail; and, be it

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Leland Y, Yee, Ph.D. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Page 2 10/30/2000 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco hereby requests the City Attorney write a letter to the NPS requesting the NPS to explain how the closures that have been effected at Fort Funston since 1991, including the proposed twelve-acre closure, comply with the deed restriction requiring that Fort Funston be used only for recreation or park purposes.

Leland Y, Yee, Ph.D. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Page 3 10/31/2000

GGNRA007996



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## Resolution

File Number: 001928

**Date Passed:** 

Resolution requesting the City Attorney to contact the National Park Service reminding the National Park Service of its obligation to submit its construction plans to the City for review, seeking an explanation of how the past and proposed closures serve a recreation or park purpose and inquiring how the National Park Service will provide disability access in light of its removal of a paved path.

November 6, 2000 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 9 - Ammiano, Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Teng Absent: 2 - Yaki, Yee

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#### DEED

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, a municipal corporation, the first party, pursuant to Ordinance No. 287-75, adopted by its Board of Supervisors on June 23, 1975, and approved by the Mayor on June 26, 1975, hereby grants without warranty to THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, the second party, the following described real property situated in the City and County of San Francisce, State of California:

#### PARCEL ONE

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Beginning at a point on that certain course in the westerly boundary line of that certain 150.29 acre parcel of land which bears North 16° 29' 00" West 2292.58 feet as described in the deed from Spring Valley Company to United States of America, recorded August 7, 1917, in Book 1620, page 119 of Deeds, in the office of the Recorder of the City and County of San Francisco, State of California, distant thereon from the northerly extremity of said course South 16° 29' 00" East 784.670 feet, said point being on the mean high water line of the Pacific Ocean and also being the southwesterly corner of that certain 115.6105 acre pare-to the City and County of San Franci f land quitclaimed United States of America, recorded May 18, " 23, Page 314 Astachment of official records, ir order; running; y lines of thence along the southe last said Parcel the fo. unces: North 53° 47' 45" East 5 2' 15" Eulit 579.730 feet to a point; a curve an 04" East the right the center of w st, a cenfrom last mentioned point tral angle of 28° 38' 41", ... feet; North 2° 50' 45" East tangent to \_ curve 130.23 feet to a point; northerly on a curve to the right the center of which bears North ... 23' 43" East from last mentioned point with a radius of 1060 feet, a central angle of 1° 11' 25", a distance of 22.02 feet; North 2° 24" 52" West tangent to the preceding curve 481.82 feet; northwesterly on an arc of a curve to the left tangent to the preceding course with a radius of 940 feet, a central angle of 26° 59' 44", a distance of 442.89 feet; North 29° 35' 40" West 321.42 feet; North 35° 56' 50" West 411.204 feet and northwesterly on an arc of a curve to the right tangent to the preceding course with a radius of 1350 feet, a central angle of 100 34' 48", a distance of 414.219 feet; thence leaving said easterly boundary line of said 115.6105 acre parcel and running North 18° 22' 02" West 122.132 feet; thence northerly on an arc of a curve to the right tangent to the preceding course with a radius of 996.54 feet, a central angle of 17° 39' 45", a distance of 307.202 feet; thence northwesterly on an arc of a reverse curve with a radius of 178 feet, a central angle of 53° 24' 49", a distance of 165.939 feet; thence North 54° 07' 06" West tangent to the preceding curve 562.23 feet; thence northwesterly on an arc of a curve to the right tangent to the preceding

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course with a radius of 1071 feet, a central angle of 48° 00' 00", a distance of 897.24 feet; thence North 6° 07' 06" Fest tangent to the preceding curve 941.63 feet; thence northwesterly on an arc of a curve to the left tangent to the preceding course with a radius of 1929 feet, a central angle of 5° 10' 29", a distance of 174.22 feet; thence North 11° 17" 35" West tangent to the preceding curve 367.36 feet; thence northeasterly on an arc of a curve to the right tangent to the preceding course /ith a radius of 871 feet, a central angle of 21° 47' 40", a distance of 331.32 feet; thence North 11° 57' 12" East 493.17 feet to a point; thence northerly on an arc of a curve to the left the center of which bears North 79° 22' 18" West from last mentioned point with a radius of 804.22 feet a central angle of 15° 05' 08", a distance of 211.745 feet; thence North 4' 27' 26" West tangent to the preceding curve 100.07 feet; thence North 85° 32' 34" East 11 feet; thence North 4° 27' 26" West 245.118 feet to a point on the westerly extension of the southerly line of Wawona Street distant thereon 283.403 feet westerly of the easterly line of Great Highway; thence North 4° 27' 26" West 7557.572 feet; thence North 4° 27' 55" West 11.904 feet to a point on westerly extension of the northerly line of Lawton Street distant thereon 276.379 feet westerly of the easterly line of La Playa; thence North 4° 27' 55" West 2525.421 feet; thence northwesterly on an arc of a curve to the left tangent to the preceding course with a radius of 3593.67 feet, a central angle of 1° 51' 03", a distance of 116.09 feat; thence South 83° 41' 02" West 1 foot to a point; thence northeasterly on an arc of a curve co the right the center of which bears North 83° 41' 02" East from last mentioned point with a radius of 270.78 feet, a central angle of 22° 01' 00", a distance of 104.05 feet; thence northerly on an arc of a reverse curve with a radius of 719.68 feet, a central angle of 19° 53' 00", a distance of 249.75 feet; thence North 4° 10' 58" West tangent to the preceding curve 1960.04 feet; thence northeasterly on an arc of a curve to the right tungent to the preceding course with a radius of 153.36 feet, a central angle of 28° 56' 30", a distance of 77.72 feet; thence northerly on an arc of a reverse curve with a radius of 244.93 feet, a central angle of 28° 52' 42", a distance of 123.21 feet; thence North 4° 07' 10" West 2051.58 feet; thence northwesterly on an arc of a curve to the left tangent to the preceding course with a radius of 248.36 feet, a central angle of 41° 55' 00", a distance of 181.70 feet; thence North 46° 02' 10" West tangent to the preceding curve 104.39 feet; thence northwesterly on an arc of a curve to the right tangent to the preceding course with a radius of 397.68 feet, a central angle of  $3^{\circ}$   $44^{\circ}$   $48^{\circ}$ , a distance of 26.00 feet to a point on a line parallel with and perpendicularly distant 6 feet southerly of the northerly line of Anza Street distant thereon 887.96 feet westerly of the westerly line of 48th Avenue; thence North 34° 31' 13" West 296.69 feet; thence North 52° 48' 55" West 130.164 feet to an existing City monument; thence due West to the mean high water line of the Pacific Ocean; thence southerly along the mean high water line of the Pacific Ocean to the point of beginning.

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Reserving unto the City and County of San Francisco an easement for the construction, installation, maintenance, repair, alteration, replacement, reconstruction and use of sewer and drainage facilities within the following described parcels all within the above described PARCEL ONE:

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#### Parcel A

A strip of land 20 feet in width the center line of which bears South 44° 37' West from the northeasterly corner of the above described Parcel One to the westerly boundary line of said Parcel One.

#### Parcel B

A strip of land 20 feet in width the center line of which bears North 82° 53! West from a point on the easterly boundary line of the above described Parcel One perpendicularly distant 445 feet northerly of the northerly line of Balboa Street, produced westerly, to the westerly line of said Parcel One.

#### Parcel C

A strip of land 1,000 feet in width the center line of which being also the center line of Fulton Street produced westerly and running westerly from the easterly boundary line of the above described Parcel One to a line parallel with and perpendicularly distant 450 feet westerly of the westerly line of La Playa.

#### Parcel D

A strip of land 50 feet in width the center line of which being also the center line of Fulton Street produced westerly and running westerly from the westerly boundary line of above described Parcel C to the westerly line of above described Parcel One.

#### Parcel E

A strip of land 1800 feet in width the center line of which being also the center line of Lincoln Way produced westerly and running westerly from the easterly boundary line of the above described Parcel One to a line parallel with and perpendicularly distant 400 feet westerly of the westerly line of La Playa.

#### Parcel F

A strip of land 50 feet in width the center line of which is parallel with and perpendicularly distant 335 feet northerly of the center line of Lincoln Way produced westerly and running westerly from the westerly line of above described Parcel E to the westerly line of above described Parcel One.

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#### Parcel G

A strip of land 1500 feet in width the center line of which being also the center line of Vicente Street produced westerly and running westerly from the easterly boundary line of the above described Parcel One to a line parallel with and perpendicularly distant 410 feet westerly of the easterly line of the Great Highway.

#### Parcel H

A strip of land 50 feet in width the center line of which being also the center line of Vicente Street produced westerly and running westerly from the westerly line of above described Parcel G to the westerly line of above described Parcel One.

#### Parcel I

A strip of land 50 feet in width the center line of which bears North 83° 47' West from a point on the easterly boundary line of the above described Parcel One perpendicularly distant 450 feet southerly of the southerly line of Wawona Street, produced westerly, to the westerly boundary line of said Parcel One.

#### Parcel J

A strip of land 200 feet in width the center line of which bears South 62° 13' West from a point on the easterly boundary line of the above described Parcel One distant thereon 190 feet northerly from the southerly extremity of that certain course which bears North 6° 07' 06" West, 941.63 feet, to the westerly line of said Parcel One.

#### Parcel K

A strip of land 50 feet in width the center line of which is parallel with and perpendicularly distant 20 feet southerly of the center line of Lincoln Way produced westerly and running westerly from the westerly line of above described Parcel E to the westerly line of above described Parcel One.

Reserving also unto the City and County of San Francisco an easement along and adjacent to the easterly line of Parcel One for the installation, maintenance, repair, alteration, replacement, reconstruction and use of street lighting facilities.

Reserving also unto the City and County of San Francisco the right to construct subsurface sewer tunnels running in a northerly direction within the southerly portion of above described Parcel One.

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#### PARCEL TWO

Beginning at the Foint of intersection of the Southerly line of Geary Boulevard, produced westerly, with the Westerly line of Forty-eighth Avenue; running thence Southerly along said Westerly line of Forty-eighth Avenue 916.92 feet more or less to a point distant thereon 363.08 feet Northerly from the point of intersection of said Westerly line of Forty-eighth Avenue with the Northerly line of Balboa Street; thence deflecting to the right 93° 23' 8" and runking Westerly 310.54 feet to the Westerly line of La Playa at a point distant thereon 381' 5" Northerly from the point of intersection of said Westerly line of La Playa with the Northerly line of Balboa Street; thence deflecting to the right 5° 21' 52" and running Westerly 143' 4-1/2", said last course making an angle of 98° 45' with the aforesaid Westerly line of La Playa; thence deflecting to the right 85° 02' 30" and running Northerly 197' 1"; thence deflecting to the left 90° and running Westerly 5 feet; thence deflecting to the right 90° and running northerly 49 feet; thence deflecting to the laft 90° and running Westerly 330' 4-3/16" more or less to the Northeasterly boundary line of the Great Highway, which boundary line is a curve with a radius of 849.32 feet, and a tangent to which curved line at . this point of intersection deflects to the right from the last above described course 43° 26' 43"; thence Northwesterly along said Northeasterly line of the Great Highway 128.38 feet more or less on a curve to the left with a radius 849.32 feet to the point of intersection of the said Northeasterly line of the Great Highway with the Northeasterly line of Point Lobos Avenue; thence deflecting to the right 31° 28' 22" from a tangent to the said Northeasterly line of the Great Highway at its point of intersection with the said Northeasterly line of Point Lobos Avenue; and running Northwesterly along said Northeasterly line of Point Lobos Avenue 249.943 feet more or less to an angle point in said Northeasterly boundary line of Point Lobos Atenue, which angle point is marked by an iron monument set on a line bisecting the angle in Point Lobos Avenue at this point and distant 115 feet Southwesterly, measured at a right angle from said No: +heasterly line of Point Lobos Avenue; thence continuing alorg said Northeasterly line and the Southeasterly and Southerly line of Point Lobos Avenue, deflecting to the left 30° 45' and running Northwesterly 132.045 feet; thence deflecting to the right 29° and running Northwesterly 261.899 feet; thence deflecting to the right 50° 30' and running Northeasterly 32.083 feet; thence , deflecting to the right 53° 15' and running Easterly 134.260 feet; thence deflecting to the right 16° and running Easterly 114.588 feet; thence deflecting to the left 16° and running Easterly 199.822 feet; thence deflecting to the left 22° 15' and running Northeasterly 409.234 feet; thence deflecting to the right 28° 45' and running Easterly 334.927 feet to the point of intersection of the said Southerly line of Point Lobos Avenue with the Westerly line of Forty-eighth Avenue; thence deflecting to the right, 91° 27' 20" and running Southerly along said Westerly line of Forty-eighth Avenue 312.360 feet to the point of beginning.

FF0689

To hold only so long as said real property is reserved and used for recreation or park purposes and in addition as to Parcel 2, to hold only so long as said herein described Parcel 2 shall be forever held and maintained as a free public resort or park under the name of Sutro Heights, pursuant to the condition contained in the deed of George W. Merritt and Emma L. Merritt recorded May 26, 1920 in Book 109, Page 308 of Deeds.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said first party has executed this conveyance this 1711 day of September , 1975.

APPROVED:

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Director of Property +

· FORM APPROVED:

THOMAS M. O'CONNOR, City Attorney a By Attorney

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, a municipal corporation

ECC. C 68 PASE

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Βv Mayor

Supervisors

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FOFUAR01828

EDDN C 68 FASE 8

STATE OF CALIFORNIA ) ) SS.

17th day of September On the . 197**5.** before me. , County Clerk of the City CARL' M. OLSEN and County of San Francisco, and ex officio Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the City and County of San Francisco, personally appeared Soseph L. alioto Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, a municipal corporation, and Margaret J. Magnine Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, known to me to be the Mayor and the acting ·Clerkof the Board of Supervisors of the municipal corporation described in and who executed the within instrument and also known to me to be the persons who executed it on behalf of the municipal corporation therein named, and they and each of them acknowledged to me that such municipal corporation executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal at my office in the City and County of San Francisco, State of California, the day and year in this certificate first above written. Y22490

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THE FOR FULL VALUE OF PROPERTY REAVEYED, OR

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Signature of ductorial or overly occomming tax - firm name

FUT I VALUE LISS LISSE & ELCOMERANCES

OU POPTARY TRANSFER TAX \$...

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County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, State of California and ex officio Clerk of the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the City and County of San Francisco.

> RECORDED AT REQUEST OE INTLE INSURANCE & TRUST OF At/ 2-Min Past 3-P M SEP 24 1975

FF0691

City & County of San Francisco, Calif. L. J. LEGUENNEC RECORDER

**FOFUAR01829** 

#### AGREEMENT

THIS ACREEMENT, made the 29th day of April 1975, between the CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, a municipal corporation (hereafter referred to as the CITY), and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (hereafter referred to as the UNITED STATES), acting through the Department of Interior, National Park Service, witnesseth:

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States of America has enacted into law Public Law 92-589, an Act to Establish the GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA (hereafter referred to as GGNRA) in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the GGNRA has been created to preserve for public use and enjoyment areas possessing outstanding natural, historic, scenic and recreational values and to provide open space necessary to urban environment and planning; and

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WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior is charged with management of GGNRA and mandated to utilize the resources of the GGNRA in a manner which will provide for recreational and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land use, planning and management, and to preserve the GGNRA in its natural setting and protect it from development and uses which would destroy the scenic beauty and natural character of the area; and

WHEREAS, section 2(a) of said Act provides that any lands within the GGNNA owned by the State of California or any political subdivision thereof may be acquired by the federal government only by donation; and

WHEREAS, the CITY owns lands, or an interest therein, which lie within the boundaries of the GGNRA and which are commonly known as: Fort Funston, Ocean Beach, Seal Rocks, Sutro Heights, Land's End, Phelan Beach, Baker Beach Access, Yacht Harbor, Marina Green, Municipal Pier and Aquatic Park, said lands to be more particularly described in the various deeds of transfer which may be executed by the CITY in favor of the federal government subsequent to this Agreement; and

C+ .; .

WHEREAS, the CITY is considering the transfer of certain of said lands and interests in land upon certain reservations, restrictions, conditions, and rights of reverter; and

WHEREAS, the federal government will receive title to said lands subject to such reservations, conditions and rights of reverter as the deeds may contain without payment of consideration to the CITY; and

WHEREAS, the CITY will be relieved of the responsibility and expense of administering said lands and the UNITED STATES shall assume the responsibility and expense and shall administer the conveyed lands in accordance with the requirements of the GGNRA Act and National Park Service standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed as follows:

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1. <u>DESIGNATION OF AGENT</u>. The Regional Director of the National Park Service designates the General Superintendent of the GGNRA and Point Reyes National Seashore (hereafter referred to as General Superintendent) as his agent, and the CITY designates its Department of City Planning as its agent for performance and enforcement of the respective rights and duties contained in this Agreement.

2. <u>NOTICE OF PIANNED DEVELOPMENT</u>. The General Superintendent will consult with the Department of City Planning on all planning matters relating to construction on the lands transferred by the CITY. This will be done in order to ensure that the Department of City Planning will be involved and informed during all stages of the planning process and in particular during the conceptual planning stage where potential conflicts can be resolved prior to the development of specific plans.

As any planning process moves from the conceptual stage to that of proposed construction plans, the General Superintendent shall formally notify and consult with the Department of City Planning on all proposed construction plans of any building, roadway, parking lot or facility, pier, or any structure or substantial alteration of the natural environment of the above mentioned lands. The Department of City Planning shall review said proposed construction plans for

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conformance to the Master Plan of the CITY and possible adverse effect on traffic patterns and traffic safety on public streets of the CITY. After receiving the advice of the General Manager of the Recreation and Park Department and the Director of Public Works, the Department of City Planning shall report its findings to the Planning Commission which shall convey its agreement, disagreement or suggested modification of the proposed construction plans to the General Superintendent. The General Superintendent shall make every effort to accommodate the CITY's recommendations.

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The National Park Service, acting through the General Superintendent, agrees to utilize the resources of the GGNRA in a manner which will provide for recreational and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land use, planning and management, to preserve the GGNRA in its natural setting and protect it from development and uses which would destroy the scenic beauty and natural character of the area, and to maintain the transferred premises in a good and sightly condition; and

3. <u>FEES</u>. Where not inconsistent with law and where within its discretion, the National Park Service shall not charge any fee for admission to or use of any open space within the lands transferred.

4. <u>TRANSIT SYSTEM</u>. The General Superintendent shall consult with the Planning Commission prior to instituting a transit system which operates on the streets of the CITY, and shall give good faith consideration to any recommendation made by the Planning Commission relative to said system.

5. <u>SAND INCURSION</u>. Subject to the availability of funds and within a reasonable time not to exceed eight (8) years, the UNITED STATES shall in good faith take reasonable measures to prevent the incursion of sand upon roadways adjacent to lands transferred by the CITY. Should this good faith effort fail to succeed the UNITED STATES will in no way be obligated in the future to share in the costs with the CITY for removal of sand from the Upper Great Highway.

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FOFUAR01832 GGNRA008007 6. <u>PEDESTRIAN TUNNELS</u>. Subject to the availability of funds, the CITY and the UNITED STATES shall cooperate in the maintenance of existing pedestrian tunnels and construction of additional tunnels beneath the Great Highway. Both the CITY and the UNITED STATES recognize the importance of providing access to the Ocean Beach lands via tunnels beneath the Great Highway.

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7. LATERAL SUPPORT. The UNITED STATES will grant the CITY the right to enter upon the transferred lands for the purpose of maintaining lateral support for the CITY's roads and bridges. The UNITED STATES does reserve the right to approve the CITY's proposed measures or remedics in regards to the maintenance of lateral support. In an extreme emergency, after notifying the General Superintendent, the CITY shall be entitled to enter upon the lands transferred and take such temporary action as is necessary for the immediate preservation of a roadway or bridge. Nothing herein shall limit or waive any legal remedy which the City may otherwise have in regard to maintenance of lateral support by the federal government.

8. <u>POINTS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST</u>. The UNITED STATES shall, in accordance with applicable law, maintain points of historical interest within the transferred lands.

9. <u>APPLICATION TO LANDS TRANSFERRED</u>. The provisions of this agreement shall apply to only those lands in fact transferred by the CITY to the UNITED STATES.

10. <u>RESERVATIONS, ETC</u>. This agreement does not alter the reservations, conditions, restrictions and rights of reverter contained in the deeds of transfer to be executed.

11. <u>NOTICE RE DEVELOPMENT ON PARKS LANDS NOT ACQUIRED FROM</u> <u>CITY</u>. The General Superintendent shall notify the Department of City Planning of any planned construction upon GGNRA lands within the boundaries of the CITY even though said construction is upon property not acquired from the CITY. The General Superintendent shall give good faith consideration to any objections which the Planning Commission shall pose to said construction.

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General Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

Regional Director, National Park Service, Western Region

APPROVED AS . TO FORM:

THOMAS M. O'CONNOR, City Attorney

By Deputy City Attorney

APPROVED:

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Creation and Park Commission

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#### Talking Points for City Attorney's Meeting Regarding Resolution Passed by San Francisco Board of Supervisors (Not to be Handed Out)

1. The Board of Supervisors' resolution asks that NPS be reminded of its obligation to submit Fort Funston construction plans to the SF Planning Dept. for review, comment and approval, including plans to install or maintain fencing at Fort Funston.

NPS understands this obligation in regards to the agreement with the City and County of San Francisco, but does not feel the placing of a fence falls under this agreement.

The agreement between NPS and the City and County of San Francisco (April 29, 1975), states "As any planning process moves from the conceptual stage to that of proposed construction plans, the General Superintendent shall formally notify and consult with the Department of City Planning on all proposed construction plans of any building, roadway, parking lot or facility, pier, or any structure or substantial alteration of the natural environment of the above mentioned lands."

The placing of a fence surrounding 12 acres at Fort Funston does not fall under the category of construction of a structure or building nor does it substantially alter the natural environment.

2. The resolution asks how NPS will comply with disability access and plans for resurfacing the Sunset Trail.

The northern portion of the Sunset Trail was paved in the 1970s with the intention of providing access for visitors with special needs. It did not meet ADA guidelines; that legislation passed some years later. The trail was closed in October 1999 as it had become a hazard due to continual coastal erosion. The NPS then repaired and reopened the unpaved trail with a sand surface in March 2000. The Golden Gate National Recreation Area Project Review/Environmental Compliance Form states, "That portion of the Sunset Trail will not be re-paved due to ongoing erosion and therefore will not be completely handicap accessible." The NPS informational sheet, which was

handed out to the public in March 2000, stated "Park Visitors using this trail should be aware that this is sand dune topography and that the trail surface will change due to blowing sand and erosion. Coastal erosion occurs regularly on the cliffs of the Pacific Ocean causing changes in trail alignment and visitor use."

NPS does provide trail access for visitors with special needs. It constructed an ADA-compliant portion of the Sunset Trail, which runs south from the southern end of the parking lot to the ranger station.

3. The resolution asks NPS to explain how closures comply with the deed restriction requiring that Fort Funston be used only for recreation or park purposes.

The agreement between NPS and the City and County of San Francisco (April 1975) calls not only for recreation (consistent with sound principles of land use), but for the preservation of the scenic beauty and natural character of the area. The agreement states "WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Interior is charged with management of GGNRA and mandated to utilize the resources of the GGNRA in a manner which will provide for recreational and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land use, planning and management, and to preserve the GGNRA in its natural setting and protect it from development and uses which would destroy the scenic beauty and natural character of the area..."

Approximately 80% of Fort Funston is available for recreational activities.

Per the agreement, sound principles of land use call for protection of the state-threatened bank swallow and habitat restoration, amongst other land management activities. Protection of the bank swallow area and coastal dunes will help preserve the scenic beauty and natural character of the area, as was stated in the agreement.

4. The Supervisors' resolution states that since 1991, NPS has closed heavily used portions of Fort Funston for the purpose of habitat restoration without notifying the City and County of San Francisco.

In fact, the NPS has discussed this issue with representatives of the City and County of San Francisco on numerous occasions, including the Office of Mayor Brown, Supervisor Leland Yee, and the City Attorney's office. Additionally, the closure document was filed in the Federal Register seeking public comment, and numerous media stories appeared.

Additionally, the Supervisors' resolution also uses the words "avowed purpose" of habitat protection and native plant restoration when discussing reasons for the closure. The purposes of the closures were for the stated reasons, including bank swallow protection, habitat restoration, geology and erosion and safety, and not to eliminate recreational use. Approximately 30 acres were marked for restoration, with 23 acres restored today. In the restored area in the northern section of Fort Funston, non-native vegetation, which contributes to degradation of the resources, was replaced with native vegetation. The restoration now provides much-needed habitat for wildlife, including the City of San Francisco's official bird the California quail. Recreation does take place in this area on a designated trail.

The 1980 Golden Gate National Recreation Area General Management Plan, a document that underwent extensive public review before adoption by the NPS in which the City and County of San Francisco took part, states the "natural area of Ocean Beach, Fort Funston, East and West Fort Miley, Lands End, and Baker Beach will be maintained. Wooded areas from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Cliff House will be protected, and wherever possible along the ocean shoreline the dune environment will be restored. These lands will continue to have a relatively natural character, but intensive management actions such as reforestation of the Monterey cypress stands may be required to preserve wooded areas. This part of the park will attract people seeking closer contact with nature within the city." (pgs. 95-6 of GMP).

Additionally, the San Francisco Western Shoreline Area Plan, (Fort Funston Policy 1), states "Maximize the natural qualities of Fort Funtson. Conserve the ecology of entire Fort Funston and develop recreational uses which will have only minimal effect on the natural environment."

Proposal No.

Revised 9/18/95

#### (Assigned by Environmental Planner)

00-011

#### GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA PROJECT REVIEW/ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE FORM

PROJECT TITLE:	Sunset Trail Removal			
PROJECT LOCATIONS	Fort Funston			
PROPOSED START DATE:	MID NOV.	TARGET COMPLETION DATE:	DEC. 01, 1999	
PROJECT BETTATOR:	Dan Coliman	PHONE SUMBER:	415 561-4512	

#### PRELIMINARY REVIEW

SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE: מממ 99 PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Indee briefly descript what the project purpose is, how it will be accomplished a MAP OF THE PROJECT LOCATION AND/OR A SITE PLAN IS MANDATORY - PLEASE ATTACH?

The purpose of this project is to remove **control** portion of the Sunset trail that has become a hazard. Continual erosion has caused this section of the trail to deteriorate. The South Dist. R&T crew will come in and remove the asphalt, restructure some of the sand dunes and install post & cable fencing to reroute foot traffic, along with additional signing informing the public of the hazards.

WILL THIS PROPOSED PROJECT:	YES/ND	WILL THE PROPOSED PROJECT:	YES/NO
1 Affert cultural resources (erretures/illig)?	NO	i Afflict, vara, endangenst av instigan spedart	NO
Alter finturie anticape (parted veg., friter, etc.)?	NO	Charge effects of other substantia the set?	NO
1 Involves ground disturbance (requires the person)?	NO	After within a parties or marker labour?	NO
1 Changes mixing noise levels?	YES	* Add or transmiphents trang, finanting tog?	NO
Changes and an water flaw or unside result?	NO	· Change or self light county?	NO
1 Changes confing to affic flow, through the or particip?	NO	I Terreter Rooding/Aurope of Senarchair Allacance?	NO
1 Charge the amount of starts dispute??	NO	* Add or community taxaba?	YES
Alter amilable vidine services?	YES	After width's (furthing, mentiong, den, month, etc.)?	NO
1 Aller visiter activities (parking, trails, etc.)?	YES	1 Inductor and additional charge generations?	NO
i Alter secondility?	NO	Charges answer of energy construct?	NO
I Couliet with the GMP or GMPA or specific site plan?	NO	Differ convertion? Miss. Tech Suggest approved required	NO
Require new followingtion or directional signs? (Fign committee appendic required)	YES	i Other (specify)	

#### POTENTIAL IMPACTS & PROPOSED MITIGATION

### BELOW BRIEFLY EXPLAIN EACH "YES" ANSWER FROM THE CHART ABOVE:

During construction the noise level will temporarily increase, until the project is complete. The public would no longer be able to walk along the front portions of the batteries. They would be able to walk through Battery Davis from the east, but have to go back the way they came. Additional signing would be needed to inform the public of the closure and the hazard. This project would remove a hazardous portion of the trail.

DISCUSSION OF ALTERNATIVES: (consider no action, other sites, other means to complete project)



Our focus has been on the diverse mission of the NPS that requires protection and restoration of natural resources. We have to balance recreational activities such as dog walking and this mandate for protection of threatened species and natural resources. We can not cater to one user group, even though they may be the biggest user group at a site like Fort Funston.

National Park Service staff has been working with members of the Fort Funston Dog Walkers since December to discuss and inform them on the closure including a February meeting. During those discussions we explained that the reasons for closing the sixacre area were related to natural resource protection, public safety and actions dictated by our General Management Plan (GMP). A staff member, hired specifically to conduct educational outreach efforts for the project, has been on-site explaining the project to the public since February 14, one week prior to the start of field work.

We are in the process of addressing dog walking issues raised at our first meeting. In organizing that periodic forum, the Fort Funston Dog Walkers specifically named the attending individuals as the official representatives of their organization, and the park service intends to continue working within that framework.

Through actions following the February 17 meeting, the park has evaluated the Sunset Trail and determined the trail can be reopened for public use no later than March 13. This action should relieve congestion on the Coastal Trail. That portion of the Sunset Trail will not be re-paved due to ongoing erosion and therefore will not be completely handicap accessible.

While the bank swallow protection and safety issues are considered emergency measures, the park has complied fully with its statutory and regulatory obligations in effecting the closures. The native plant restoration project is in conformance with the dune restoration and resource restoration elements of the park's GMP and does not significantly alter visitor use of the park. Further, our actions are consistent with the need to protect the public and to preserve the park's natural resources, including this state-protected species.

There has also been extensive public contact for this project including an article written by park staff and printed in the Fort Funston Dog Walker's newsletter distributed the first week of February. Protection rangers, interpretation rangers, natural resources staff and public affairs representatives met with representatives from the Fort Funston Dog Walkers on December 3, January 21 and again on February 17 on-site to detail the closure. To date, park staff has met with more than 500 individual dog walkers, the majority of which understand the need and purpose of this project. These efforts are consistent with 36 CFR Section 1.5, the park's GMP and our community outreach procedures.

The California Department of Fish and Game directed the park to take action to protect the bank swallows and provided research and guidance to the park regarding the species.

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# GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA



## FORT FUNSTON - SUNSET TRAIL

### MARCH 2000

### SUNSET TRAIL TO REOPEN

WHAT: The northwestern portion of the Sunset Trail, which has been closed due to erosion, will be reopened when repairs are completed.

WHERE: This portion of the Sunset Trail runs from the Battery Davis information panel through the battery to where it rejoins the Coastal Trail. This area will be reopened, once again allowing visitors to make a loop from the parking lot through Battery Davis to the Coastal Trail and back to the parking lot.

WHY: The Sunset Trail was closed in November 1999 due to coastal erosion. To make the trail safe for park visitors, the asphalt was removed and the trail will be reopened with a sand surface. Due to continuing erosion, the trail will not be repayed.

WHEN: It is anticipated that this trail will be reopened no later than Monday, March 13.

WHO: Due to the asphalt removal on the Sunset Trail, this trail will not be accessible to wheelchairs and those who have difficulty walking on uneven surfaces. Park visitors using this trail should be aware that this is sand dune topography and that the trail surface will change due to blowing sand and erosion.

VISITOR SAFETY: People and dogs have fallen from these cliffs. Please stay well back from the unstable cliff edge and walk dogs on leash or under voice control.

If you have questions regarding the Sunset Trail, please call the office of Public Affairs and Special Events at (415) 561-4730.

Coastal enosion occurs regularly on the cliffs of the Pacific Ocean causing changes in trail alignment and distrocture



PROJECT AREA: PORTION OF THE SUNSET TRAIL TO REOPEN



PROJECT AREA: PORTION OF THE SUNSET TRAIL TO REOPEN

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# **NEWS RELEASE**

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

For Immediate Release: June 13, 2000

Contact: The Public Affairs Office Rich Weideman (415) 561-4730 or

YOUR PICTURE MAY BE WORTH 1,000 WORDS – AND A TRIP TO A NATIONAL PARK

San Francisco, CA – Remember that great picture you took at Muir Woods or on Crissy Field this summer? Everyone said it should win a prize – and now it can!

A national contest – the first National Parks Pass *Experience Your America* Photo Contest – was announced today to select the image for the 2002 National Parks Pass. The contest is sponsored by the National Park Service and the National Park Foundation with Kodak, a Proud Partner of America's National Parks.

Any photo taken by an amateur photographer in a National Park since January 1, 2000 is eligible. The winning image will be announced in May 2001, and will appear on the 2002 **National Parks Pass**. The photographer submitting the winning image will get a trip for four to any National Park, a Kodak camera kit, and a personalized **National Parks Pass**.

"The National Parks Pass Experience Your America Photo Contest is another great way for Americans to get involved with their National Parks," said Robert Stanton, Director of the National Park Service. "Each year, millions of Americans visit National Parks, whether it be with a school class, with their family, or on their own. Every visitor has a unique experience and fond memories that they will carry with them for a lifetime. This contest gives everyone the chance to share those memories with the nation."

In addition to sponsoring the contest, Kodak is creating and maintaining the *Kodak* PhotoQuilt for the National Parks and *Kodak* Picture This Postcards on www.NationalParks.org, home of the National Park Foundation, to allow visitors to post and share their favorite National Park pictures.

"Supporting the Proud Partner program and the photo contest is a natural extension of Kodak's long-standing relationship of working with the National Park Service to enrich visitors' experiences in the National Parks," said Dr. R. Hays Bell, Director, Health, Safety and Environment, and Kodak Vice President. "Kodak has a long-term commitment to environmental leadership so we are proud to partner with the National Park Service and the National Park Foundation to help raise public appreciation and support for America's treasured lands and landmarks."

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First introduced in April 2000, during National Park Week, the National Parks Pass was authorized by Congress as an annual pass that sells for \$50. The Pass is good for one year from the month of purchase. It allows the purchaser and his or her vehicle occupants unlimited entrance into National Parks that charge a per vehicle Entrance Fee. In National Parks where a per person Entrance Fee is charged, the Pass is good for the entrance of the Pass owner and his/her family. To find out which Parks charge an Entrance Fee, please visit www.NationalParks.org.

The complete contest rules and an entry form are available at www.NationalParks.org, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: National Parks Pass Photo Contest Rules, Post Office Box 5220, Young America, MN 55558-5220.

Nore than 200,000 **Passes** have been sold in the first seven months. The first **Pass** featured a winter photo of bison in Yellowstone National Park. The 2001 image unveiled today is of historic Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse in Acadia National Park.

"The National Parks Pass is a great way for Americans to become stewards of their National Parks," said Jim Maddy, President of the National Park Foundation. "By purchasing a Pass, you not only get the chance to have many wonderful Park experiences, but you are also helping to care for these national treasures and ensure that the best possible National Park experience is available for all Americans." More than 80 percent of the proceeds from the sale of the Pass directly support important projects in all Parks.

The National Parks Pass may be purchased at any National Park that charges an Entrance Fee, participating National Park cooperating associations, online at www.NationalParks.org, by phone at 1-888-GO-PARKS, or by sending a check payable to "National Park Service" for \$53.95 (Pass cost plus shipping and handling) to: National Parks Pass; 27540 Avenue Mentry; Valencia, CA 91355. Passes purchased online or through the 888 number come printed with the owners' name and "Proud Partner since 20XX" (1<sup>st</sup> year of purchase).

#### About the National Park Service

The National Park Service is composed of more than 20,000 rangers, archaeologists, historians, biologists, architects, laborers, gardeners and other professionals who care for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

#### About the National Park Foundation

The National Park Foundation honors, enriches, and expands the legacy of private philanthropy that helped create and continues to sustain America's National Parks. NPF is the official nonprofit partner of the National Park Service.

#### About Eastman Kodak Company

Eastman Kodak Company is the world's leader in imaging, giving customers the power to take, make, store, and use pictures through traditional and digital imaging. Kodak supports conservation activities on local and national levels as one aspect of its environmental program. For more information, please see www.kodak.com/go/hse.

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# WESTERN SHORELINE

#### INTRODUCTION

The conservation of the California coast has always been of interest and concern to San Francisco. From the early years of the city's history, the coastal beach and cliff areas have been an important recreational and natural resource to the people of San Francisco and the Bay Area. There has always been an intense interest among the city's citizens in maintaining the area for the use and enjoyment of the public. This position was underscored by the enthusiastic participation of the City in establishing the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the overwhelming voter support for Proposition 20 in 1972 which led to the passage of the Coastal Act of 1976. Pursuant to that act San Francisco prepared a Local Coastal Program adopted by the City Planning Commission, and the Board of Supervisors, and certified by the California Coastal Commission on April 26, 1984.

The City Planning Commission is responsible for adopting and maintaining a comprehensive long-term general plan for future development of the City and County of San Francisco known as the Master Plan. The Plan is divided into a number of functional elements, including Urban Design, Residence, Recreation and Open Space, Commerce and Industry, Environmental Protection, Transportation, and a number of subarea plans, including the Civic Center Plan, Northeastern Waterfront Plan and the Central Waterfront Plan.

The policies of the Local Coastal Program, together with the addition of summa: y objectives to the various section headings to make it compatible with other area plans, are being incorporated in the City's Master Plan, as an area plan under the title Western Shoreline Plan.



#### The San Francisco Master Plan

The San Francisco Coastal Zone extends approximately 6 miles along the western shoreline from the Fort Funston cliff area in the south to the Point Lobos recreational area in the north. The south end of the Coastal Zone includes the Lake Merced area, the Zoo. the Olympic Country Club, and the seashore and bluff area of Fort Funston. The Coastal Zone spans the Ocean Beach shoreline and includes Golden Gate Park west of Fortieth Avenue, the Great Highway corridor and the adjacent residential blocks in the Sunset and Richmond districts. The north end of the seashore includes the Cliff House and Sutro Baths area, Sutro Heights Park, and Point Lobos recreational area.

Most of the San Francisco western shoreline is publicly owned. Golden Gate Park, the Zoo, and Lake Merced contain 60% of the 1,771 acres which comprise the Coastal Zone area. Another 25% of the Coastal Zone is within the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Only 14% of the land is privately owned, and 9% of this land is within the Olympic Country Club area. The remainder 5% is private residential and commercial property which fronts or lies in close proximity to the seashore.

The Coastal Zone is the area shown on map 1.

The area covered by the Western Shoreline Plan is divided into ten subareas as listed below and shown on Map 2.

- The Great Highway
- Golden Gate Park
- The Zoo
- Lake Merced
- Ocean Beach

- Sutro Heights Park
- Cliff House Sutro Baths
- Fort Funston
- **Olympic Country Club**
- **Richmond and Sunset Residential Neighborhoods**

The Plan consists of transportation policies for the entire Coastal Zone and of specific policies relating to the ten subareas.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

#### TRANSPORTATION

#### **OBJECTIVE 1**

**IMPROVE PUBLIC TRANSIT ACCESS TO THE** COAST.

#### POLICY 1

Improve crosstown public transit connections to the coastal area, specifically Ocean Beach, the Zoo and the Cliff House.

#### POLICY 2

Provide transit connections amongst the important coastal recreational destinations.







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#### The San Francisco Master Plan



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#### POLICY 3

Connect local transit routes with regional transit, including BART, Golden Gate Transit, and the Golden Gate National Recreation Transit.

#### **POLICY 4**

Provide incentives for transit usage.

#### POLICY 5

Consolidate the Municipal Railway turnaround at the former Playland-at-the-Beach site.

#### POLICY 6

Provide transit shelters at the beach for transit patrons.

#### THE GREAT HIGHWAY

#### **OBJECTIVE 2**

REDESIGN THE GREAT HIGHWAY TO EN-HANCE ITS SCENIC QUALITIES AND REC-REATIONAL USE.



#### POLICY 1

Develop the Great Highway right-of-way as a four lane straight highway with recreational trails for bicycle, pedestrian, landscaping, and parking. Emphasize slow pleasure traffic and safe pedestrian access to beach.

#### **POLICY 2**

Maintain the landscaped recreational corridor adjacent to the development at the former Playland-atthe-Beach site to provide a link between Golden Gate park and Sutro Heights park.

#### **POLICY 3**

Provide for a continuation of the bicycle trail by an exclusive bicycle lane on public streets between the Great Highway and Point Lobos.

#### POLICY 4

Improve public access to Ocean Beach from Golden Gate Park by providing a landscaped bridge over vehicular underpass, if funds are not available improve public access by providing grade crossings with signals, walkways, lighting and landscaping.

#### POLICY 5

Locate parking for users of Ocean Beach and other coastal recreational areas so that the Great Highway need not be crossed. Provide limited parking east of the highway for park use. Design parking to afford maximum protection to the dune ecosystem.

#### POLICY 6

Provide permanent parking for normal use required by beach users in the Great Highway corridor (taking into account the increased accessibility by transit); provide multiple use areas which could be used for parking at peak times, but could be used for recreational uses when not ne**3**ded for parking.

#### POLICY 7

Improve pedestrian safety by providing clearly marked crossings and installing signalization.

#### POLICY 8

Enhance personal safety by lighting parking areas and pedestrian crossings.

#### POLICY 9

Improve public access to Ocean Beach south of Lincoln Avenue by providing grade crossing with signals and walkways at every other block.

#### **GOLDEN GATE PARK**

#### **OBJECTIVE 3**

ENHANCE THE RECREATIONAL CONNEC-TION BETWEEN GOLDEN GATE PARK AND THE BEACH FRONTAGE.

#### **POLICY 1**

Strengthen the visual and physical connection between the park and beach. Emphasize the naturalistic landscape qualities of the western end of the park for visitor use. When possible eliminate the Richmond-Sunset sewer treatment facilities.



#### **POLICY 2**

Continue to implement a long-term reforestation program at the western portion of the park.

#### POLICY 3

Develop and periodically revise a Master Plan for Golden Gate Park to include specific policies for the maintenance and improvement of recreational access in the western portion of the park.

#### POLICY 4

Rehabilitate the Beach Chalet for increased visitor use.

#### THE ZOO

#### **OBJECTIVE 4**

#### IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE ZOO AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE COASTAL ZONE RECREATIONAL SYSTEM.

#### POLICY 1

Maintain the landscaped park-like atmosphere of the Zoo.

#### **POLICY 2**

Enhance visitor interest in the Zoo by pursuing a specific Zoo Master Plan for modernization and improvement of Zoo facilities and enhancement of the animal collection.

#### POLICY 3

Allow location of a sewage treatment plant and a pump station to serve the western area of San Francisco on Zoo property. Locate and design the facilities to maximize their joint use by the Zoo.

#### LAKE MERCED

#### **POLICY 4**

Expand the existing Zoo area west toward the Great Highway and south toward Skyline Boulevard.

#### POLICY 5

Provide a wind berm along the Great Highway for protection and public viewing of Ocean Beach and the Pacific Ocean.

#### POLICY 6

Enhance the entrance to the Zoo by providing visitor amenities at the northwest corner.

#### POLICY 7

Provide parking near the entrance to the Zoo for those visitors who cannot reasonably use public transportation.

#### POLICY 8

Provide for the reasonable expansion of the Recreation Center for the Handicapped for recreation purposes. Accommodate that expansion in a way that will not inhibit the development of either the Zoo or the treatment plant.

#### **OBJECTIVE 5**

#### PRESERVE THE RECREATIONAL AND NATU-RAL HABITAT OF LAKE MERCED.

#### POLICY 1

Preserve in a safe, attractive and usable condition the recreational facilities, passive activities, playgrounds and vistas of Lake Merced area for the enjoyment of citizens and visitors to the city.

#### **POLICY 2**

Maintain a recreational pathway around the lake designed for multiple use.

#### POLICY 3

Allow only those activities in Lake Merced area which will not threaten the quality of the water as a standby reservoir for emergency use.

#### **POLICY 4**

As it becomes obsolete, replace the police pistol range on the southerly side of South Lake with recreational facilities.



#### The San Francisco Master Plan

#### **OCEAN BEACH**

#### **OBJECTIVE 6**

MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE RECREA-TIONAL USE OF SAN FRANCISCO'S OCEAN BEACH SHORELINE.

#### POLICY 1

Continue Ocean Beach as a natural beach area for public recreation.

#### **POLICY 2**

Improve and stabilize the sand dunes where necessary with natural materials to control erosion.

#### POLICY 3

Keep the natural appearance of the beach and . maximize its usefulness by maintaining the beach in a state free of litter and debris.

#### **POLICY 4**

Maintain and improve the physical condition and appearance of the Esplanade between Lincoln Way and the Cliff House.

#### POLICY 5

Enhance the enjoyment of visitors to Ocean Beach by providing convenient visitor-oriented services, including take-out food facilities.



#### POLICY 6

Extend the seawall promenade south to Sloat Boulevard as funds become available.

#### SUTRO HEIGHTS PARK

#### **OBJECTIVE 7**

PRESERVE AND RESTORE SUTRO HEIGHTS PARK.



#### POLICY 1

Continue the use of Sutro Heights Park as a park, preserve its natural features, and retain its quiet neighborhood orientation.

#### **POLICY 2**

Restore elements of the historic garden and landscaping and include minor interpretive displays and seating areas.

#### POLICY 3

Improve access between Golden Gate Park and Sutro Heights Park by providing a new trail system up the south slope of Sutro Heights Park within the La Playa Street right-of-way for equestrians, pedestrians and joggers.

#### **POLICY 4**

Protect the natural bluffs below Sutro Heights Park. Keep the hillside undeveloped in order to protect the hilltop landform, and maintain views to and from the park. Acquire the former Playland-at-the-Beach site north of Balboa if funds become available.

#### **CLIFF HOUSE - SUTRO BATHS**

#### **OBJECTIVE 8**

MAINTAIN THE VISITOR ATTRACTIVENESS OF THE CLIFF HOUSE AND SUTRO BATH COMPLEX.

#### POLICY 1

Develop the Cliff House/Sutro Bath area as a nature-oriented shoreline park. Permit limited commercial-recreation uses if public ownership is retained and if development is carefully controlled to preserve the natural characteristics of the site.

#### POLICY 2

Restore the Cliff House to its 1909 appearance or, if financially feasible, to an accurate replica of the original 1890 structure.

#### **POLICY 3**

Insure hiker safety by providing a clearly marked and well maintained pathway system.



#### **POLICY 4**

Redesign parking and vehicular circulation in the area to relieve congestion and provide for the safety of pedestrians crossing Point Lobos.

#### POLICY 5

To increase visitor enjoyment, mitigate the noise and air pollution caused by tour buses by relocating bus waiting areas.

#### FORT FUNSTON

#### **OBJECTIVE 9**

#### CONSERVE THE NATURAL CLIFF ENVIRON-MENT ALONG FORT FUNSTON.



#### POLICY 1

Maximize the natural qualities of Fort Funston. Conserve the ecology of entire Fort and develop recreational uses which will have only minimal effect on the natural environment.

#### **POLICY 2**

Permit hanggliding but regulate it so that it does not significantly conflict with other recreational and more passive uses and does not impact the natural quality of the area.

#### OLYMPIC COUNTRY CLUB

#### **OBJECTIVE 10**

### RETAIN THE OPEN SPACE QUALITY OF THE OLYMPIC COUNTRY CLUB AREA.



#### POLICY 1

If the private golf course use is discontinued, acquire the area for public recreation and open space, if feasible.

#### **POLICY 2**

Maintain the existing public easement along the beach. Encourage the granting of an additional easement by the Olympic Country Club to the National Park Service for public use and maintenance of the sensitive bluff area west of Skyline Boulevard as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

#### **POLICY 3**

Protect the stability of the westerly bluffs by consolidating the informal trails along the bluff area into a formal trail system which would be clearly marked. Coordinate the lateral trail system along the bluff with the San Mateo trail system south of the San Francisco boundary.

#### RICHMOND AND SUNSET RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS

#### **OBJECTIVE 11**

PRESERVE THE SCALE OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT ALONG THE COASTAL ZONE AREA.

#### POLICY 1

Preserve the scale and character of existing residential neighborhoods by setting allowable densities at the density generally prevailing in the area and regulating new development so its appearance is compatible with adjacent buildings.

#### POLICY 2

Develop the former Playland-at-the-Beach site as a moderate density residential apartment development with neighborhood commercial uses to serve the residential community and, to a limited extent, visitors to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

#### POLICY 3

Continue the enforcement of citywide housing policies, ordinances and standards regarding the provision of safe and convenient housing to residents of all income levels, especially low- and moderate-income people.

#### POLICY 4

Strive to increase the amount of housing units citywide, especially units for low- and moderate-income people.

#### **POLICY 5**

Work with federal and state funding agencies to acquire subsidy assistance for private developers for the provision of low- and moderate-income units.

#### POLICY 6

Protect the neighborhood environment of the Richmond and Sunset residential areas from the traffic and visitor impacts from the public using adjacent recreation and open space areas.

#### **POLICY 7**

Maintain a community business district along Sloat Boulevard within the Coastal Zone to provide goods and services to residents of the outer Sunset and visitors to the Zoo and Ocean Beach.



To: Rich Bartke Trent Orr Lennie Roberts

1) SRAT

From: Brian

Subject: 10/30/200 San Francisco Board of Supervisors Resolution

Please see the attached Resolution: I am setting up a meeting with City Attorney, Louise Renne to discuss the elements of the resolution especially that refer to construction on Park property. Amy mentioned your names as having a professional relationship with Louise. Do you know of any other Commission members that know her and would be of assistance in attending this meeting in addition to yourself? This meeting will likely occur after the next full Commission meeting, but I would like to announce our plans to meet with her at the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Thanks!

Brian O'Neill

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RECEIVEL PUD Mr. Morton S. Gensberg PUD 01 2000 Mr. Morton S. Gensberg 205 Elsie St SUPERINTENDENT'S DEan Francisco Cot 94110-5507 SUPERINTENDENT'S DEan Francisco Cot 94110-5507

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July 26, 2000

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

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I 'd like to thank you for the new drinking fountain recently installed at Fort Funston. It's become a very popular meeting spot.

Again, thanks.

losh Mort Gensberg



2000 Member The Humane Society of the United States



LYDIA BOESCH Allornoy at Law 110 MAYWOOD DRIVÉ SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94127 (415) 841-1060 (415) 841-0437 FAX Lydisowen@aol.com

December 5, 2000

VIA FACSIMILE

Brian O'Neill General Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Fort Mason - Bay and Franklin, Bldg 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: Fort Funston: Off-Leash Recreational Right

Dear Brian:

I am sorry I couldn't attend the CAC meeting on November 28. I have a pre-existing obligation to another group that also meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

It has come to my attention that, at the November 28 meeting, Amy introduced a resolution calling for the revocation of the 1979 Pet Policy. It is our position that any attempts to significantly curtail off-leash dogwalking at Fort Funston would be a "use or activity restriction" that will result in a "significant alteration of the public use pattern" at Fort Funston and indeed would be "highly controversial," within the meaning of 36 C.F.R. § 1.5(b). Accordingly, any proposed significant curtailment of off-leash dogwalking at Fort Funston must be published as rulemaking in the Federal Register.

Thank you for your careful attention to this issue. Please call me if you have any questions.

John joins me in wishing you a happy holiday season.

Very truly yours,

Jujara Boisch

Lydia Boesch

cc: Linda McKay Anne Farrow Supervisor Leland Yee Supervisor Mark Leno Mayor Willie L. Brown

FOFUAR01862

LYDIA BOESCH Attornory at Low

HO MAYWOOD DRIVE SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94127 (415) 841-1080 (415) 841-0437 FAX Lydiaowen@aol.com

August 3, 2000

#### VIA FACSIMILE (561-4710)

Roger Scott **GGNRA** Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

#### Re: Documents in Support of Justification for Closure

Dear Roger:

Florence Sarrett has informed me that she called you yesterday regarding the documents listed in support of the proposed twelve-acre closure at Fort Funston. According to Florence, you have indicated that not all of the documents which serve as a basis for the proposed closure were produced in the ongoing litigation, and that you will notify her when they will be made available.

Due to the short comment period, it's important that these documents be identified and made available immediately. If possible, we would like for the documents that have not been produced previously to be made identified and made available by no later than Monday, August 7.

If this is a problem, please let Florence or me know right away. Florence's number is 826-5619.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours, Aydua Bocsch Lydia Boesch

FOFUAR01863

LYDIA BOESCH Attorney at Law

110 MAYWOOD DRIVE SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94127 (415) 8-41-1060 (415) 841-0437 FAX Lydiaowen@aol.com

August 7, 2000

#### VIA FACSIMILE (561-4710)

Roger Scott GGNRA Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

#### Re: Documents in Support of Justification for Closure

Dear Roger:

By this letter, I am confirming your representation that all of the documents which are listed in support of the proposed closure in the "Notice of Proposed Year-Round Closure at Fort Funston and Request for Comments" have been turned over either in the Administrative Record in Ft. Funston Dog Walkers v. Babbitt, or in response to discovery requests in the case.

Attached is a list of the documents in support of the proposed closure. It is my understanding, based on your representation, that plaintiffs in the dogwalkers' case should have possession of all of the listed documents.

Please let me know if my understanding is incorrect. Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Lydia Boesch

Attachment (3 pages)

FOFUAR01864

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FOFUAR01867


## United States Department of the Interior

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

August 31, 2000

Lydia Boesch 110 Maywood Drive San Francisco, CA 94127

Ms Boesch:

In response to your letter of August 7, (copy attached) I am enclosing one document cited in the Proposed Habit Protection Closure document which had not been turned over either in the Administrative Record in <u>Ft. Funston Dog Walkers v Babbitt</u>, or in the response to discovery requests in the case.

Sincerely 'Roger'Scott

Attachments: (1) copy of letter (2) two-page document cc: Nicole Walthall, Department of the Interior Field Solicitor's Office Charles O'Connor, U.S Attorney's Office, San Francisco

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GGNRA008043

## Monitoring data for sand deposition and erosion along the western section of the fenceline bissecting the current permanent and seasonal closure areas.

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## Monitoring data for sand deposition and erosion along the western section of the fenceline bissecting the current permanent and seasonal closure areas.

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13&14	124						
14&15	133						
15&16	108						 
16&17	121						 
17&18	116						 
18&19	128					L	 
19&20	150						 
Posts 1-5 and	6-20 are separa	ted by approxi	mately 40 fe	et			

FOFUAR01870

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GGNRA008045



## United States Department of the Interior

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

IN REPLY REFER TO:

August 31, 2000

Lydia Boesch 110 Maywood Drive San Francisco, CA 94127

Ms Boesch:

In response to your letter of August 7, (copy attached) I am enclosing one document cited in the Proposed Habit Protection Closure document which had not been turned over either in the Administrative Record in <u>Ft. Funston Dog Walkers v Babbitt</u>, or in the response to discovery requests in the case.

Sincerely Scott

Attachments: (1) copy of letter (2) two-page document cc: Nicole Walthall, Department of the Interior Field Solicitor's Office Charles O'Connor, U.S Attorney's Office, San Francisco

FOFUAR01871

GGNRA008046



Author: Michael Feinstein at NP-GOGA Date: 7/14/00 10:05 AM Normal TO: Debra Melton at NP-WASO-HPSSubject: Re: ----- M ssage Contents Debra: This is urgent. Because we had anticipated that our Federal Regist Notice would be published today (Friday), we allowed 60 days for our comment period. It was not in this morning's Federal Register. Therefore, is it possible to change the DATE in the Federal Register Notice the second sentence under "COMMENTS."? Could you change the date in the statement "Therefore, public comments on th notice must be received by September 12, 2000." ?? If the notice will be published Monday, July 17---Please change to "Therefo public comments on this notice must be received by September 15, 2000." If the notice will be published Tuesday, July 18---Please change to "Theref public comments on this notice must be received by September 16, 2000." If the notice will be published Wednesday, July 19---Please change to "Therefore, public comments on this notice must be received by September 17, 2000." If the notice will be published Thursday, July 20---Please change to "Therefore, public comments on this notice must be received by September 18, 2000." If the notice will be published Friday, July 21---Please change to "Therefo public comments on this notice must be received by September 19, 2000." Thank you for this urgent request. We need this DATE corrected to be legall accurate. Please call me if you have any questions. Michael Feinstein Office of Public Affairs Golden Gate National Recreation Area Reply Separator Subject: Author: Debra Melton at NP-WASO-HPS Date: 7/12/00 8:29 AM **FOFUAR01873** 

Michael, I need to talk to ASAP, I will be in training today leave me a voic mail message with your telephone number and I will call you back.



## **United States Department of the Interior**

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



IN REPLY REFER TO: A22 (GOGA-COM)

July 7, 2000

### Memorandum

To: Debra Melton, Administrative Program Center

From: General Superintendent, Golden Gate N R A

Subject: Notice of Proposed Year-Round Closure at Fort Funston, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and Request for Comments for inclusion in the <u>Federal</u> <u>Register</u>

Enclosed in quadruplicate are copies of the Notice of Proposed Year-Round Closure at Fort Funston, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and Request for Comments to be printed in the <u>Federal Register</u>. Please print this notice **no later than July 14, 2000**.

Enclosure

#### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### **GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA**

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED YEAR-ROUND CLOSURE AT FORT FUNSTON AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

DATE: Friday, July 14, 2000

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the resource protection mandate of the National Park Service (NPS), the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS, is announcing its proposal to close year-round approximately 12 acres of Fort Funston to off-trail recreational use by the public. The closure is located in the northwest portion of Fort Funston. This closure is necessary to protect habitat for the California threatened bank swallows (Riparia riparia), enhance significant native plant communities, improve public safety and reduce human-induced impacts to the coastal bluffs and dunes, a significant geological feature. NPS invites comments on this proposed year-round closure.

**BACKGROUND:** Section 1.5 of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations authorizes the Superintendent to effect closures and public use limits within a national park unit when necessary for the maintenance of public health and safety, protection of environmental or scenic values, protection of natural or cultural resources, aid to scientific research, implementation of management responsibilities, equitable allocation and use of facilities, or the avoidance of conflict among visitor use activities. The proposed closure at Fort Funston is necessary to protect public safety, to protect environmental values and natural resources, and to implement management responsibilities. Because of a May 16, 2000, Federal District Court ordered preliminary injunction

against the NPS, disallowing the closure until such time as appropriate public notice and opportunity for comment was provided, NPS is providing this notice and invites comments from the public on this proposed year-round closure.

**REFERENCE:** Public Law 92-589 of October 27, 1972, as amended, as codified in Title 16 United States Code Sections 460bb through 460bb-5. Title 16 United States Code Sections 1 and la-1. Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations Sections 1.5, 1.7, 2.1, and 2.15. Ft. Funston Dog Walkers v. Babbitt, No. C 00-00877 WHA, N.D. Cal., Preliminary Injunction, May 16, 2000.

**COMMENTS:** Public comments will be accepted for a period of 60 calendar days from the date of this notice. Therefore, public comments on this notice must be received by September 12, 2000. Public comments should be submitted to NPS as early as possible in order to assure their maximum consideration. Comments will be considered and this proposal may be modified accordingly, and the final decision of the National Park Service will be published in the Federal Register.

If individuals submitting comments request that their name and/or address be withheld from public disclosure, it will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Such requests must be stated prominently at the beginning of the comments. There also may be circumstances wherein the NPS will withhold a respondent's identity as allowable by law. As always, NPS will make available for public inspection all submissions from organizations or businesses and from persons identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses; and, anonymous comments may not be considered.

SEND COMMENTS TO: Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Bay and Franklin Streets, Building 201, Ft. Mason, San Francisco, 94123.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** Detailed information concerning this proposal, including a map depicting the closure area and open park trails, is available at the following locations:

- Fort Funston Visitor Center and Ranger Office, 1/4 mile south of John Muir Drive, on the west side of Hwy 35, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service, San Francisco
- Pacific West Information Center, National Park Service, Building 201, Fort Mason, Bay and Franklin Streets, San Francisco
- San Francisco Public Library, Marina Branch, 1890 Chestnut Street, San Francisco
- San Francisco Public Library, Sunset Branch, 1305 18th Avenue, San Francisco

**CONTACT:** For further information, contact Scalla Sheen, Office of Public Affairs, GGNRA at 415-561-4730.

Dated: July 14, 2000.

Brian O'Neill Superintendent, GGNRA

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FOFUAR01878

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FILE NO.

RESOLUTION NO.

1 [Fort Funston]

2 URGING SAN FRANCISCO'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION, INCLUDING
3 REPRESENTATIVES NANCY PELOSI AND TOM LANTOS AND SENATORS BARBARA
4 BOXER AND DIANNE FEINSTEIN, TO LOOK INTO THE GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL
5 RECREATION AREA'S HANDLING OF THE FORT FUNSTON CLOSURES AND TO TAKE
6 ACTION TO PRESERVE RECREATIONAL AREAS FOR SAN FRANCISCANS.

7 WHEREAS, Fort Funston is a unique and beloved recreational park
8 enjoyed by neighbors, dog owners and residents throughout the San
9 Francisco Bay Area; and,

WHEREAS, In addition to acres of hiking trails, beaches, ocean view bluffs, and plant and bird habitats, Fort Funston is also the largest off-leash areas for dogs and their owners; and,

WHEREAS, Earlier this year, 10 acres of Fort Funston were closed
to park users by the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA),
which has authority over Fort Funston; and,

16 WHEREAS, The GGNRA initiated the closures, purportedly to 17 protect the endangered bank swallows, without justifying the need for 18 such extensive closures, without notifying the City and County of San 19 Francisco, and without the requisite public notice and hearings; and,

20 WHEREAS, In April 2000, a U.S. District Court judge ruled that 21 the National Park Service violated its own rules in unlawfully 22 foncing off 10 acres without public hearings in a manner showing "an 23 intent. . . to railroad through the closure, to maintain secrecy, to 24 unleash the fencing with lightning speed. . . . "; and,

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Page 1 10/19/00

#### FOFUAR01879

GGNRA008054

10/25/00 WED 11:34 FAX

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FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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RESOLUTION NO.

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1	WHEREAS, Subsequent to the court ruling, the GGNRA opened up a
2	comment process, then returned with a more restrictive plan of
3	closing 12 acres rather than 10 acres and permanently rather than
4	seasonally; and,
5	WHEREAS, The GGNRA is a part of the National Park Service which
6	is a branch of the federal Department of Interior; now, therefore, be
7	it
8	RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County
9	of San Francisco hereby urges San Francisco's Congressional
10	delegation, including Representatives Nancy Pelosi and Tom Lantos and
11	Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, to look into the Golder
12	Gale National Recreation Area's handling of the Fort Funston closures
13	and to take action to preserve recreational areas for San
14	Franciscans.
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SUPERVISOR TENG BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Page 2 10/19/00

## <u>California Native Plant Society</u>

No. 1, July 2000

## Action Alert Fort Funston

In March a coalition of off-leash dog advocates sued the National Park Service to reopen six acres of dunes that had been closed in order to protect the bank swallow colony on the cliffs below. As one of the last significant remnants of the massive San Francisco dune complex, Fort Funston represents an essential unit in the recovery of our diverse dune flora and fauna. This flora will continue to decline unless the park protects what remains and restores areas damaged by decades of disturbance and rampant iceplant invasion.

We are sympathetic with the desire of some park visitors to allow their dogs to run without a leash. But such use often leads to conflicts with other visitors and damages resources; pets on leash have a much more limited impact. State and municipal park agencies throughout the region are beginning to recognize that creating dedicated areas for off-leash dog use is the only way to prevent conflicts among diverse park users. Developing dog parks is similar to developing a new soccer field: site selection considerations include parking availability, ability of the turf to sustain heavy use, fencing to protect pets, and so on. Such development, however, is inappropriate within a national park, particularly within a unit that has such marvelous natural resources.

## Please take a moment to let the park know what you think about this issue. Your letter will have the greatest impact if you make the following points in your own words:

- The remnant coastal dune flora at Fort Funston deserves greater protection than it now receives. Iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) is overtaking the diverse remnant native plant communities. In some areas, the trampling is so extensive that not even iceplant has survived.
- The Fort Funston Green Team and various stewardship activities led by the park's interpretative rangers are doing excellent work and should be expanded.
- The fenced area on the bluffs above the bank swallow nesting colony ought to be restored with native vegetation and protected from trampling.
- The Code of Federal Regulations, like the codes governing all California state parks and San Mateo County parks, states that all pets must be on a leash. Why is this regulation (36 CFR 2.15) not being enforced at Fort Funston? Natural resources and the visitor experience for diverse user groups are not adequately protected by the Golden Gate National Recreation Area's current policy of allowing dogs to roam off leash throughout most of Fort Funston.

Send your comments to:

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

FOFUAR01881



Dedicated to the preservation of California native flora

GGNRA008056

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## LYDIA BOESCH Attorney at Law

110 MAYWOOD DRIVE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94127 (415) 841-1060 (415) 841-0437 FAX Lydiaowen@aol.com

	FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
TO: cc:	Roger Scott John Keating
FAX NO.:	561-4710
DATE:	September 26, 2000
NO. OF PAGES:	2
Origin	nal will not follow Original will follow by: First-class mail. Overnight courier.

Roger,

Here is a fax from a woman who is signed up to speak tonight but can't make it. I can't be there because I have another meeting that I have to attend.

Is it possible for the record to reflect that there is at least one who signed up to attend last time, but can't attend? We aren't asking that rulemaking be extended — you'd never get the original 14 there. But, we would like for the record to show that those who showed up the first time won't be able to speak.

Thank you for doing this. Please call me if you have any questions.

THIS FACSIMILE MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION PROTECTED BY THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE OR THE ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT DOCTRINE, NO WAIVER IS INTENDED FROM INADVERTENT TRANSMISSION TO A PARTY OTHER THAN THE ADDRESSEE. IF YOU ARE NOT THE ADDRESSEE OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE TO DELIVER THIS FACSIMILE TO ITS INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU HEREBY ARE NOTIFIED THAT ANY REVIEW, USE, DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, DISCLOSURE, COPYING, OR TAKING OF ANY ACTION IN RELIANCE ON THE CONTENTS OF THIS INFORMATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY ME BY TELEPHONE AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL FACSIMILE TO ME AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE. THANK YOU.

**FOFUAR01883** 

GGNRA008058

P. 2

Subj: Re: Fort Funston Date: 9/25/00 11:00:30 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: shsmd@pop.mindspring.com (Susan Scher) Reply-to: shsmd@mindspring.com To: Lydiaowen@aol.com

I did receive notification. Unfortunately, I can't attend and doubt I'll have time to prepare written remarks for someone else to deliver on my behalf. FYI, though, the notice specifically stated that the matter of Fort Funston will be taken up early in the agenda, for whatever that's worth.

------ Headers -----

Return-Path: <shsmd@pop.mindspring.com>

Received: from rly-zd02.mx.aol.com (rly-zd02.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.226]) by air-zd03.mail.aol.com (v76\_r1.3) with ESMTP; Tue, 26 Sep 2000 02:00:30 -0400

Received: from scruz.net (nic.scruz.net [165.227.1.2]) by ny-zd02.mx.aol.com (v75\_b3.9) with ESMTP; Tue, 26 Sep 2000 02:00:20 -0400

Received: from pop.mindspring.com (tycho-165-227-58-127.tychonet.com [165.227.58.127])

by scruz.net (8.8.5/1.34) with ESMTP id XAA89784

for <Lydiaowen@aol.com>; Mon, 25 Sep 2000 23:00:19 -0700 (PDT) .

(envelope-from shsmd@pop.mindspring.com)

Message-ID: <39D041DF.E0AC12BF@pop.mindspring.com>

Date: Mon, 25 Sep 2000 23:27:43 -0700

From: Susan Scher <shsrnd@pop.mindspring.com>

Reply-To: shsmd@mindspring.com

X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.73 (Macintosh; I; PPC)

X-Accept-Language: en

MIME-Version: 1.0

To: Lydiaowen@aol.com

Subject: Re: Fort Funston

References: <12.3011abf.2701703e@aol.com>

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; x-mac-type="54455854"; x-mac-creator="4D4F5353"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Lydia

Here are the names of those who signed up to speak, but either left or did not get a chance to speak at the August 29 Advisory Commission meeting.

The addresses are as complete as they gave and some of the handwriting was a little suspect, but I tried to note where there were potential questions.

Mike says we can mail out an announcement for the September 26 meeting to any names we get a complete address for. Let us know if you would like us to do that or if you want to mail out the announcement cards, we can get them to you as soon as they come into Mike.

Either way, give Michael Feinstein a call at 415-561-4733 and let him know what you find out about the attached list. There are a few other groups we will be checking with to see if they recognize any of the names.

Please call if I can clarify any of the attached names or addresses.

Rober Scott

### Individuals who signed up to speak at the August 29, 2000 GGNRA Citizens Advisory Commission meeting, but did not have an opportunity to speak on the proposed Fort Funston Closure Project.

- 1. Nena Beach 2835 22<sup>nd</sup> Street SF 94110
- X 2. Chris Vulpe No Address (510) 642 1834 3. Mike Doane 642 0535
  - 3 Mike Doane 1786 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue SF CA 94122
  - 4. Eric Finseth 384 Curtner Avenue Palo Alto
  - 5. Corinne San Francisco
  - 6. Nancy Stafford 1377 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue SF 94122
- 7. Joy Durighello San Francisco 4/5 584
  - 8. David Perry 2134 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue SF
- (FAF 585 0907
- 9. Ron Dillon (sp) or Gillon (?) 37 Hartford SF
- 10. Tom Kanaley 150 Lenox Way SF CA 94127
- 11. Susan Schultz (or Schatz ?)350 ChurchSF 94114
- 12. Paricia LaCava 1445 Stevenson SF CA 94103

- 13. Haley Whala (sp?) 451 Niantic Ave DC 94014
- 14. Laura Hake 255 Ortega SF 94122



### **District Elections will be Crucial for the Sunset**

#### by Supervisor Leland Yee

This year's district elections present an exciting opportunity for the Sunset to stake its claim, once and for all, in City

Hall politics.

In 1996, voters agreed to divide the City into eleven districts of roughly equal population (60,000 to 65,000 residents) that respect neighborhood bound-

aries. Each of these eleven districts will now elect its own Supervisor.

District elections promise to redraw the City's political landscape and give local organizations - even homeowners' associations much more of a say in the decision-making process than they used to have.

While some incumbents feel threatened by district elections - especially those that have cast their lot with the party power brokers and nate the City Hell orporate interests wh agenda — I welcome the opportunity.

As a citywide leader for the past twelve years, I have focused a lot of energy on neighborhood and community issues. Whether it was giving neighbors and small businesses new tools to fight unwanted chain stores, or taking the neighborhood notification law to the people when not a single other Supervisor would support it, or holding an unprecedented series of community budget hearings as Finance Chair, I have strived to give a voice to the average citizen who isn't often heard at City Hall.

District elections promise to re-energize our political system by allowing voters to vote much more directly on the issues that affect them most. This can't be anything but a good thing for us, and the issues that matter most public safety, better branch libraries, safe playgrounds for our children, citizen input on planning decisions.

Over the past four years, with six of the ten other members on the Board of Supervisors having been appointed by the Mayor, neighborhoods have often lost key votes to downtown interests. But even when you're outgunned, I've found that there are ways to beat the system.

Creative solutions to persistent problems can win over one's usual opponents, like the incentive program I devised for hiring more police officers. And as a last resort, one can take the issue directly to the voters, as I did with the law that froze water and sewer rates until 2006.

District elections make me hopeful that next year things will be very different, and that the Board will be more responsive than it is today. Join me in taking back San Francisco for the Sunset - for our families, for our kids, and for all the issues that, until now, seemed too small for City Hall to worry itself about.

## Sunset District Welcomes a 19% Drop in Crime

by Tom Cahill, Former San Francisco Police Chief and Tom Dempsey, Former Police Department Captain

#### Sunset Neighbors Rally to Save Fort Funston

#### by Lydia Boesch

Fort Funston is a heautiful park along the coastal bluffs in the southwest corner of San Francisco. As long as Fort Funston has been open to the public, many different user groups have taken advantage of the rich recreational opportunities available. Visitors of all ages and all abilities visit the park regularly, from small children in strollers to senior citizens.

Once a San Francisco City park, in 1972 San Francisco gave Fort Funston to the federal government under the agreement that they would keep the area an "open space necessary to urban environment and planning." For many years, Fort Funston operated beautifully. Then,

things began to change in 1991 under the operation of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). The National Park Service began to close small areas of the park bit by bit, 40 acres to date.

The GGNRA claims that park users - the primary users of the 12 acres in question — contribute to the erosion and endangerment of the bank swallows. Park users at the hearing countered that earlier closures have not increased swallow populations and that the GGNRA's promise to reopen closed areas have not been kept.

#### **Chronology of Park Closures**

The first closure occurred in 1991, when just a few acres were closed. More closures occurred in 1993 and 1995. Every closure was larger than the one before. By 1995, park users voiced their ourrage that the park was being closed off to them with no prior notice, no public input, no scientific support and no environmental analysis. After the 1995 closure the Park continued on page 7

Re-elect District 4 Supervisor Leland Yee 1370-24th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122 Handbill Registration # 00-06-13H

Department reports that crime has dropped dramatically in the Sunset district, at four times the rate it has dropped in the city as a whole. Compared to the same period one year ago, crime in our district is down a full 19%. By contrast, crime citywide is down only 4.7%. The Taraval police station

Francisco

Police

The San

reports that crime is down in every major category - homicide, down 83%, rape, down by a third, aggravated assault, down by 17%, burglaries, down by 15.5% nd stolen vehicles, down by 23%.

Supervisor Leland Yee has added ver 400 police officers to the City's olice force in the last two years. Supervisor Yee authored legislation to put new hires into district stations. The legislation was unanimously approved by his colleagues on the Board of Supervisors. The legislation places priority assignments into district stations where officers can do most good and directly impact the quality of life in our neighborhoods. There is no doubt in our minds that this has contributed to the continued on page 7

#### Plans for Parkside School and Child Care **Center Still Not Final After Three Years**

#### by Nancy Wuerfel

Former Police Chief

Cahii) and Former Police Departmen Captain Dempsey

with Supervisor Leland Yee at the Taraval Police



In June 1997, the School District placed \$140 million bond measure on the ballot to repair our city schools. Supervisor Leland Yee successfully fought to include Parkside School in that bond measure so that the Sunset would have a new school and child care center to serve the neighborhood's growing population of school-aged children.

Voters agreed to the bond measure, which set aside \$11 million for rebuilding the Parkside School and creating a new pre-kindergarten facility. In return for our accepting increased tax payments, the School District was to replace the seismically unsound Parkside School with a new neighborhood school including a child care facility for pre-school children and a multi-purpose auditorium.

In April of 1999, Supervisor Leland Yee, anxious to keep the School District moving on the Parkside School project, requested that the District provide an update on its progress. School District officials reported that the cost to build the new school was now up to \$17.5 million, and they were finalizing continued on page 7

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	San Francisco,
ĺ	CA
1	Permit No. 1335

Neighborhood Nevvs Round-up



South Sunset Playground

#### Fighting for Better Education in the Sunset

As a School Board member from 1988 and a Supervisor since 1996, Leland Yee has an excellent track record of fighting for kids. On the School Board he led the fight to open Sunset Elementary School on Santiago Avenue. He fought the placement of cellular phone transmission towers on or near schools, until their health risks could be fully understood. And he led the campaign against the blatant tobacco marketing in our public schools.

As a Supervisor, Yee was responsible for adding the reconstruction of Parkside Elementary to Prop. A, the 1997 School Bond measure. He has scrutinized the Board of Education's budget very carefully to make sure that our taxpayer money is used for educating kids — not making school administration more bureaucratic. As the Finance Committee Chair, Yee crafted a budget that the respected Coleman Advocates for Youth called "one of the best ever for children, youth and families."

Yee has fought tirelessly against the School Board's housing scheme at Parkside Elementary, which would rob children of their playground and preschoolers of their childcare slots. Himself a father and educator, Yee cares deeply about the future of education in the Sunset. As the Sunset's Supervisor, he will do everything in his power to make sure our kids receive a good education in a safe environment.

#### Computers with Internet Added in Branch Libraries

After learning earlier this year that the Parkside and Ortega Branch libraries were operating with outmoded technologies, Supervisor Yee secured funding to purchase new computers with internet access for the two libraries. The funding was unanimously approved by the Board of Supervisors and the computers will be installed very soon. The Sunset is a



long way from the Main Library, and it is to our community's advantage to have self-sufficient libraries that can fulfill all our residents' main library needs.

With computers hooked up to the internet, the resources of our local libraries will be expanded immeasurably. Yee has also endorsed Proposition A, the bond initiative that will upgrade and expand a number of the City's branch libraries, including all three in the Sunset. If it is approved, Ortega will receive \$4.1 million, Parkside will receive \$3.1 million and the Sunset Branch will receive \$1.6 million.

The Ortega Branch is located at 3223 Ortega St. (near 39th Avenue.); call 753-7120 for hours. The Parkside Branch is at 1200 Taraval St. (at 22nd Avenue.); phone 753-7125. The Sunset Branch (which already has internet access) is at 1305 18th Avenue (at Irving); phone 753-7130.

#### South Sunset Playground Renovation Made Top Priority

The users of South Sunset Playground received some good news last month when Leland Yee informed them that much-needed renovations to the park — including the replacement of the play structure — have been put on the fast track. This good news comes on the heels of a community meeting Yee convened in July with a group of parents who use South Sunset and the Recreation and Park Department. At this meeting, the parents expressed serious concerns about the safety of the play structure. Yee and the neighbors forged an agreement with the Recreation and Park Department to change the timeline for the repairs from Priority 2 to Priority 1, shaving three years off the project timeline. \$500,000 in funding will be considered by the Finance Committee, which is chaired by Yee, and the Board of Supervisors will act on this funding in October. Also in October Yee and the Recreation and Park Department will hold another community meeting to receive additional community input about the renovation.

#### Yee Holds Neighborhood Budget Hearings

Each year the Board of Supervisors approves a budget that sets out the spending allocations for each City department. This is one of the most important tasks that the Supervisors undertake because the budget funds such critical city needs as public safety, health care, recreation and park programs, library services, and street cleaning and repair. The budget is supposed to reflect and address the concerns of the public, yet until last year the only recommendations or input that citizens could give on the budget was at a single hearing — a couple of hours to review what is now a \$4.4 billion budget.

Two years ago, when Supervisor Leland Yee became Chair of the Finance and Labor Committee, he changed all that. Supervisor Yee opened up the process and made it more accessible to the people by holding an unprecedented eleven neighborhood budget hearings across the city. No longer did people have to go all the way to City Hall to discuss the budget -Supervisor Yee brought it to them. The positive response was overwhelming. Hundreds of people from across the City provided almost 24 hours of testimony about what they thought the City should fund. A number of suggestions were incorporated into the recommended budget. For example, at the meeting at Robert Louis Stevenson Elementary School, there was a cry for more physical and mental health programs in our schools. As a result, the Finance Committee funded two new school-based clinics, one of which is at Lincoln High School. Supervisor Yee continued his open-budget initiative during his second term as chair of the Finance and Labor Committee, and the result was even more positive.

Expanded public participation allowed the committee to make good budget decisions and ensure that their recommended budget was responsive, accountable, and fiscally responsible.

Sava Pool — World-Class Facility on Track

With the Olympics swimming events recently in the spotlight, Sunset residents should ь proud that the next time they are held, we could he holding the Olympic-

Olym pic qualifying competitions in our neighborhood. Last year a group of Sunset residents approached

Supervisor Yee with a plan to build an Olympic-sized swimming pool in Larsen Park. He secured \$175,000 for the initial studies necessary to begin the project, and this year's budget includes another \$200,000 to begin Sava Pool construction. It will be the only pool in San Francisco other than one at the University of San Francisco that will be sanctioned for United States Swimming (USS) meets.

Sava Pool is already enormously popular, on average, between 1,000 and 2,000 people swim at the pool every week. Besides the Olympic-size pool for long-course training and swim meets, swim lessons and recreational use. The proposal also includes new showers, locker rooms and lifeguard stations. Yee Requires Neighborhood Notification for City Projects

Back in 1997, the Board of Supervisors struck a law from the books that had required the notification of the neighborhood in which a mental health or substance-abuse facility such as a halfway house was to be built. They said it was discriminatory to single out these public projects. So Leland Yee introduced a bill to expand the old law and require neighborhood notification of almost all public projects. His colleagues opposed him, so Yee took the measure directly to the voters — who passed the initiative by huge margins.

It's not just a question of the type of services that are offered, but how the building itself affects the neighborhood, and how the project's existence will affect traffic and transit in the area — the same issues that a private developer has to demonstrate.

Now, at least 15 days before a public project can be approved, either notification letters must be written to all neighbors within 300 feet of the site, or else a large, prominent sign must be posted on the site. This hasn't led to the nightmare scenarios with which Prop. I's opponents had tried to scare voters. City officials propose, planners plan and developers now develop better projects that are more consistent with neighborhood standards.

Government shouldn't fear public oversight, nor shun neighbor involvement. Working together, we can improve City services and protect our quality of life.

#### **Sunset Reservoir Playground**

The tiny tot playground at 24th Avenue and Quintara, next to the south basin of the Sunset Reservoir, is being improved for kids' enjoyment and renovated for their safety. The 160 feet of fence along Sunset Reservoir will be replaced, the swing set



stripped and repainted, new suffect wear-tool respection swings installed, new sand added to the sandbox, shrubs and trees trimmed, and the playground generally cleaned and made safe. As Chair of the Finance Committee, Supervisor Yee fasttracked the funding for these renovations and worked with the school district and City Rec and Park to make it happen. All repairs are due to be finished by mid-October, when the playground will be reopened to the public. With seven park benches where tired parents can rest, the renovated playground will provide the whole family a fun and safe place to spend time.

> Lincoln High School Gym Open at Night

After months of advocacy by Leland Yee, Abraham Lincoln High School's South Gym was opened for community use. From six to nine p.m., weekdays, the gym will be open to the public. Kids who before hung out with their friends at diners, on the streets or in Golden Gate Park will now be able to play basketball, volleyball and other sports together, and meet new friends from other schools. Supervisor Yee pushed for the gym to be opened at night to "provide a safe, healthy nighttime alternative for youth, while also helping to build a greater sense of community in the Sunset." Although the gym has only been secured to be open on evenings through the end of the year, Yee said he would make every effort to keep it open indefinitely. Lincoln High School is located at 2162 24th Avenue.

#### Yee Secures Funding for Sunset Children's Center

For five years, Sunset parents have been asking City Hall to replace the dilapidated play structure at the Noriega Child Development Center on 44th Avenue. And every year they have been denied. In April, parents knocked on Supervisor Yees door and two weeks later they had the money for the playground.

Over 200 Chinese-American families use the Sunset Children's Center, and most of them are low- and moderateincome families. Historically, community development money has not been allocated to the Sunset because of a misperception that the Sunset doesn't have low-income families.

With 240 children using this dangerous play equipment every day, it seemed as if a tragedy might happen before anything would be done. As chair of the Finance and Labor Committee, Supervisor Yee secured \$48,000 to replace the playground eq**GGNRA008063** 



### **Neighborhood Business: Fighting the Sunset's Chain Store Invasion**

"Truth in Disclosure Legislation"

by Mike and Harriet Salarno

Fighting the Sunset's chain store invasion residents of the Sunset deserve more of a say in determining what types of businesses should be in their neighborhood. While some parts of the City might welcome any



business that would choose to move there, most people in the Sunset want the power to keep out chain stores that will hurt other businesses or detract from the character of our neighborhood.

Leland Yee has taken a number of steps to give them this power. Earlier this year, the Board of Supervisors adopted Leland Yee's "Truth in Disclosure Act," a piece of legislation that requires proposed businesses to disclose on their permit applications the name under which they plan to operate. A pharmacy that applied to open shop on Hayes St., for example, did not disclose on its building permit that it was a Rite Aid which it would now have to do.

Closer to home, a Blockbuster that was to move into a building at 25th Avenue and Irving did not reveal it was a Blockbuster, and neighbors did not find this out until after the appeal period had expired. With the permit process so far advanced, despite neighborhood opposition, the project was approved.

Video stores like Blockbuster and Hollywood Videos have especially hit Sunset businesses hard. In May, Yee required anyone wanting to open a video store to apply for a special peruit that would cause early neighborhood notification and Planning Commission approval. If neighbors can make the case that a proposed video store will cause too much traffic, worsen parking, hurt existing businesses or impede the flow of Muni, its permit will be denied.



## **Downtown Spending Big Money to** Influence Sunset Election

#### by Susan Suval

In last year's mayoral race, downtown interests raised and spent some \$3.2 million in "soft money," more than has ever been seen in the history of San Francisco politics. It was spent almost exclusively on behalf of Willie Brown. Huge as this sum is, we ain't seen nothing yet. With six appointed incumbents and soft money pouring into the shadow cam-paigns of other candidates who have pledged loyalty to the Brown Machine, this November's elections are sure to break all records. In District 4, Willie Brown has endorsed two candidates Tom Hsieh, Jr. and Ron Dudum and has close ties to supporters of John Shanley, The message from the Mayor's Office couldn't be clearer: anybody but Leland Yee

Tom Hsieh, Jr. is a young political consultant who was a major player in last year's soft-money blitz on voters. Hsieh, Jr. was the spokesperson for "San Franciscans for Sensible Government," and was personally responsible for barraging 20,000 Chinese-American voters by direct mail and a phone b ank.

Don't be fooled by the name, the Chronicle's Matier & Ross have called San Franciscans for Sensible Government "the political arm of corporate San Francisco." They are funded by the likes of Wells Fargo, BankAmerica Corp., Transamerica, Gap chairman Don Fisher and downtown tycoons Walter Shorenstein and Warren Hellman. San Franciscans for Sensible Government spent \$675,000 in last year's race, \$140,000 of which came from Mark Mosher's Committee on Jobs," another downtown soft-money giant.

The voluntary spending caps were overwhelmingly approved by voters to reign in campaign spending. Yet these nits are signed by no one more readily than the candidates Willie Brown has endorsed. That's because these caps don't at all limit the soft money that backs their candidacies and puts all challengers at a huge disadvantage. District elections were supposed to be about low-budget, grass-roots campaigns and we're seeing just the opposite.

Voters should be careful to read the small print on a campaign literature they receive supporting Dudum, Hsieh, Jr. and Shanley, or attacking Yee. It will tell you which committee



The fine which the Chronic Paid for by San Francis Government & Ross hav political arm of corporate San Francisco."

paid for the piece. Unless it's from the candidates' own campaigns, such materials are funded by corporate sources that are not limited as to how much they can give, and will remain anonymous until after the election. Because they don't have to disclose whom they are really backing, soft money is particularly used in negative campaigning. Yet the laws are such that there is no accountability to control misinformation.

Corporate interests have been given an easy ride in the last several years through tax credits, relaxed planning requirements and sweetheart deals. The Mayor's closest advisors are also lobbyists for big business. The connection is anything but accidental, as shown by how many of these businesses have received sole-source contracts that were never put out for competitive bidding.

Big business has an obvious interest in preserving the status quo - a Mayor who has been their best friend, unhindered by a Board of Supervisors answerable to him.

With district elections threatening to rob Brown of his majority on the Board of Supervisors, the soft-money machine is out in force to shut down independent voices like Leland Yee's. As voters we must say no to the big business that's subretted our local democracy, and elect the leaders who will fight for us.

City Hall Watch

Police Force Goes to Full-Staffing Yee introduced the General Obligation Bond health positions, being overworked can endanger the Super Last year Supervisor Leland Yee approved of 200

new police officers to fully staff the San Francisco police

Yee's committee will fund an additional 58 officers for

the City's 10 district stations. that the Police Officers Association, Sheriff Michael Hennessey and the District Attorney have endorsed ? Overtime Reforms Supervisor Yee for Supervisor.

#### i i un tra

### Bond Accountability

San Francisco has nearly a billion dollars in out a standing general obligation bonds, and hundreds of millions of dollars more have been approved but not issued.-

new police officers to fully staff the San Francisco police force. The voter-mandated full-staffing level is 1,971 officers, and as of this year we were nearly 200 officers shy of that mark. A few months back, at the City's annu-al budget review, Supervisor Yee approved funding for spent, the status of uncompleted project, and an expla-to full staffing. As Chair of the Finance and Labor Committee, supervisor Yee crafted an incentive plan. The committee put \$1.6 million aside pending a report from the Department mid-way through the fiscal year. If it is on-track with its overtime budget and hiring plan 100 new Yee's committee will fund an additional 58 officers for Yee's committee will fund an additional 58 officers for

onsible responsible

## /ertime Reforms Last month, the Civil Grand Jury issued a report on

overtime pay that concludes city employees rack up excessive amounts of overtime. Citing such instances a the employee who received twice his annual salary in \* port wont be associated with such dirty tactics. overtime, the system clearly needs reform. The Finance Committee, in order to slow overtime spending, required that the departments who are the most egregious offend-Although these bonds are paid through our property Fiers including Muni, the Fire, Health, Police and taxes, there has Water Departments — have to get the approval of the committee before any overtime, funds will be spent, to know whether these bonds are being spent as they Committee Chair Yee said, "Standard practice has been were meant to be spent. All that's about to change. Earlier this year, " ing the Board with no choice but to pony up. No longer."

The problem is not only a financial one. When people work 60 or 70 hours a week, work quality suffers, and onand the social strength and th

1.000

Accountability Act, which is now law Each government lives of others.

ernment accountable and make our City more fiscally funtil afterwards. Supervisor Yee, who was a major supporter of last year's Sunshine Initiative, has long advocated increased disclosure and accountability.

During last year's mayor's race, some \$3.2 million was funnelled through soft-money committees. The problem is not just the amount of money, it's what that money buys. Attack ads and negative mail are often paid for by soft money, so that the candidate these committees sup-

. - Most incumbent supervisors will be major beneficiaries of soft money in this election. So perhaps it shouldn't be a surprise that only Supervisors Tom Ammiano and Mark Leno joined Yee in voting for the legislation. Yee remains hopeful that after this November's district elections, softmoney regulation will become law. FOFUAR ON BOOM

## Leland Yee. Experience and l



## dependence for the Sunset

Id Yee has fought hard and accomplished a lot for Neighborhood notification. Sponsored and t he could do as our Sunset District Supervisor. led fight for new law that requires city agencies to notify residents before placing homeless shel-(Starter ters or halfway houses in their neighborhood. 0 PARK Successfully fought cellular sites. Working with ( Stard parents at Wah Mei Preschool successfully fought the placement of cellular transmitters at the school. A LEAST ALL MOTORS STRATES Helped neighbors fight unwanted chain stores. WAY Authored and passed the "Chain Store Truth in **Ocean Park** Disclosure Act" that requires businesses that apply for ST. Health Center permits to disclose the true name under which they Wah Mei plan to operate. :: Preschool Sunset District hate crimes. After ST. swastikas were carved on Sunset businesses created task force to address hate crimes. vandalism and graffiti in the Sunset District. ST. Street clean-ups. Secured additional street awton K-8 Ut. School cleaners to help clean up the mess on Irving, Noriega and Taraval streets. ST Improved quality of education. As a School Sunset ÅĒ. Ř AVE. Å. ₹ ¥ ₿ ₿ Board member for eight years, reduced class Playground sizes, modernized textbooks and added an extra & Rec. Ctr. period of instruction for middle school kids. Å Ϋ́Ε ₿ E Funded an additional mental health staff member to Sunset schools. ST Advocated to fund an additional halftime position to fulltime status at Sunset Elementary and Lincoln High School. Protected kids from tobacco. Conservatory Co-sponsored and passed law Fire of Music limiting tobacco advertising in B Station 18 schools and ensured at least \$1 SUNSET ST. million in annual funding from RESERVOIR tobacco lawsuit settlement for ist. Quis youth tobacco education, preven-Abraham venson tion and control programs. Lincoln High School mentar ST. 100 Increased recreation opportunities for Sunset youth. Opened Abraham Lincoln gym to community youth for weekday evening use. 29TH 30TH 28TH 21ST 20TH 1ST 26TH Held community budget meetings at ST. Stevenson Elementary. First-ever Chair Tarà of the Finance Committee to hold budget Polic McCoppin Square hearings in San Francisco neighborhoods. ST arkside Branch Required greater bond accountability. Library Passed new city ordinance requiring departments to detail how our bond money 23RD 22ND is being spent. ST. Kept Sava Pool project on track. Parkside Won funding of \$350,000 towards the Elementary effort to build a world-class Olympic-Schol ST. size swim center at Sava Pool site. Wawona Nawo.... Sowling , a ulta Parkside WY Fought housing at Parkside Elementary. Square ROSE WAWONA Worked with neighbors to oppose public WAWONA Pine Lake Park ST housing at Parkside Elementary that would Lagum Puerca take playground space from children. Stern Grove STERN GROVE DRIVE Opened new Sunset elementary schools ų į VAC AL AL AL Led the fight to rebuild and open Parkside and . 4-1 BIVD Sunset elementary. A LINE KAR END THE A STATE THE REAL R Founded annual parent fair. Founded the annual event to inform families about education and arts prostans A008066



### Assembly Majority Leader Kevin Shelley, Former Mayor Jordan Endorse Yee

From across the political spectrum, Sunset residents, business and community leaders, elected officials and organizations who know and have worked with Supervisor Leland Yee have thrown their support behind his re-election campaign to the Board of Supervisors this November.

Assembly Majority Leader Kevin Shelley (pictured above with Supervisor Yee), former Mayor Frank Jordan, State Senator John Burton and Assessor Doris Ward have endorsed Yee for his re-election campaign. Sup. Yee's work with kids and schools has won him the support of School Board members Jill Wums and Eddie Chin.

Recognizing Supervisor Yee's strong record on public safety, he has been endorsed by San Francisco's rank and file officers, the Police Officers Association, Sheriff Mike Hennessey, former Police Chief Thomas Cahill, the San Francisco Deputy's Sheriff's Association, the San Francisco Instutional Police Officers Association.

Sunset community leaders have worked on behalf of reelecting Supervisor Yee to the Board in many capacities. He has been endorsed by Susan Suval of the Sunset District Neighborhood Coalition, Hayden Lee, President of the Chinese American Democratic Club, Mike Fitzgerald, President of Parkside District Improvement Club, Mark Duffet, President of SPEAK, Mariana Chow of the Sunset/Parkside Merchants Association, Nancy Wuerfel, founder of Parkside 4 Kids, Cheuk Kwong, Sunset Residents Association, Benny Wright, founder, Sunset Political Action Committee, Sonia Ng, co-founder of the Association of Homeowners, Dan Ryan, Co-founder, Sunset Parkside United Neighbors, Mike and Harriet Salarno, Sunset business and community leaders, and Joel and Tess Ventresca.

Among political clubs endorsing Supervisor Yee are the San Francisco Republican County Central Committee, the Chinese American Democratic Club, the Irish American Democratic Club, the Latino Democratic Club, the Mexican American Political Alliance, the Milton and Carolene Marks Democratic Club and the Democratic Women's Forum.

Organizations endorsing Yee include San Francisco Tomorrow, Rescue MUNI, the Tenant Associations Coalition, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, the San Francisco Central Labor Council, the Service Employees International Union Joint Council, SF Small Business Advocates, City Democratic Club, Disability Democratic Club, the Asian-Pacific American Labor Alliance and more than a dozen local unions.

Supervisor Yee's record of experience and independence has earned him the support of Sunset residents, elected officials, community leaders, political clubs and organizations. Supervisor Yee is proud to have earned their endorsements and support.

### Neighbors, Leaders Rally Around Yee's Campaign

Supervisor Leland Yee's campaign kicked into high gear with a enthusiastic grassroots rally in June with over 800 supporters attending the event (see photos above) kicking off the Supervisor's re-election bid to the Board of Supervisors this November. With less than a month to go until the November 7th election, Supervisor Yee's campaign has achieved outstanding milestones to date.

In August, Supervisor Yee was the only candidate in the District 4 race to turn in over 2000 signatures of Sunset district residents to place him on the ballot this November. Sunset residents volunteering for the Yee campaign canvassed the district's merchant corridors, MUNI stops and storefronts gathering the signatures of their fellow neighbors.

Leading the campaign trail with a strong list of endorsers, a recent boost to the roster is the endorsements of Assembly Majority Leader Kevin Shelley and Former Mayor Frank Jordan.

Volunteers are working day and night to re-elect Supervisor Leland Yee to the Board. If you are interested in volunteering for Leland's campaign, please call the campaign headquarters at 753-0280 or stop by, we are located at 1611 Noriega Street. We hope to see you there!

#### Sunset Independence Campaign 2000



Fort Funston, continued from page 1

Service promised that there would be no more closures. Park users relied upon this promise.

In February 2000, the Park Service began installing even more fences, this time to close off the most picturesque and popular area in the park. Park users urged the Park Service to reconsider this closure, but the Park Service refused to listen. This closure could potentially close off the coastal bluffs permanently.

#### **Park Users Prompted to Action**

Park users filed a lawsuit in federal court, and a federal judge agreed that the Park Service should have sought input from the public prior to the closure. The Park Service is now soliciting that input. The park users discovered that under the agreement between the City of San Francisco and the National Park Service, it was agreed that the park would continue to be used for the purpase of public recreation. And in that agreement, it stated that if the National Park Service failed to do so, the City could take the park back.

Empowered by this news, the park users immediately went to City officials asking that the City look into the ongoing closures at Fort Funston. Their requests fell on deaf ears, until Supervisor. Leland Yee recognized the harm being suffered by hundreds of park users due to the loss of their favorite park.

On September 20th, Supervisor Leland Yee held a hearing on the future of Fort Funston in response to the National Park Service's announcement that they plan to close 12 more acres of recreational space at Fort Funston.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Supervisor Leland Yee directed the City Attorney to review the terms under which the City conveyed the land to the GGNRA to determine the extent to which the City can regain control over how Fort Funston is managed, and to decide whether the recent closure was appropriate. Supervisor Leland Yee has asked the City Attorney to prepare this information by the middle of October.

Supervisor Leland Yee did the right thing. He met with

Supervisor Yee at Fort Funston with Lydia Boesch

the park users or the Park Service. But, he quickly called a hearing, allowing park users to voice their outrage over their loss of Fort Funston. As a result, Supervisor Yee has asked the City Attorney to investigate the ongoing closures at Fort Funston.

Thanks to Supervisor Leland Yee's help, park users may be able to keep Fort Funston as the City park they've used and loved for many, many years.

Crime down, continued from page 1	

Year-to-date					
<b>Taraval District</b>	1999	2000	% change		
Homicide	m6 9	1	83.33%		
Rape	- 9	6	33.33%		
Robbery	171	162	5.26%		
_Aggrovated Assoult_	105 -		17.14%		
Burglary	387.9	327	15.50%		
Other Larceny		558	21.40%		
Auto Boosting	586	472	19.45%		
Motor Vehicle Theft	5=456 4:	351	23.02%		
Recovered Vehicles	1 T	4	300.00%		
District Total	2,431	1,968	19.04%		
	Saure S	n Francisco P	alice Department		

#### drop in the city's crime rate.

Supervisor Yee has a plan to increase district station staffing (see 'Police Force Goes to Full-Staffing' page 3), and his concern for the issue has earned him the endorsement of the Police Officers Association, the Sheriff, the San Francisco Deputy Sheriffs Association and the District Attorney.

Crime has dropped faster in the Taraval District than it has in any of the City's other nine districts. All of the Taraval District police officers, and their Captain Michael Yalon deserve our profound gratitude. 9412

### Parkside School continued from page 1

the design.

A year later, the School District unveiled plans to build a parking garage and 43 units of teacher housing on the Parkside playground. Hundreds of neighbors objected. Although it was a creative attempt to address San Francisco's housing crisis, the Parkside playground was the wrong spot to build the housing Yee obtained a ruling from the City Attorney that the School District must abide by the City's planning process and obtain City approval before building the housing at this site.

In response to neighbors' opposition to the teacher housing, the School District has now held two community meetings. A third community meeting is scheduled for October 19th at 6:30 PM at the Grace Lutheran Church, 33rd Avenue and Ulloa. We are encouraged that the School District is seeking our input and invite all interested neighbors to attend. While the meetings have been productive, we are concerned about reports that we may not break ground on the school until Spring 2001 and that the child care center may be postponed indefinitely due to lack of funds.

Let's be sure the bond measure we approved in 1997 is finally implemented as promised with both the new school and child care center as soon as possible.

#### Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods Joins In Opposing Teacher Housing at Parkside

The Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods at its September meeting voted overwhelmingly to pass a SPEAK resolution determining that the Parkside School playground is an inappropriate site for the proposed 43 units of teacher housing. The Resolution also urged the Board of Supervisors to hold a hearing to determine how the Board of Education's proposal to build teacher-housing units fit into a plan for building new affordable housing in San Francisco. Supervisor Leland Yee will hold that hearing at City Hall in October. Since the City oversees all bonds which are issued, the hearing will also seek a firm timeline and current cost estimates for the school and child care center. All interested residents are invited to attend.

The Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods would like to work with the School District to build the new school, child care center and multipurpose auditorium. It would detract from the playground by building a parking garage and teacher housing. The School District took a step in the right direction in September when officials put a temporary stop to funding further studies and designs for the Parkside garage and housing project. If the children remain everyone's top priority, the project will not get off track again.

## How to Reach Supervisor Leland Yee:

 Re-election
 City Hall

 Campaign
 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett

 1611 Noriega Street
 Pl.

 San Francisco, CA
 Room 244

 94122
 San Francisco, CA

 94102-4689
 94102-4689

Ph: 415-753-0280 email: Yee4Sunset@juno.com website: yee2000.com

Ph: 415-554-7752 fax: 415-554-7751 email: Leland\_Yee@ci.sf.ca.us



## Thanks to Sunset residents who have volunteered for Leland Yee.

Lucretia Anderson **Rev. Mary Atwood** Penelope Callahan D.J. Canepa **Dolores** Canepa **Philip Carleton** Gerard J. Cecchettini Ellen Champlin Lionel Chan Nora Chan Sondra Chang Jane Chen **Matthew Chen** Simon Chen **Ethel Cheng** Michael Cheng Albert Chow Mariana Chow Josephine Cole **Christopher Courter** Jane Dare **Cynthia Darling** Tom Dempsey **Joyce Dinslage** Joan Duddy **Betty Connell** Eberhardt Lula El-Amin **Ofelia Esta Tony Ficher David Ferguson** Henry Fong

Stephen Fong **Mavis Gee** Dave Gesek Norman and Shervi Gong James Han **G.L. Hastings Brian Henning** Cathy K. Ho lamie Ho Stephen Ho Minh Huynh Jack Jia Yvon Johnson **Robert Jung** Bill Kadarusman Virginia Kelson Sima Kushnirsky Paul Kwok Jane Kwong Johnson Kwong Felix Lam Helen Lau Lan Le **Bing Jun Lee** Gary K.. Lee **Gilbert Lee** Hayden Lee Howard Lee John R. Lee Margaret Lee David Leigh Melba and John Lew

Nancy Lewis Ming Gin Li Sammy Lo **Bob Lockhart** Kenneth Lui Inzie Lum **George Luo** Frank Mah Barbara Mannheim Eric Mar **Casey Ray Martinez** Greg Martinez **Philip Matiatos** lan McLean Maren McLean **Ernie Meriweather** Sam Mirza Sonia Ng John Oei Nathan Pam Cecilia Pang Chor Y. Pang Beverly and Bob Pardini Maria Pazmino **Kenneth Peng Jim Perkins** Peter and Linda Phwon Sing Quan **Barbara Reilly** Dan Ryan Harriet Salarno Mike Salarno

Joel Schecter **Diana Scott Alexander Shevins** Alice Sim Laurita Siu Mary Stroth **Neill Stroth Robert Suval** Susan Suval Yick Tam **Barbara Thomas** Jean Thomas Sima Tikhman Salah Tulba **Rod Wallace** John F. Walters Laura Welch Jennifer Wilson **Chuck Wong** David Wong Frank and Eva Wong Terrence (Terry) Wong **Benny Wright** Ben S. Wu **Charles Wu** Cliff Yamasaki Margaret Yapp **Rachel Yapp** Ping Yee Joseph Yew Jr.

## "Join us in supporting Leland Yee for Sunset District Supervisor."



17





Hernessey Sheriff ley Sonit

Assembly Majority Leader Kevin Shelley Former Mayor Frank Jordan State Senator John Burton Sheriff Mike Hennessey Assessor Doris M. Ward Public Defender Jeff Brown Former Police Chief Thomas Cahill Community College Trustee Bob Burton School Board Member Eddie Chin School Board Member Jill Wynns

- Mike and Harriet Salarno, Sunset Business and Community Leaders Susan Suval, Sunset District Neighborhood Coalition
- Mike Fitzgerald, President, Parkside District Improvement Club
- Mark Duffet, President, SPEAK
- Joel and Tess Ventresca
- Mariana Chow, Sunset/Parkside Merchants Association

Nancy Wuerfel, Founder, Parkside 4 Kids Cheuk Kwong, Sunset Residents Association

Benny Wright, Sunset Political Action Committee







Sonia Ng, Co-founder, Association of Homeowners Daniel S. Ryan, Co-founder Sunset Parkside United Neighbors

San Francisco Police Officers Association San Francisco Deputy Sheriffs Association San Francisco Institutional Police Officers Association San Francisco Firefighters, Local 798 San Francisco Central Labor Council California Nurses Association San Francisco Tomorrow Sierra Club Rescue MUNI Irish American Democratic Club Democratic Women's Forum Chinese American Democratic Club Latino Democratic Club Mexican American Political Alliance Milton and Carolene Marks Democratic Club Republican County Central Committee

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#### SAN FRANCISCO EX ^ MINER

## k role in Funston dog war

being roped off, violating what they see as the National Park Service's original obligation to The City.

¢

City. ''This area has meant so much to so many," said Eleanor Vinsant, a semi-retired psychotherapist twho walks there frequently. "The (National Park Service) has not kept faith with the city of San Francisco... Standing on the bluffs in a howling wind, or at a e glorious sunset, or in the fog when

the air is so still there is a blending of beach, ocean and sky, is to know one's place in the scheme of things."

Park users told supervisors that The City needed to monitor the agreement that turned over management of Fort Funston to the National Park Service to make sure the area remained open for recreation. They said the piecemeal closing of about 20 percent of the park was a betrayal of the agreement's intent.

A group that calls itself the Fort Funston Dog Walkers has sued the Secretary of the Interior and National Park Service over the closure, which includes more than 6 miles of fences and makes favorite fields and hiking areas inaccessible. The dog walkers say the park service violated its own regulations by failing to hold public hearings. A federal court judge agreed, and the agency is now gathering public



comment through Oct. 6.

Officials from the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, who were not at Wednesday's meeting, have said the fences are needed to protect land that provides a safe habitat for bank swallows nesting on the cliffs and for native plants.

Park ranger George Durgerian, who works at Fort Funston but emphasized he wasn't speaking for the park service, said that rangers weren't interested in wholesale closure of Fort Funston to recreation.

"We just want a balance," he said, one that would "provide enjoyment and protect the environment."

Several speakers said they retreated to Fort Funston to escape the stress of living in a crowded city. They said they were finding fewer and fewer such places, particularly ones that allow dogs off leash.

Dogs have been permitted at Fort Funston since the Army gave the land to The City in 1961. The City gave it to the National Park Service in 1972, which unofficially allowed dogs off leash until the early 1990s, when it began to change its policy.

Technically, said Steven Krefting, a representative of the National Parks Conservation Association, dogs are required to be on leashes on all park service land.

"We do believe that dogs should be on leashes and keep to trails," he said. "The swallows are threatened, and I would think The City should be proud of protecting the swallows."

But other speakers Wednesday questioned the science behind the park service's decision, saying the decrease in swallows at Fort Funston had more to do with land erosion and other environmental conditions than with disturbances from humans and dogs.

They said the native plants could be cultivated elsewhere. Fort Funston, they said, has been a favorite spot for dog walkers and hikers for decades. Nancy Barber, who identified herself as an "environmental investigator," said the park service had developed an "ethereal land management theory" to return designated areas to

"pristine condition." The park service is trying to say

that "it would be better if there were no humans" at Fort Funston, she said.

Linda Shore, a physicist at the Funderstorium, snoke about what

## nink it sounds right either.)

ands

)**ff** oppe lucts At Vitamin Shoppe we have always viewed vitamins as an essential part of a healthy. life, not a luxury. That's why we discount over 400 brands and 18,000 products every day. And right now we are taking 30% offiall brands and 40% off our Vitamin Shoppe Brand (discount off suggested retail pricing). You can find these savings online, in our catalog, or when you visit us at any of our 80-plus stores. Rest assured, you'll find these savings anywhere you find us.

she called "the bad science" behind the park service's decision. Bank swallows are common, she said. Contrary to what the park service claims, she said, geologists find the area is tolerant of human disturbances.

Supervisor Tom Ammiano said he believed the two divergent sides could come up with a solution, one that would require "give and take on both sides."

Supervisor Sue Bierman also called for finding some balance, though she said she thought "people's happiness and people's enjoyment is the most crucial thing unless it's doing real harm."

"I worry about the native plants," she said, "but I guess I'm more a people person."

Yee said it was "extremely important that the city of San Francisco retains control of Fort Funston."

"It is our land," he said. "We gave it to the federal government."

Yee asked the city attorney's office to examine the terms and conditions of the conveyance to the park service and the extent to which the City had control over the land. He also asked for a determination of whether the park service's basis for closure was sufficient and whether there were alternatives.

Yee said supervisors had been briefed by park service officials on the situation at Fort Funston. Although officials thought it was inappropriate to attend the meeting, Yee said, they are "intensely monitoring it."

"What struck me in letters I've received and in testimony today is ... how this experience affects peoples' lives," said Yee. "There are not a whole lot of places to find tranquility."

## Alaska Airlines seeking to settle all suits in crash

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DUSTING TRUE UTION

Alaska Airlines says it wants to settle a lawsuit stemming from the Jan. 31 crash off Point Mugu, Ventura County, that killed all 88 aboard.

"We would like to settle for 100 percent of the claims," the carrier's attorney, Mark Dombroff, told a federal judge Wednesday in a court hearing filled with nearly four dozen lawyers representing Alaska, victims and the iet's manufactur-

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e take vitamins seriously.



### - EXAMINER. 9/26/00 Off-leash at Ft. Funston

How can it be that the Board of Supervisors is suddenly bewildered over off-leash dogs at Fort Funston? ("Supervisors seek role in Funston dog war," Sept. 21.). This sudden flurry to "monitor" the National Park Service can only muck up a problem the supervisors have had no success controlling in their real area of jurisdiction.

Supervisor Leland Yee should realize that if The City gave the land to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area for safekeeping, and then something happens that he isn't even sure he can do anything about, he can't try to take the land back.

Dog owners have worn out their gripe that they have not been heard on this issue.

Since suing the Golden Gate National Recreation Area hasn't gotten them the outcome they demand, they go crybabying to the Board of Supervisors, whose political expediency since the early '70s, has gotten us in this off-leash mess all over The City. This won't help any of them get re-elected.

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area had turned a blind eye to offleash activity since 1972 when it acquired Fort Funston. Dog owners had their chance to do the right thing then, but didn't, so restrictions had to be clarified in the '90s.

Dog owners' thin complaints have not shown why bank swallows, delicate sand dunes, crumbling cliffs or anything in nature should not be protected from indiscriminate misuse on only 12 acres out of 230 at Fort Funston.

We need the Board of Supervisors to safeguard our interests on streets and in our neighborhood parks and define some crystal-clear policies that don't confuse the needs of children with what owners want for their dogs.

Help dog owners understand that by choosing to own animals, they take on the responsibility to insure that their activities do not interfere with the quality of park-going for their neighbors.

ANDREA O'LEARY San Francisco

To clarify an error made in your story about the presentations made at the Leland Yee hearings on Fort Funston: I was the physicist who presented information about the "bad science" used by the National Park Service.

I was quoted as saying that the bank swallow is a common species, suggesting that the colony at Fort Funston does not merit protection. This is not correct.

I fully recognize that the bank swallow colony at Fort Funston is one of two coastal colonies of bank swallows in California. OPTIONAL FORM 98 (7-90

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GENERAL SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION

Because its nesting behavior is unique, the colony merits protection.

However, I was questioning whether fencing off of huge portions of the park for native plant restoration is necessary to support the colony — a claim the National Park Service has made on numerous occasions.

I have consulted various experts across the country and have read the research literature on bank swallows. At the hearing I stated: "Bank swallows are common throughout North America and have been studied extensively. Yet researchers have never found any binding association between bank swallows and any particular species of plant, native or not."

LINDA SHORE San Francisco

#### Punishing abortion doc

Regarding your article "Embittered abortion doc getting out of jail" (Metro section, Sept. 17): In light of the unprecedented criminal prosecution of Bruce Steir, the ACLU conducted a study entitled, "Preventing Unfair Prosecution of Abortion Providers," by medical researcher Phyllida Burlingame, that examines the Medical Board of California's record of discipline for patient death. Our findings were disturbing.

Over a five-year period ending in 1998, there were 80 cases in California in which patients died as a result of medical error due to their doctors' negligence. The majority of these doctors were not stripped of their licenses by the medical board, let alone criminally prosecuted.

In fact, although Steir's case was no more egregious than those of a number of other doctors, his treatment was much more severe. He was the only one referred by the medical board for criminal prosecution.



## NOTICE TO PARK VISITORS

THIS AREA WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL PARK VISITORS IN THE NEAR FUTURE PURSUANT TO NOTICES PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER ON JULY 18, 2000 AND JANUARY 4, 2001.

THE AREA IS BEING CLOSED FOR:

- PROTECTION OF THE BANK SWALLOW, A CALIFORNIA THREATENED SPECIES
- PUBLIC SAFETY
- HABITAT RESTORATION
- EROSION CONTROL

VIOLATORS MAY BE CITED PER 36 CFR S. 1.5

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

# BATES RANGE FOFUAR 01901 TO 02550

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Packet 1 Public Comment

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RECEIVED

AUG 1 0 2000

SPERMIE AND STREET

51 Blackstone Road R.D. 2 North Adams, Ma 01247-9400 August 6, 2000

g: O'nuce

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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I am writing to support measures to protect the Fort Funston area of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I do not need to tell you of the unique nature of the sandstone bluffs and sand dunes of Fort Funston. Only 5% of the San Francisco dune complex remains, and the National Park Service is charged with protecting those dunes within GGNRA "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." Unimpaired does not mean resources scarred with graffiti or eroded by tracks and trails.

I also cannot understand why the National Park Service has failed to enforce its own clear regulations at Fort Funston regarding free-running dogs. Is GGNRA the only unit of the National Park System that openly ignores 36 CFR 2.1, apparently encouraging pet owners to run their dogs on fragile dunes? Why have you not halted the threats to fragile native vegetation, bank swallows (listed as threatened in California), California quail and burrowing owls?

I urge you to end the habit of owners running unleashed digs at Fort Funston and to protect sensitive areas of the sandstone bluff and dune system. Please keep me informed on steps taken by the National Park Service to protect the Fort Funston site.

Sincerely,

Judith E. Embry

Judith E. Embry

FOFUAR01902 GGNRA008078
og: O'null

RECEIVED AUG 10 2000 SUP EMINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Joseph N. Samek 50 Winship Ave Pittsfield MA 01201 August 6, 2000

Superintendent Brian O'Neill Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Streets Building 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, Ca 94123

#### Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I STRONGLY object to the recent closures and proposed NEW closures at Fort Funston. The fences keep tax paying citizens from enjoying what is the most scenic area of the Fort. In fact, the fences HAVE NOT benefited the bank swallow population. The further proposed changes should be near the cliff face above the burrows. This would address public safety as well as the bank swallows while allowing those of us that use the Fort on a regular basis, we the predominant users of Fort Funston, we the organization that takes very good care of the area by supplying litter bags and conducting monthly cleanups, the continued access we desire and deserve.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely Joseph N. Samek

ay: O'nice

### RECEIVED

AUG 0 9 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE Name: Alexandra Feit Address: 2524 19th St. S.F., CA 9410 Date: Aug 6, 2000

Brian O'Neill Superintendent Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

There are many niles of park service land Not available to dog walking, so I am surprised at the supposed need to limit fort Function's dog area.

I am writing to protest the closure of 12 acres of Fort Funston. Fort Funston was given to the National Park Service by San Francisco for recreational use, and in legislation creating the GGNRA, Congress specified urban recreation as a priority.

By far the majority of visitors to Fort Funston are San Franciscans and their dogs. They go to Fort Funston to enjoy its decades-long tradition of off-leash free play and canine socialization, in a windblown but gloriously beautiful section of San Francisco coastline.

In one of the most densely populated cities in the country, such space is vital to the 38% of us who keep dogs, love the land, and contribute to the maintenance of our local environment.

Sincerely,

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A.Feit 2524 19<sup>44</sup> SJ. S.F. CA, 94110





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

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cy: O'nill

RECEIVED AUG 0 9 2000 SPERINTENDENT'S CATICE

August 6, 2000

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Superintendent Brian O'Neill G.G.N.R.A. Bay/Franklin Streets Bldg. 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Re: Off-leash areas for dogs.

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I am writing to protest the closure of 12 acres of Fort Einston. As a regular walker with my dogs in Fort Funston I would hate to have more areas closed off to the dogs. You probably know that Fort Funston is also known as "Dog Heaven". Please please leave as much area as possible to enable the dogs to run, run free. Is there another place where so many dogs can enjoy such freedom? When my visitors from around the world see this they are astopished and delighted that such an area exists; and so near a city, wonderful!

The swallows are also a delight to see, swooping so fast and low and I appreciate that they also need protection, but do they need the presently closed areas and maybe more? My understanding was that they nest in the cliffs and feed mainly around Lake Merced and that a flyway between nesting and feeding was their need. Have I misunderstood their needs?

On a related subject: Snowy plover protection.

I took a ranger led walk last year to learn more about these birds and their needs. We did eventually spot some (Noriega:Ortega section of the heach) up near the dunes in the dry sand. I'm happy to leash my dogs between Lincoln and Shat but 1 don't understand how ranger trucks can drive there and not disturb the hird habitat. Wouldn't motor bikes or even pedal bicycles ridden near the water's edge be less disruptive? Just a thooght!

Sincerely

Many C. Hicholson

Mary Nicholson 2178 47<sup>th</sup> Ave. San Francisco, CA 94116

## cy: O'Neill

RECEIVED AUG 08 YUJU SUPERINTENDENT'S DETICE

August 6, 2000

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I STRONGLY object to the recent closures and proposed NEW closures at Fort Funston. The fences keep tax paying citizens from enjoying what is the most scenic area of the Fort. In fact, the fences HAVE NOT benefitted the bank swallow population. The further proposed changes should be near the cliff face above the burrows. This would address public safety as well as the bank swallows while allowing those of us that use the Fort on a regular basis, we the predominant users of Fort Funston, we the organization that takes very good care of the area by supplying litter bags and conducting monthly cleanups, the continued access we desire and deserve.

Thank you for listening.

Prini Jagan

So atrisser 6 Frentword, CA 94513

cy: O Maill

# RECEIVED

AUG **0 9** 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Name: Patriaia CURRAN Address: 487 LAIDley St S.F. CA. 94131 Date: 8-6-00

Brian O'Neill Superintendent Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I am writing to protest the closure of 12 acres of Fort Funston. Fort Funston was given to the National Park Service by San Francisco for recreational use, and in legislation creating the GGNRA, Congress specified urban recreation as a priority.

By far the majority of visitors to Fort Funston are San Franciscans and their dogs. They go to Fort Funston to enjoy its decades-long tradition of off-leash free play and canine socialization, in a windblown but gloriously beautiful section of San Francisco coastline.

In one of the most densely populated cities in the country, such space is vital to the 38% of us who keep dogs, love the land, and contribute to the maintenance of our local environment.

Sincerely. Atricia Curron-

## RECEIVED

AUG 0 9 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

ay: O'rull

1924 Great Highway San Francisco, CA 94116 August 6, 2000

Willie Brown, Mayor of San Francisco City Hall, Room 200 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4639

Dear Mayor Brown:

This Letter is in response to Golden Gate National Recreation Area's newest proposal regarding offleash areas at Fort Funston. It does not surprise me that the National Park Service (GGNRA) talks out of both sides of their mouth.

I have had extensive dealings in the past with GGNRA. Our group, the Sunset Coalition, was actively working with them. As it turns out, GGNRA never followed through on what they said they would do. It was our group who furnished the GGNRA with the history of the beach. They did not research the beach profile, as they would have realized that the beach moved inland going south.

Also, there was concern in 1981 about the snowy plover because of the sand replenishment program. The snowy plover survived but the sand replenishment did not. All the sand placed on the beach that was taken from the construction of the "super sewer" washed away during winter storms. GGNRA does not learn from past mistakes because they plan to do sand replenishment at Sloat Blvd where erosion is taking place even threatening the super sewer.

The 1979 Pet Policy sanctioned the continuation of off-leash activity at Crissy Fields, Fort Funston, and Ocean Beach. But GGNRA, ignoring the 1979 Pet Policy, made Ocean Beach an on-leash area. In order to get permission to place sand on the beach, GGNRA made deals with other agencies who wanted Ocean Beach to became an on-leash area.

San Francisco needs places that allow off-leash recreation for owners and their pets. Let us continue to be the city that knows how and a city that takes care of all their citizens.

Sincerely,

Elsine Grimm

ELAINE GRIMM

CC: Honorable Dianne Feinstein Honorable Barbara Boxer Honorable Nancy Pelosi Honorable Tom Lantos San Francisco Board of Supervisors Superintendent Brian O'Neill Linda McKay (Fort Funston Dog Walkers Assn)

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RECEIPTION AUG 1 ( ZUUJ SUPERIOR & YOURS

Corky Estave 13857 Reed Avenue Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70818

August 5, 2000

Superintendent Brian O'Neill Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets Building 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, California 94123

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I strongly object to the recent closures and the proposed new closures at Fort Funston. The fences keep tax paying citizens from enjoying what is the most scenic area of the Fort. In fact, the fences have not benefited the bank swallow population. The further proposed changes should be near the cliff face above the burrows. This would address public safety as well as the bank swallows while allowing those of us that use the Fort on a regular basis, we the predominant users of Fort Funston, we the organization that takes very good care of the area by supplying litter bags and conducting monthly cleanups, the continued access we desire and deserve.

Thanks you for listening, Corky Estave

## RECEIVED

AUG 1 0 2000

SUPERING FROM SOUTH

2684 Thornbrook Rd Ellicott City, MD 21042 August 5, 2000

cy: O'Nier

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I am writing to support measures to protect the Fort Funston area of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. As you know, this area includes one of the best continuous exposures of a sandstone formation and the largest remnant of the San Francisco sand dune complex. The sandstone bluffs and dunes are home to rare colony of bank swallows, California quail, and burrowing owls. However these resources are threatened by excessive human activity. Cliff-climbing, graffiti sprayed on sandstone bluffs, and, most particularly, free-running dogs threaten wildlife and dune stability.

That is why I support closures of sensitive areas of Golden Gate National Recreation Area to uses that threaten park resources. Also, I oppose free-running dogs on Fort Funston's bluffs and dunes. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Cathy Hunkel Cathy Kunkel

BUILDING 201, FORT MASON SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123

This is Federal property so it doesn't matter that you may not live in SF or even CA. Please send this on to EVERYONE on your e-mail - this is really important to me, David and all dog lovers. Thanks so much!!!

#### Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I STRONGLY object to the recent closures and proposed NEW closures at Fort Funston. The fences keep tax paying citizens from enjoying what is the most scenic area of the Fort. In fact, the fences HAVE NOT benefited the bank swallow population. The further proposed changes should be near the cliff face above the burrows. This would address public safety as well as the bank swallows while allowing those of us that use the Fort on a regular basis, we the predominant users of Fort Funston, we the organization that takes very good care of the area by supplying litter bags and conducting monthly cleanups, the continued access we desire and deserve.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

David Jensen (A Cat Lover) 2058 43rd Avenue San Franisco, California 94116

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KATHLEEN CONNELL Controller of the State of California

i		
Date: 8/11/2000	Source: INT	Property ID Number: 011296964
Type of Property: Account Number:	Vendor payments	
Amount:	\$200.00	
Reported By:	ANHUESER-BUSCH COMPANIES	
Owner's Name:	GOLDEN GATE NATL PARK	/
Reported Address:	FORT MASON SAN FRANCISCO CA	·

This is to inform you that, according to our records, you may be entitled to the money, the property, or the proceeds from any sale of the property listed above. If you are claiming this property or the proceeds, you must fully complete and return all parts of this three-part Claim Form:

- (1) This front page of the Claim Form;
- (2) <u>Signed</u> Affirmation; and
- (3) Check List detailing the required documentation.

Certificate and Will or a Final Decree of Distribution. Send these documents to:

PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU MUST SIGN THE AFFIRMATION OR YOUR CLAIM WILL BE <u>RETURNED.</u> In addition, you must include a copy of your driver's license that shows your current address and some form of verification of your Social Security Number, such as a copy of your Social Security card or a tax return showing your name and Social Security Number. If you do not have all of the items required, please send as much information as possible to prove this claim. If you are an heir, not a direct owner, provide a certified copy of the owner's Death

> Controller of California Bureau of Unclaimed Property P.O. Box 942850 Sacramento, CA 94250-5873

Once your package is received with all the required documentation, this office will be able to return your property or proceeds from its sale to you. Due to the success of the Controller's Internet site, this office has received thousands of claims. Please do not contact this office to inquire about your claim's status unless it has been over 90 days since it was filed. Such calls will only delay payments. Thank you for your patience. 14-Int (Rev. 07/99)

<u>IMPORTANT NOTE:</u> At this time, the claim form only displays one owner on each account. Therefore, if you think there could be an additional owner name on this account, (such as sibling,



KATHLEEN CONNELL Controller of the State of California

## **CLAIM FORM**

Date: 8/11/2000 Source: INT

Property ID Number: 011049684

Type of Property: Account Number:	Vendor payments
Amount:	\$56.66
Reported By:	AMERICAN TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH
Owner's Name:	GOLDEN GATE NAT L RE
Reported Address:	ATTN: MAI-LIIS BARTLING SAN FRANCISCO CA

This is to inform you that, according to our records, you may be entitled to the money, the property, or the proceeds from any sale of the property listed above. If you are claiming this property or the proceeds, you must fully complete and return all parts of this three-part Claim Form:

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KATHLEEN CONNELL Controller of the State of California

#### **CLAIM FORM**

Date: 8/11/2000 Source: INT

Property ID Number: 001008336

Type of Property: Account Number:	Checking account/demand deposi
Amount:	\$35.82
Reported By:	WELLS FARGO BANK #1
Owner's Name:	FORT FUNSTON ARMORY
Reported Address:	6887 PORTAGE RD DUBLIN CA

This is to inform you that, according to our records, you may be entitled to the money, the property, or the proceeds from any sale of the property listed above. If you are claiming this property or the proceeds, you must fully complete and return all parts of this three-part Claim Form:

- (1) This front page of the Claim Form;
- (2) <u>Signed</u> Affirmation; and
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If this is a valid claim, print this Claim Form and complete and submit the <u>Affirmation Fill-in</u> <u>Form.</u>

If this is not a valid claim, return to the Electronic Inquiry Search Screen.

August 5, 2000

Superintendent Brian O'Neill Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Streets, Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123 Fax: 415-561-4710

AUG 1 : 2001 Sep Handler

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I am writing to support measures to protect the Fort Funston area of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I do not need to tell you of the unique nature of the sandstone bluffs and sand dunes of Fort Funston. Only 5 percent of the San Francisco dune complex remains, and the National Park Service is charged with protecting those dunes within GGNRA "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." Unimpaired does not mean resources scarred with graffiti or eroded by tracks and trails.

It is difficult to understand why the National Park Service has failed to enforce its own clear regulations at Fort Funston regarding free-running dogs. Is GGNRA the only unit of the National Park System that openly ignores 36 CFR 2.1, apparently encouraging pet owners to run their dogs on fragile dunes? Why have you not halted the threats to fragile native vegetation, bank swallows (listed as threatened in California), California quail and burrowing owls?

I urge you to end the habit of owners running unleashed dogs at Fort Funston and to protect sensitive areas of the sandstone bluff and dune system. Please keep me informed on steps the National Park Service will take to the Fort Funston site.

Sincerely, Gerald W. Wallace

Gerald W. Wallace 1755 JAREN AUEN4E MERRITT ISLAND FL 32952 E-MAIL WALLACELUA DAUL.COM AUG 1 0 2000

August 5, 2000

SUPERINTE PROPERTY AND

Superintendent Brian O'Neill Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Streets, Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123 Fax: 415-561-4710

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Sincerely,

Som Fr

Susan Francis 3982 Eastrise Drive Groveport, Ohio 43125 614/834-5902

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cy: O'Neill

#### 08/05/2000

#### SWALLOWS, QUAIL AND OWLS

Superintendent Brian O'Neill Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Streets, Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123 Fax: 415-561-4710 RECEIVED

AUG 0 8 2000

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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Sincerely. sight

Mr. Bobbie Dee Flowers 418 West 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt #22A New York, NY 10011-5826 Phone: 212/242-0319 Fax: 775/743-5080 Email: <u>bflowers@liu.edu</u>

CY: O'Nail JD C.A Park-Hotel Haarlass · Heidelderg PM Konditorei – Café Aussichtspunkt am Neckar und Bergwald 5 A 2001 Please protect the Fort Functor area of GGNRA Supt Bran O'Neil and its sandstone bluffs Solden Date NRA and sand deenes by Bay & Franklew S. hatting the running of Blog 201 unleased dogs en that fort mason area. Thank you San Francisco (A Protect the swallows, quail + burrowing owle. 94123 Foto F. Michelmann C. P. F. 6

**FOFUAR01921** 

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CY:O'Neill

RECEIVEL AUG 07 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Name: Kyle Thornton Address: 851 Alvarado 87 SF CA 94114 Date: 8-5-00

Brian O'Neill Superintendent Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I am writing to protest the closure of 12 acres of Fort Funston. Fort Funston was given to the National Park Service by San Francisco for recreational use, and in legislation creating the GGNRA, Congress specified urban recreation as a priority.

By far the majority of visitors to Fort Funston are San Franciscans and their dogs. They go to Fort Funston to enjoy its decades-long tradition of off-leash free play and canine socialization, in a windblown but gloriously beautiful section of San Francisco coastline.

In one of the most densely populated cities in the country, such space is vital to the 38% of us who keep dogs, love the land, and contribute to the maintenance of our local environment.

Sincerely,

Kyh R The-

### RECEIVED

AUG 0 8 2000

SUPSEMITENDENT'S OFFICE

Name: JON SINDELL Address: 2475 46th AVE. 5.F. 94116 Date: AJp. 5, 2000

Brian O'Neill Superintendent Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

I have two children and a beautitully behaved boxer dog. Preserving open space for my bids and dog to comp and plan seens to me a much higher priority than additional space for the hank million hank swallow.

I am writing to protest the closure of 12 acres of Fort Funston. Fort Funston was given to the National Park Service by San Francisco for recreational use, and in legislation creating the GGNRA, Congress specified urban recreation as a priority.

By far the majority of visitors to Fort Funston are San Franciscans and their dogs. They go to Fort Funston to enjoy its decades-long tradition of off-leash free play and canine socialization, in a windblown but gloriously beautiful section of San Francisco coastline.

In one of the most densely populated cities in the country, such space is vital to the 38% of us who keep dogs, love the land, and contribute to the maintenance of our local environment.

Sincerely. TON SINDELL

FOFUAR01923

## GAIL C. HERATH-VEIBY

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Marka Shi Angara Shi Angara Shi

## RECEIVED

August 5, 2000

### AUG 1 0 2003

SUPERINE AND OTHER

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I am writing to support measures to protect the Fort Funston area of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I do not need to tell you of the unique nature of the sandstone bluffs and sand dunes of Fort Funston. Only 5 percent of San Francisco dune complex remains, and the National Park Service is charged with protecting those dunes within GGNRA "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." Unimpaired does not mean resources scarred with graffiti or eroded by tracks and trails.

I can not understand why the National Park Service has failed to enforce its own clear regulations at Fort Funston regarding free-running dogs. Is GGNRA the only unit of the National Park System that openly ignores 36 CFR 2.1, apparently encouraging pet owners to run their dogs on fragile dunes? Why have you not halted the threats to fragile native vegetation, bank swallows (listed as threatened in California).

I urge you to end the habit of owners running unleashed dogs at Fort Funston and to protect sensitive areas of the sandstone bluff and dune system. Please keep me informed on steps the National Park Service will take to the Fort Funston site.

Gail C. Herath-Veiby

## RECEIVED

AUG 1 4 2001

SUPER STREETS OFFICE

Elisa Estave 4980 Vondell Lane Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70814

August 5, 2000

Superintendent Brian O'Neill Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets Building 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, California 94123

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I strongly object to the recent closures and the proposed new closures at Fort Funston. The fences keep tax paying citizens from enjoying what is the most scenic area of the Fort. In fact, the fences have not benefited the bank swallow population. The further proposed changes should be near the cliff face above the burrows. This would address public safety as well as the bank swallows while allowing those of us that use the Fort on a regular basis, we the predominant users of Fort Funston, we the organization that takes very good care of the area by supplying litter bags and conducting monthly cleanups, the continued access we desire and deserve.

Thanks you for listening, Elisa Estave

FOFUAR01925



AUG 08 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

August 5, 2000

cy: O'Heill

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

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I urge you to end the habit of owners running unleashed dogs at Fort Funston and to protect sensitive areas of the sandstone bluff and dune system. Please keep me informed on steps the National Park Service will take to the Fort Funston site.

Sincerely,

Omar Siddique 4517 Rebecca Court Ellicott City, MD 21043 Omar@umbc.edu

## RECEIVED

AUG 0 9 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Name: Kathy Setian Address: 1783 Sanchez St. SF CA 94131 Date: Aug 5, 2000

Brian O'Neill Superintendent Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I am writing to protest the closure of 12 acres of Fort Funston. Fort Funston was given to the National Park Service by San Francisco for recreational use, and in legislation creating the GGNRA, Congress specified urban recreation as a priority.

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Sincerely,

Narty Setian





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

#### FOFUAR01928

<sup>,</sup> GGNRA008104

cy: O'Neill



AUG 0 8 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

> 1850 Los Altos Drive San Mateo, CA 94402

Phone (650) 349-0114 E-mail Powerscalif@cs.com

August 05, 2000

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

RE: Fort Funston

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

As a member of both the GGNRA and the Fort Funston Dog Walkers we are puzzled as to why these two fine organizations are at odds with one another. Our goals - the enjoyment for all of the pleasures of Fort Funston - are certainly similar and no one would disagree with the protection of the bank swallow habitat.

We do, however, feel that the GGNRA has over reacted by now proposing to permanently close 12 acres. The fences should be located closer to the cliff faces. The Sunset Trail should be clear of drifting sand so as to make it accessible to all.

Fort Funston is a jewel appealing to everyone. Please let everyone enjoy it!

Sincerely,

fim and the Tower

Jim and Rita Powers

Sheen CY: O'Neill Scott

Author: "saderhold" <saderhold@netzero.net> at np--internet Date: 8/5/00 9:22 AM Normal

TO: Brian O'Neill at NP-GOGASubject: Fort Funston----- Mess age Contents

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I am writing to support measures to protect the Fort Funston area of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. I do not need to tell you of the unique nature of the sandstone bluffs and sand dunes of Fort Funston. Only 5 percent of the San Francisco dune complex remains, and the National Park Service is charged with protecting those dunes within GGNRA "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." Unimpaired does not mean resources scarred with graffiti or eroded by tracks and trails.

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Sincerely, Steven Aderhold PO Box 1135 Fallbrook,Ca. 92088-1135

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## RECENDED

#### AUG 07 ZUUU

August 4. 2000 SUPERINTENDER'S OFFICE

Superintendent GGNRA Bay and Franklin Streets Building 201, Fort Mason San Francisco California 94123

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This letter is in regard to the notice of the proposed year-round closure at Fort Funston.

It is a known fact that having the companionship of a canine is beneficial to seniors.

I am 78 years of age, born in San Francisco and I have a dog. The problem is you are proposing to restrict the place I take my walk while having my dog go off leash. I thought when San Francisco gave GGNRA the land, it was with the understanding that traditional usage would continue. What happened to that promise?

Also why do you blame the declining bird population on dogs? I would think hang gliders would constitute a threat.

I urge you to reconsider your proposal to close Fort Funston to our best friends.

Ralph \$elleck 1587-45th Avenue San Francisco 94122

Cy: O'Meil



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AUG 07 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

August 4, 2000

HANCOCK ROTHERT& BUNSHOFT LLP ATTORNEYS

Brian O'Neill General Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Fort Mason, Bldg. 201 San Francisco, California 94123

#### **Re: Fort Funston Closures**

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the San Francisco Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals ("SPCA") to address issues regarding Golden Gate National Recreation Area's ("GGNRA") notice received on Monday by the SPCA of notice and comment for federal rule-making of the "Proposed Habitat Protection Closure" at Fort Funston. We saw a similar notice posted at Fort Funston, advising that there was a "Document for Public Review and Comment" ("Document") at the Sunset Library, Fort Funston Visitor's Center, and the National Park Service ("NPS") Information Center downtown. This letter addresses concerns regarding inadequate public notice and procedural defects in the rule-making process described in the Document.

As indicated by the Document, this process was initiated because the "Federal District Court ordered preliminary injunction against the NPS, disallowing the closure until such time as appropriate public notice and opportunity for comment was provided." Yet a quick review of the proposal reveals the closure is substantially different from the one that resulted in the preliminary injunction in the lawsuit, *Ft. Funston Dog Walkers v. Babbitt, No. C 00-00877 N.D. Cal.* The new proposal extends the four and a half acre permanent closure to twelve acres taking even more recreational parkland, banning public access to all bluff views of the beach for the entire northern sector of Fort Funston. Despite drastic changes in the project only sixty days have been allotted for public comment. Moreover, people are told to file comments "as early as possible" if they want to be heard: "Public comments should be submitted to NPS as early as possible in order to assure their maximum consideration." The statement indicates NPS is not committed to providing an opportunity for meaningful public review, rather the rule-making process is merely a procedural hurdle before proceeding with the project.

[SFDOC:800-380-423025]

LOS ANGELES

LAKE TAHOE

SAN FRANCISCO 4 EMBARCADERO CENTER SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111 TELEPHONE 415.981.5550 FACSIMILE 415.955.2599 LONDON

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Brian O'Neill August 4, 2000 Page 2

Ultimately the court will decide whether there was "appropriate notice and opportunity for comment." This letter addresses serious problems with the rule-making process that could result in court reversal if not corrected. Public notice is inadequate, there is no provision for public review of the documents relied on for the proposal, and access has been denied to the area in controversy.

#### 1. Effective Notice of the Proposed Closure

Although the sixty day comment period ran from publication in the federal register, GGNRA delayed posting notice of the proposed closure at Fort Funston for almost two weeks. As a general rule of land use practice, "appropriate notice" for public urban parks requires that signs be posted at the site where the proposed changes will occur. In contrast to other national parks, GGNRA has unique provisions in the enabling statute that require NPS to follow "principles of land use planning." In particular, the statute mandates: "In management of the recreation area, the Secretary of Interior ...shall utilize the resources in a manner which will provide for recreation and educational opportunities consistent with sound principles of land use planning and management." 16 USC, section 460bb. The "statement of purpose" further provides that the park was established "to provide for the maintenance of needed recreational open space necessary to urban environment and planning". Due process rights impacted by land use planning and development in an urban environment require that notice be posted at the site. The U.S. Supreme Court has defined adequate notice for due process to require: "notice reasonably calculated, under all the circumstances, to apprise interested parties of the pendency of the action and afford them an opportunity to present their objections." Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co. 339 U.S. 306, 314 (1950); See, also Harris v. County of Riverside 904 F.2d 497, 503 (9th Cir. 1989).

Second, no effort has been made to advise occasional users that their access to the entire northern bluffs in the park will be affected by this proposal. GGNRA estimates 750,000 "visitors enjoy Fort Funston annually," virtually the entire population of San Francisco (pg. 6). Extensive media coverage followed the original closure in March, yet GGNRA has done nothing to advise the general public of the latest development in the case. Typically in cases that affect the general public, notice is published in newspapers of general circulation. "The means employed must be such as one desirous of actually informing the absentee might reasonably adopt." *Mullane* 339 U.S. at 315. Clearly the intent is to limit public input, not facilitate it.

Further evidence of this intent occurs in the notice posted at Fort Funston. Only two signs were observed, one located on the backside of the bulletin board at the head of the Sunset Trail, hidden from public view, and the other at the bulletin board near the beach access trail, adjacent to a sign on the fence indicating "seasonal closure". In small print, the signs advise people that a document is available for review and comment at three locations and that comments are due by September 18<sup>th</sup>. No reference is made to the August 29<sup>th</sup> hearing of the Citizens Advisory Commission where comments can be made. Nothing is said about the expansion of the proposed habitat. Public confusion stifles dissent, since people tend to accept the fences as a fiat accompli, unaware that they will be moved to enclose more space if the

Brian O'Neill August 4, 2000 Page 3

project is approved. Again, "notice must be of such a nature as reasonably to convey the required information." *Mullane* 339 U.S. at 314.

#### 2. Public Access to Documents

The Document is silent on public inspection of the documents relied on for the closure. Three pages of reference material is cited at the end of the report, including "personal communications" with twelve individuals. Without access to this information, the public can't provide meaningful comment. Please make these documents available for public review during the comment period and advise the public where they can reviewed. With respect to the "personal communications" please provide access to minutes, tape recordings, summaries, raw notes, and any other memorialization of the communications. In addition, please provide the dates of the communications, who was present, what was discussed, conclusions reached, and the basis for those conclusions. We also ask you to extend the deadline for comment until these defects are cured.

#### 3. Public Access to Areas Closed in March, 2,000

Since March public access has been denied to the entire fenced off area. After the bank swallows leave this month, the court ordered injunction requires NPS to open gates to the seasonal closure and provide access to the beach near the nesting sites. We ask you to include the Sand Spur Trail and the beach access trail adjacent to the 1995 closure, pending final determination of the new proposal. Public access to these areas were wrongfully denied during the original closure and inspection of the area is necessary to provide meaningful evaluation of the project.

## 4. Status of Battery Davis Closure and Other Designated Native Plant Areas

The justification for the "Proposed Habitat Protection Closure" does not address the status of other so-called native plant closures and projects at Fort Funston. Under various pretexts, GGNRA has removed recreational land from public use in several areas of the park in violation of its statutory mandate and NPS regulations requiring comprehensive park planning and development pursuant to public review.

In addition to the ten acre closure that resulted in the lawsuit, the following areas have had a substantial impact on recreational access to the park. Under the pretext of erosion control, nine acres adjacent to Battery Davis was fenced off in 1995, a temporary five year closure for native plant restoration which is still closed. The entire coastal bluff area below the hang glider platform was closed in 1998 for native plant revegetation. Last year, safety was used to rationalize the destruction of a paved "disability trail" and closure of several acres along the Sunset Trail adjacent to the former Battery Davis Brian O'Neill August 4, 2000 Page 4

closure.<sup>1/</sup> Documents from 1992 and 1996 show various proposals to convert that area to a native plant habitat. Recently other native plant projects have been initiated, one near the paved road leading down to Lake Merced, another in front of the Fort Funston Visitor Center. These projects destroy "exotic" trees, bushes, and ice plants and result in further reduction of recreational access to parkland.

All projects were initiated without public review in violation of the statutory mandate requiring land use planning.<sup>2/</sup> Even more significant, NPS regulations mandate "management plans" for the destruction of exotic plants with "provisions for public review and comment". (Management Policies Biological Resources Section 4:12-13; Natural Resources Management Guidelines NPS- 77, pg. 289.) These regulations were promulgated to deal with a typical national park where an invasive exotic species is impacting a native plant ecology. Just the opposite situation exists at Fort Funston, NPS is destroying an exotic plant ecology and developing a native plant ecology. Public input is mandated where development plans destroy park resources. Consider also that over twenty per cent of Funston has been closed to recreational access in areas where this activity is most concentrated without coordinated park planning, environmental impact analysis, or public input. Instead of addressing a situation that is clearly out of control, NPS embarks on federal rule-making limited to a very controversial parcel of land without adequate notice or an opportunity to develop meaningful public input.

Finally, retaliatory actions in response to the lawsuit have been initiated by GGNRA in the last few weeks. Our client has asked us to evaluate the removal of voice control signs at Fort Funston and Crissy Field.

Sincerely yours.

HAMPOCK BOTHERT AND BUNSHOFT, LLP Kenneth D. Ayers

cc: Edwin J. Sayres, President, The San Francisco SPCA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1'</sup> Without public review or prior notice, GGNRA sent a bulldozer out to Funston in December, 1999 and began ripping up a substantial section of the only "disability trail" at Funston. NPS Management Policies on Accessibility for Disabled Persons require NPS to make "every reasonable effort ..to make facilities ...accessible to and usable ..for the disabled... The determination of what is reasonable will be made after consultation with disabled persons or their representatives." NPS Management Policies, Visitor Use Section, pg. 4; 43 CFR 17

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{2}{2}$  After the lawsuit was filed, the Sunset Trail area was reopened to the public and native plant habitat signs were removed from Battery Davis fences and the south coastal bluffs.

and a star and a second a second and in antipette de l'antipette de la secondada de A Tremind 318 Foote Ave SAN Francisco, Ca 9412 Dear GENRA, Count this vote against your defying court orders, against increasing the closed off space and against permanent barriers at Ft Furston. I also believe you should rethink this "nature" plant program whice has increased the revosion in the area. I'm thenhing of Joening the Ft Fonston Pog Walkers/owners association and I only have a cat. FOFUAR01936 a Tremond GGNRA008112



Name: PETER STEIN Address: 76 SANTA MOTOINA JT. S.F. OA GY110 Date: 8/4/00

Brian O'Neill Superintendent Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

IT IS TIME TO RECOGNIZE THAT FT. FUNSTON IS AN WERAN NATURAL SETTING AND MUST BE OPERATED WITH THE INHERENT PARADONES OF SUCH A HYBRID SPACE. CLOSING THE PARK TO OFF. LEASH DOGS IS & MARROW-MINDED AND BIASED, ACTION THAT IS INCONSISTENT WITH ITS RECREATIONAL FUNCTION.

I am writing to protest the closure of 12 acres of Fort Funston. Fort Funston was given to the National Park Service by San Francisco for recreational use, and in legislation creating the GGNRA, Congress specified urban recreation as a priority.

By far the majority of visitors to Fort Funston are San Franciscans and their dogs. They go to Fort Funston to enjoy its decades-long tradition of off-leash free play and canine socialization, in a windblown but gloriously beautiful section of San Francisco coastline.

In one of the most densely populated cities in the country, such space is vital to the 38% of us who kcep dogs, leve the land, and contribute to the maintenance of our local environment.

Sincerely



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Peter L. Stein 76 Santa Marina St San Francisco CA 94110-5433







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

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August 3, 2000

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SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Streets Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent:

I am a Member of SF Dog. I'm sure I don't need to tell you how much the situation at Fort Funston has affected all the dogs and their devoted owners in the area. You've heard our voices. There are thousands of us "dog people" who have informally become friends and a community not unlike all the like-minded communities that comprise our great city. A major reason I moved to San Francisco 13 years ago was its well-known dog friendliness, especially at places like Fort Funston, truly a diamond in the rough.

There have always been places for me to safely let my dogs run free. Those places are dwindling. In Precita Park for instance, one couple nearby has evidently made anti-dog efforts their mission, and now I am forced to walk my dog at night at unlit Bernal Hill, which is extremely unsafe.

Speaking for the many responsible dog owners in this city, KEEP ALL OF FORT FUNSTON OPEN, and help us include our furry friends in the mix that is San Francisco. If you've read this far, thanks for listening.

Annie E. Sammis 81 Bradford Street S.F., CA 94110 Ph. (h) 415.643.8871 Email (h) asammis@pacbell.net

Cm E. S.

Re AL SUPSIN

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RECEIVEL AUG 07 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE CY: D'Neill

Name: KATHRYN MASSIE Address: 3610 QUINTARAA SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94116 Date: 8/3/2000

Brian O'Neill Superintendent Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I am writing to protest the closure of 12 acres of Fort Funston. Fort Funston was given to the National Park Service by San Francisco for recreational use, and in legislation creating the GGNRA, Congress specified urban recreation as a priority.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA - THE RESOURCES AGENCY

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CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION 45 FREMONT STREET, SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219 VOICE AND TDD (415) 904-5200

RECEIVED AUG 0 4 2000 CUPENNIENDES : D 37775 August 3, 2000

S. Sheen Cy: B. O'Neill M. Scott

GRAY DAVIS, Govern

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

Re: Federal Register Notice on proposed year-round closure at Fort Funston

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above-referenced Federal Register notice. In that notice, the National Park Service proposes a year-round closure of approximately 12 acres of Fort Funston to off-trail recreation use by the public. The purpose of this letter is to inform the National Park Service that that activity may affect resources and uses of the coastal zone and may require a consistency determination pursuant to the requirements of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA).<sup>1</sup> Specifically, the National Park Service's proposal would restrict recreation use of the Fort Funston area and may affect public access to the shoreline and public recreational use of the coastal zone. Therefore, the Commission staff believes that the proposed project triggers a requirement for a consistency determination pursuant to the CZMA<sup>2</sup> and its implementing regulations.<sup>3</sup>

A consistency determination is an evaluation of the proposed activity's effects on coastal resources or uses and its consistency with the mandatory enforceable policies of the California Coastal Management Program and includes the necessary information to support the federal agency's conclusion.<sup>4</sup> A consistency determination must be submitted to the Commission 90 days prior to final federal approval of the activity, unless the state and the federal agencies agree to an alternate schedule.<sup>5</sup> If the federal agency determines that this activity does not affect coastal uses or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 16 USC § 1450 et seq.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 16 USC § 1456(c)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 CFR § 930.34(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See 15 CFR § 930.39 for a list of necessary data and information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 16 USC § 1456(c)(1) and 15 CFR §930.41(c).

Page 2

resources, it must submit a negative determination 90 days before final federal approval of the activity.<sup>6</sup>

If you have any questions or need assistance preparing a consistency determination, please contact me at (415) 904-5292. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely

James R. Raives Federal Consistency Coordinator

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cc: North Central District

<sup>6</sup> 15 CFR § 930.35(d).

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CY: O 'Neill Brian O'neill, Supt. HUNRA aug 2,2000 Melrose Avenu I wree you to keep of fleash voice control dog walking as neg the recreational activities at 7. Funston. at the role the NPS/HANRA is acting re: restricting/selecting recreationed activities at H. Fundon, dogowners, a. k.a. taxpapers and "threatened" will be priver with of the area and become an unprotected "endangered species." Multi-use recreationelepoces in the Beydres are repidly diminishing due to population pressures and specialized "interest" organizations competing for the same vrea, even iftheir pierposes/missions are diametrically opposed black other. We must share ! Do not degreed vis individend dog owners/walkers) op our shore. Øs a minority, we the need protection from other splceslight As an indeviderel dogoroner/walker, who has always meroochneuls. NP5/SANRA con adminuster this area with the some (cont)

FOFUAR01943

Concepts of showing ro: offleosh /voice control dog Walking as a recreational activity. Sincerely, Delphia P. Scully Delphia P. Scuily 408 Melrose Avenue San Francisco, CA 94127

P.S. I males a dues paying mender of Ster NROSSU

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August 2, 2000

AUG U & ZUUU SUPERINTENDENT'S CATC

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sir,

I am very much against the latest closures proposed for Fort Funston. There seems to be no scientific rationale for the closure. Instead, it seems to be a land grab to turn a former military base (hardly a pristine wilderness) into a nature exhibit.

It doesn't make sense to take a fantastic piece of recreational area out of use in a dense urban area with the dubious goal to restore it to "natural" condition. Off-leash dogwalking has been an acceptable recreational activity at Fort Funston for almost 40 years. Congress recognized dogwalking as a recreational activity in its enabling legislation when GGNRA was established. In conformity with this, GGNRA similarly has recognized off-leash dog walking as an acceptable recreational activity

I am a regular user of Fort Funston, along with my two dogs, and have been going there several times a week for the past three years. I have never seen dogs chase or harass wildlife at Fort Funston. The idea that people and dogs strolling along the trails threatens the bank swallows is absurd. Many dogwalkers have observed the swallows peacefully coexisting with the dogs-actually following them around in the ice plant, eating the insects that are disturbed by them (scientists say that bank swallows eat all kinds of insects). The major threat to bank swallows, a river-dwelling species, is flood control and bank protection projects near farmland in the Central Valley, says the California Department of Fish & Game.

I urge you to desist from this misguided plan and return Fort Funston to its long-time use as open space, for the enjoyment of all.

Sincerely,

John Brobst 5705 Diamond Heights Blvd San Francisco, CA 94131

cc: Fort Funston Dog Walkers c/o Linda McKay 241 Tocoloma Avenue San Francisco CA 94134

SFDOG (San Francisco Dog Owners Group) P.O. Box 31071 San Francisco CA 94131

**FOFUAR01945** 

cy: O'Muill

August 1, 2000

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## RECEIVED

AUG 0 7 2000

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

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

As a fourth generation San Franciscan, Fort Funston has always had a special place in my heart. Over the years I have spent many hours walking my dogs in the park. The proposed closure of yet more acreage at Fort Funston forces me to write this letter and express my outrage.

The stated reasons for the closure is the need to protect the bank swallow and the restoration of native plants. Without facts to support this closure and without comments and presentations by all parties effected, the proceedings will be a sham. Therefore, it is imperative that the Fort Funston Dog Walkers be able to participate in the proceedings.

The Audubon Society and the Native Plant Society are very large, political organizations that have a lot of power in the country. A small local grassroots organization like the Fort Funston Dog Walkers is not only dwarfed in the number of members, but also political clout and financing. But, that should not give them more of a say in what happens in our community.

Please consider the views and comments of all users of the park to come up with creative solutions to address these concerns.

Best regards,

had Mason

Michael Casassa

409 Mississippi Street San Francisco, CA 94107

Frank and Karen Schulkin 300 Urbano Dr. San Francisco, CA 94127 August 1, 2000 SUPEnantic Control of Cont

Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets, Building 201 Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent,

As a daily user of Fort Funston, we would like to voice our concerns about the recent closure and proposed future closure of even more trails. We use these areas for our exercise as well as the exercising of our dogs. The closure has cut part of our walk short and while we realize the importance of protecting endangered birds, it must be done with public comment and our presentations must be considered. The ultimate decision must reflect the needs of the whole community and with all factors taken into consideration.

Thank you for giving your serious attention to this matter.

& Ebultin Karen Schulkin

Frank and Karen Schulkin

August 1, 2000

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AUG 0 7 2000 SHPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

As a daily visitor to Fort Funston, I am dismayed that you are again attempting to close off more of the park to public access.

Since I retired from full-time employment five years ago, Fort Funston has become a very important part of my life. Fort Funston provides a wonderful place for me to exercise myself and my dogs that cannot be achieved at city parks. I have made many friends on my daily walks, many elderly who come to Fort Funston because they know it's a safe place for them to walk.

The reasons you state for the closure is the need to protect the bank swallow and the restoration of native plants. This closure must be supported by facts, not because of pressure for the omnipotent Audubon Society and Native Plant Society. Comments and presentations from the Fort Funston Dog Walkers must be considered, because without input from all users of the park the entire process will be a sham.

There has been no disagreement that the bank swallow's nesting area needs to be protected. But, the vast acreage you have already closed off and are proposing to add to, has not been proven necessary. Creative solutions need to be used to protect the cliffs. Dogs are not the enemy of the bank swallow as the Audubon Society claims. The birds are thriving all over the city from the Olympic Club to the new Pacific Bell Park.

As to the need for additional acreage for native plant restoration, currently 23 acres are already closed for such a purpose, not including the area west of the Battery Davis "Y" which for years has been closed for plant restoration and now appears to be closed for safety. This is a substantial portion of the usable acreage on the park already off limits to the public.

Please allow all groups effected by the proposed changes to express their views.

Best regards,

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Corv Casa

407 Mississippi Street San Francisco, CA 94107

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**FOFUAR01948** GGNRA008124

### RECEIVED

August 1, 2000

AUG 0 7 2000

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sir,

I am most alarmed to learn of the latest closures proposed at Fort Funston. There seems to be no scientific rationale for the closure. Instead, it seems to be a land grab to turn a former military base (hardly a pristine wilderness) into a nature exhibit.

I am an environmentalist and animal lover, and would never want to harm wildlife. Furthermore, I am a native plant fan, and my yard has been landscaped with native plants. But it doesn't make sense to take a fantastic piece of recreational area out of use in a dense urban area with the dubious goal to restore it to "natural" condition. What's the next step -- "restore" all of the GGNRA to its original windswept sand dunes? The Presidio was nothing but sand dunes and a little scrub brush before some misguided person decided to plant trees there. Do you propose to pull out all the trees to restore it to its natural condition? It's the Golden Gate National **Recreation Area**, not the Golden Gate National Wilderness Park!

Off-leash dogwalking has been an acceptable recreational activity at Fort Funston for almost 40 years. Congress recognized dogwalking as a recreational activity in its enabling legislation when GGNRA was established. In conformity with this, GGNRA similarly has recognized off-leash dog walking as an acceptable recreational activity

The idea that people and dogs strolling along the cliffside walk threatens the bank swallows is absurd. Many dogwalkers have observed the swallows peacefully coexisting with the dogs--actually following them around in the ice plant, eating the insects that are disturbed by them (scientists say that bank swallows eat all kinds of insects). The major threat to bank swallows, as determined by the California Department of Fish & Game, is flood control and bank protection projects near farmland in the Central Valley.

I am a regular user of Fort Funston, along with my two dogs, and have been going there several times a week for the past three years. Here are some of the things I have observed, and NOT observed:

\* I have never seen dogs chase or harass wildlife at Fort Funston (in fact, I have observed a rabbit living unharmed near one of the main trails for months on end)
\* I have never seen any dogfights or dog aggression that threatened any dogs or people

\* I have never seen any doglights or dog aggression that threatened any dogs or people using the park

\* I have seen hundreds of people and dogs using the park on countless different days, but never have witnessed a person or dog go off the cliff edge (if you want to prevent this, simply put up fences at the cliff edge, in front of the path--nobody could possibly object to this)

\* The vast majority of Fort Funston visitors are with dogs--thus the argument that offleash dogwalking serves only a small group of park visitors is spurious

\* There is remarkably little incidence of dog litter, considering the hundreds, if not thousands, of dog visits every day--most of the dog people are conscientious
\* Day after day, hundreds of people enjoy the wonderful views and fresh air and the beauties of our area, while exercising their dogs (by definition, responsible dog-owners!). The heavy usage by dog people guarantees a safe environment (parks that ban dogs have more crime) and encourages community development--the informal contacts that develop here go a long way towards counteracting urban stress and alienation.

I urge you to desist from this misguided plan and return Fort Funston to its long-time use as open space, for the enjoyment of all. It's worth noting that 25% of the residents of San Francisco have dogs--we pay plenty of taxes, yet receive second-class treatment in access to public facilities.

Sincerely,

Ame Myden

Anne Ryder 5705 Diamond Heights Blvd San Francisco, CA 94131

cc: Fort Funston Dog Walkers San Francisco Dog Owners Group

Mayor Willie Brown Senator Barbara Boxer Senator Dianne Feinstein Rep. Nancy Pelosi Rep. Tom Lantos Supervisor Mabel Teng Supervisor Mark Leno Supervisor Gavin Newsom Supervisor Leland Yee



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August 1, 2000

RECEIVED AUG 0 4 2000 SUSTEINING TO 5 OFFICE

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

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

As a frequent visitor to Fort Funston I realize how lucky I am to live in San Francisco with access to such a beautiful place. Yet, once again you are trying to close off part of the park to public access.

Your reasons for the closure is the need to protect the bank swallow and the restoration of native plants. This closure must be supported by facts, not because of pressure from such powerful national organizations as the Audubon Society and Native Plant Society. Comments and presentations from the Fort Funston Dog Walkers must be considered as dog walkers are such \* avid users of the park.

Everyone agrees that the bank swallow's nesting area needs to be protected. But, closing off a large portion of the park is short-sighted and lacks creativity. There are no facts that back up the need for such a large closure.

As to the issue of native plant restoration, currently 23 acres are closed, not including the approximate 20 acres west of the Battery Davis "Y" which has recently been signed as "closed for safety".

This is an attempt by two very powerful national organizations to yet again further their own causes without considering the other users of the park.

Please do the right thing and don't cave in to the views of only these two groups. Let all groups effected by the proposed changes express their views.

Best regards.

Steven Lyss

407 Mississippi Street San Francisco, CA 94107

**FOFUAR01952** 

## RECEIVED

AUG 0 2 2009 Superintendent's office

Eva Nicolait 1542 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue San Francisco, CA 94122 415/566-2605 E-mail: chiesa@itsa.ucsf.edu

August 1, 2000

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

Re: Fort Funston (GGNRA) closures.

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

Please reconsider your current misguided policy of turning Fort Funston into a botanical preserve. Your proposed closures far exceed what is needed to protect the bank swallow and deprives hundreds of people the opportunity to enjoy the park. Why not allow the existing, hardy, use-appropriate ice plant to remain in the heavily used areas of the park and plant the more delicate "native plants", which, by the way, are also less effective at erosion control, in the little-used areas flanking the eastern side of the park.

Your misguided policy is at odds with the vast majority of users at the Fort, dog walkers, who rely on this last remaining off-leash area. We believe that this heavily-used and much needed unique urban park should receive a different managerial perspective than that applied to the rural wilderness.

Sincerely ellul

Eva Nicolait Member, Fort Funston Dog Walkers Association

Cc: The Honorable Diane Feinstein The Honorable Barbara Boxer The Honorable Tom Lantos The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Willie Brown

RECEIVEL AUG 0 2 2000 SUPERINTENDELT'S OSTELL

2484 21st Ave San Francisco, CA 94116

1 August 2000

Brian O'Neill Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Streets Ft Mason, San Francisco 94123

RE: Comments on Proposed Closure at Fort Funston

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

GGNRA states that closure of 12 acres of Fort Funston to off-trail recreational use "is necessary to protect habitat for the California threatened bank swallows." This statement is not supported by any evidence or rational argument--it's almost certainly false.

Your proposal describes a growth in the number of bank swallow burrows from 84 in 1954 to 550 in 1989. This growth occurred without the closures you propose. After you closed the area north of the current proposed area, the number of burrows plummeted to 140 in 1998, and the swallows completely abandoned the protected area for an unprotected area. One could just as reasonably argue that GGNRA protection threatens bank swallows more than off-trail walkers. More realistically, the drop was caused by natural storm destruction of cliff faces and other unidentified changes, probably even changes in the swallows' wintering grounds in South America. For the NPS to "determine" that recreational users have an adverse impact on the swallows is "junk science," a political statement made with no scientific evidence.

The area you propose to close is not bank swallow habitat. The birds nest on the cliff faces and feed on aquatic insects on Lake Merced. Further, they have found plenty of nesting material when the nearby dunes are covered with ice plant.

As you state, your bluff-top fence collapsed "within just a few months" due to natural wind and sea erosion. Yet in the preceding sentence of your proposal, you blame increased erosion on visitor use. In fact, any insignificant erosion of the cliff edges caused by walkers is quickly obliterated by natural erosion of wind and sea.

The GGNRA should stop trying to evict long-time, legitimate recreational users from our urban park. You should work cooperatively with those users to implement any genuinely needed protection for the bank swallows.

Sincerely,

Kei Mcallin

Keith McAllister Long-time member of the National Audubon Society and its Golden Gate Chapter

RECEIVELU AUG 0 2 2003 1542 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue San Francisco, CA 94122 SUPERINTENDENTE OFFICE 415/566-2605 E-mail: chiesa@itsa.ucsf.edu

August 1, 2000

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

Re: Fort Funston (GGNRA) closures.

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

Please reconsider your current misguided policy of turning Fort Funston into a botanical preserve. Your proposed closures far exceed what is needed to protect the bank swallow and deprives hundreds of people the opportunity to enjoy the park. Why not allow the existing, hardy, use-appropriate ice plant to remain in the heavily used areas of the park and plant the more delicate "native plants", which, by the way, are also less effective at erosion control, in the little-used areas flanking the eastern side of the park.

Your misguided policy is at odds with the vast majority of users at the Fort, dog walkers, who rely on this last remaining off-leash area. We believe that this heavily-used and much needed unique urban park should receive a different managerial perspective than that applied to the rural wilderness.

Sincerely,

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Narcy Chiesa Member, Fort Funston Dog Walkers Association

Cc: The Honorable Diane Feinstein The Honorable Barbara Boxer The Honorable Tom Lantos The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Willie Brown

## RECEIVED

2484 21st Ave San Francisco, CA 94116

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1 August 2000

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SUPERINTERED FIT'S CATION

Brian O'Neill Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Streets Ft Mason, San Francisco 94123

RE: Comments on Proposed Year-Round Closure at Fort Funston

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I understand that the Golden Gate National Recreation Area was established in 1972 as a recreation area, not as a nature preserve. Changes made by GGNRA at Fort Funston since 1972 have consistently diminished its recreational use. This proposal is yet another example of the violation of the original commitment to recreational use.

The GGNRA's stated objective of restoring native plants is specious. San Francisco was primarily a "sand waste" prior to the arrival of Europeans. Attached is an early photograph of the west side of San Francisco, illustrating that the "sand dune flora" which GGNRA is attempting to restore, was 90% sand. The GGNRA does not have any photographs of Fort Funston prior to the planting of iceplant by the military that would prove otherwise.

As Pete Holloran (President of the local chapter of the California Native Plant Society and expert on sand dune flora) said at his recent lecture to the CNPS about sand dunes in San Francisco on July 7, 2000, sand dunes are inherently unstable. Sand dunes that have been temporarily stabilized by native flora can be "blown out" at any time by heavy winds. Therefore, planting native plants at Fort Funston is inconsistent with GGNRA's other stated objectives of stabilizing the cliff surfaces to protect cliff swallows and preserving "geological history in California".

As the GGNRA acknowledges in its proposal, native dune vegetation is "not adapted to heavy foot traffic". Therefore, it is inappropriately used in a recreational area. Nor is blowing sand that would result from unstable dunes, consistent with recreational use. Native dune vegetation is primarily of historical interest and belongs in an arboretum where visitors expect to be restricted to trails.

Sincerely,

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Mary McAllister Member of Strybing Arboretum

Attachment



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FOFUAR01958 GGNRA008134 Phone (415) 681-0850

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SUP SAME AUCH S OFFICE

July 31, 2000

Brian O'Neill, Superintendent GGNRA 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

I am writing this letter to you to state my concerns over the use of my favorite dog walking sites, Fort Funston in San Francisco and the Thornton Beach area in San Mateo County. I have been a resident of San Francisco my whole life (50+years) and have watched many changes to these wonderful areas over the years. I am torn between the emotions of the current controversy surrounding these parks due to the fact that I am a long-time member of the California Native Plant Society, the Audobon Society, and a dog enthusiast with two energetic, happy-go-lucky Golden Retrievers. I am also currently employed by the Park Department of San Francisco and work on occasion at the beach, as well as in Golden Gate Park. As a person who is involved with all aspects of the arguments on all sides of the problems surrounding these areas, I would like to voice my opinions.

First, I think that the restoration projects at Fort Funston are a great idea; however, they should be limited to the fringes of the property, i.e. the entrance, hillsides along Skyline Blvd., in front of the Visitor Center, and entrances to the paths, leaving the open space of the property for the responsible dog-owners that would like to give their pets some much-needed excercise off leash.. These people have shown their concerns for the land with scheduled clean-up days and pretty much police each other as to the behavior of each other's pets. Dog owner's are a special breed of people, love their dogs, nature and the outdoors. To take this away from them would be doing a great disservice to to the animals and people of San Francisco - where would they go?

On to my next great concern, that regarding the NUMBERS of dogs per person. I have seen "dog walkers" with 10-12 dogs, all running loose and out of control. There is no way one person can monitor or clean up after this many dogs at once. If they must exercise this many dogs. they need to do so by two's or three's at a time. My dogs and I have been charged by these herds, only to have the "walker" yell, "they're friendly", well, how does he know my dogs aren't agressive to this behavior? This is a situation that is an accident just waiting to happen, and must be addressed as soon as possible. It's not fair to those of us who are using this space for recreational purposes with our pets to be subjected to this devil-may-care attitude of these "professional" folks. If they want to "walk" this many dogs off leash, they need to buy their own property - it's called a "business expense"!

As far as the dogs disturbing the birds in the area, this is not a problem, its an excuse to fence off areas from the dogs. Quite frankly, the dogs are having far too much fun romping after tennis balls, frisbees and each other than to be concerned with a tiny bird.

In conclusion, I would like to put in a good word for your Rangers Bob Halloway and Roger Scott at Fort Funston who were very helpful and pleasant to me and my dogs.

cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Willie Brown, Mayor of San Francisco The Honorable Tom Lantos The Honorable Barbara Boxer

> Sincerely, Joyce Dinsalge

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#### RECEIVED

July 31, 2000

#### AUG 0 2 2000

Superintendent SUPERINTENDENT'S CHICE Golden Gate National Recreational Area Bay and Franklin Streets, Building 201 Ft. Mason, San Francisco, Ca. 94123

Subj: Proposed Habitat Protection Closure Fort Funston, GGNRA

Fort Funston is one of the major recreational areas in San Francisco, enjoyed by thousands of citizens daily. It is not a distant rural area that must be reached by long travel. Therefore, the needs of the people should be of paramount importance in deciding any closures. Your proposal puts forth opinions of environmental groups, but does not include any scientific and factual data from dog walker groups. They wish to present their own evidence, and equal weight should be given to it before any new closures take place

It is hoped that the additional two acres and reclassification of areas from seasonal to permanent was not done as a result of the May 16th court order. I can not help but wonder why this was added after the original closures.

It is requested that off-leash dog walking be recognized as a legitimate recreational activity, as stated in the 1979 dog policy for Ft. Funston. Please consider our points along with those of other groups in setting future policy.

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Fred Beall 249 Grattan St. San Francisco, Ca. 94117

Member, Ft. Funston Dog Walkers

**FOFUAR01960** 

#### **KAREN SUSSMAN**

RECEIVED

2017 TARAVAL STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94116

Phone (415) 661-8000 Fax (415) 681-5811 AUG 0 2 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

July 31, 2000

Brian O' Neill, Superintendent, GGNRA 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 941223

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

I am a native resident of San Francisco and property owner and I would like to voice my concerns over the recent dog-bird-native plant problems surrounding the Fort Funston area. I would be the first to be concerned over the proper use of the area, as I have lived and played at the Fort for 55 years. It is unique in that there are very few places where one could take their dogs to let them play and exercise in a safe and healthy environment as any good dog owner knows is essential. I believe that San Francisco's dogs (plus the surrounding area's dogs) really need to be able to keep this beautiful area as an off leash area. Dog owners have shown their interest in keeping the land clean by having clean-up days and by posting signs to remind new-comers to clean up after their dogs. If any dogs get out of hand, they are quickly reprimanded to put their dog(s) on leash - so I believe we are all trying to do our part to keep it a clean and safe place to go with our "best friends". Dog parks have been set up in different areas for exercising dogs but, if you visit these areas, you will find a different atmosphere of dog behavior. These dogs are within a fenced area that is too confining and usually not large enough for the numbers of occupants, and you will note that many of these dogs will become territorial and fight amongst themselves. The owners can be found standing or sitting around talking (and not exercising themselves!). On the other hand, if you visit the Fort's dog population, owners and dogs are walking and running and playing and dogs are NOT fighting, for they do not "own" a space, but are instead busy exploring the Fort!

I feel though, that the problems facing the Fort are due to the person(s) taking out herds of dogs for exercise without a thought about clean-up or control. I have been charged by masses of uncontrollable animals, and I, as a dog person, find this difficult to handle, even with the non-agressive dogs that I own. The dog walkers with the uncontrollable numbers of dogs seem to be oblivious of this problem. The numbers of dogs per handler needs to be limited to 2-3!These "professionals" need to take out only a few dogs at a time to exercise, not 10-15 at a time as they are now doing.

The bank swallows, as I see them, are not jeopardized by the dogs in the area, but instead by the natural erosion of the cliffs in the area, especially over the past 10 years. I have never seen dogs harrasing the birds, but only running and playing with their friends in the sand and ice plant. I feel that the fencing off of parts of the Fort will create more problems of overuse of the free areas. I also feel that there needs to be an easier and safer access created to the vast beach area below for dogs and their people to run off as much steam as they need, which would, in turn relieve more of the dog congestion on the upper Fort Funston property.

The native plant restoration at the Fort is coming along very beautifully, but I believe that the dogs and owners and the plants should be able to co-exist. This can be done by planting the entrances to the Park and along Skyline Blvd. and at the hang glider lookout areas and entrance; but the broader expanses need to be saved for our best friends and their (and our) needs for healthy exercise! Leave the ice plant in these areas, for it is what is saving the cliffs form further erosion!

In conclusion, I would like to compliment your Rangers Bob Halloway and Roger Scott for being the type of people our Natonal Parks need to show them off!

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter,

cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Willie Brown, Mayor of San Francisco The Honorable Tom Lantos The Honorable Barbark Boxer Karen Slissman

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FOFUAR01961

July 31, 2000

RECEIVED JUL 31 2000

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Street Building 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

SUBJECT: Comment re Notice of Proposed Year-Round Closure at Ft. Funston

I'm a citizen who has visited Ft. Funston daily, rain or shine, for over 40 years. I have enjoyed many a sunset and have met hundreds of wonderful people who love the park as much as I. I have treasured its diverse plant and wildlife and agree that reasonable efforts must be made to preserve them.

The statutes and authorities cited in your Proposal apply to the management of *national* parks. Fort Funston is a *recreational* park.

The past closures, planned future closures, destruction of paved paths, removal of benches, and repeated attempts to impose dog leash requirements appears to violate the statutes creating GGNRA in 1972. At that time, legislation enabling the Federal government to take control of Ft. Funston (H.R. Rep. No. 1391, 92<sup>nd</sup> Cong., 2<sup>nd</sup> Session [1972]) stated that it be ceded to NPS with the understanding that it be preserved as an open *recreational* area. A 1975 Agreement between the City and County of San Francisco and the United States, and the deed transferring Fort Funston to the United States confirmed this.

Even the passage of the Organic Act did not change this — the Act itself, the rewritten regulations, and the courts all have made it *very* clear that the enabling legislation controls. Yes, all parks were to be treated similarly, but not in contravention of the enabling legislation.

NPS/GGNRA has not conducted environmental studies. It has not presented compelling scientific data to support the past and proposed closures and the necessity to restore native vegetation or create wildlife habitat. It offers numerous references in support of its Proposal, but I'm not convinced all individuals and studies referenced are applicable and/or impartial (see #1, below).

It is in NPS/GGNRA's best interests to explore more moderate approaches to accomplish the protection of the threatened bank swallows in order to avoid mutually costly confrontations such as this one.

For example, has NPS/GGNRA done any study of why the population has declined so dramatically since efforts were begun to destroy the adjacent habitat?

Because Fort Funston is a *recreational* area, I do not agree that non-native plants and trees should be removed and replaced with "native" plants, especially when there is no evidence that

FOFUAR01962

the plants being cultivated are "native." In addition, the enabling legislation requires maintaining the park in its natural setting, not creating something that was never there in the first place.

Regrettably, I must question the stated purposes and reasons given in the Proposal for permanently closing off even <u>more</u> areas of Fort Funston. NPS/GGNRA has destroyed its credibility with FFDW and other citizens who use its parks. NPS/GGNRA is perceived as having acted in bad faith

Although NPS/GGNRA has asked for public comment, past actions call into doubt its willingness to consider opinions that differ from its own. It seems resolved to move forward with a pre-conceived agenda, regardless of the reasonable number of reasonable arguments that are put forth in opposition.

Here's why I say that.

1. Having consulted with selected individuals and environmental groups like the California Native Plant Society and the Audubon Society, while conspiring to withhold information and deny input from others, NPS/GGNRA then moved with uncharacteristic speed, and with<u>out</u> public review and comment, to close off <u>more</u> areas of Ft. Funston. (This was revealed through documentation produced by the government as part of the discovery process in FFDW's lawsuit against NPS/GGNRA.)

U. S. District Judge William Alsup found the hasty closures to be "highly controversial" and determined that there was "... an intent on the part of the NPS to railroad through the closure, to maintain secrecy, to unleash the fencing with lightening speed, and to establish a fait accompli."

Judge Alsup goes on to say at a hearing, "It sort of sounds like the Park Service is afraid to let the public have input," after saying that, "There was some evidence that would support the proposition that the officials in the Park Service recognized that the dog walkers would not be happy with the decision and wanted to run it through as quickly as possible. It sounds like as soon as the D-day boats are launched, they want them on the cliffs immediately so there won't be any time for opposition."

On May 16, Judge Alsup declared the hasty "emergency" closure of a large area of the Fort "a complete end-run around this lawsuit."

2. Citing safety concerns, the Sunset Trail, heavily used by tourists, disabled individuals, seniors, families with children, joggers, and bikers, as well as dog walkers, was summarily and without explanation or notice, ripped out. Benches were removed and one of the most scenic, best loved paths in the park was cordoned off and permanently closed. This, in spite of the fact that on December 3, 1999, Fort Funston Dog Walkers suggested that the safety issue could effectively be addressed by diverting a small section of the path.

The Sunset Trail has been re-opened, but NPS/GGNRA alleges that it cannot afford to repave it. Seniors, bikers, and disabled people can no longer use it. <u>These individuals have</u> had something precious taken from them.

3. It was FFDW's understanding that areas closed in 1995 for the purpose of native plant restoration (which never happened) were to be re-opened after five years. Under the mistaken impression that it had an agreement with NPS/GGNRA, FFDW did not pursue the matter further. Five years later, and the closed areas have <u>not</u> been re-opened, nor have native plants been restored. This duplicity represents a breach of trust, if not technically a lie, on the part of NPS/GGNRA.

4. In 1992, without public hearings, NPS/GGNRA attempted to rescind the 1979 Pet Policy. After a huge public outcry and intervention by then U. S. Senators John Seymour and Alan Cranston, assurances were made that the Pet Policy would be untouched.

5. In 1997, NPS/GGNRA revoked the dog policy from the 1996 Compendium. This was done in secret despite tremendous public outrage over previous closures. (This fact was only revealed through documentation produced by the government as part of the discovery process in the lawsuit.)

6. NPS/GGNRA has reneged upon written and spoken agreements it had with the San Francisco SPCA (July.13, 2000 letter from Edwin J. Sayres, President SPCA to Chris Powell, GGNRA) and San Francisco Animal Control concerning use of San Francisco recreational areas under its jurisdiction.

I'd also like to point out that the repercussions of the restrictions that have already been imposed, and additional closures that are proposed, on the use of GGNRA managed parks, will adversely impact the City of San Francisco and its citizens in a number of ways that I can think of; there are probably others:

<< Increased use of City parks and resulting dissension among individuals who have conflicting interests;

<< Higher incidences of dog behavior problems (excrement in parks and on public streets, stray dogs wandering the streets and parks, dog fights, bites, etc.);

<< Increased owner abandonment of dogs due to behavior problems associated with poor socialization and lack of exercise and higher numbers of dog euthanasia;

<< Need for higher staffing levels in Animal Control to cope with increased workload.

Officials of San Francisco will inevitably become more aware of this cause and effect and the City may have no choice but to *exercise its reversionary interest in Fort Funston*.

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Legal expenses for FFDW and SFDog already total into the tens of thousands of dollars and are expected to run into tens of thousands more. Individuals of moderate means, like myself, are shouldering this burden. It's not right that it should be so costly for common people to protect their rights against the capriciousness and callousness of a small number of bureaucrats who can call upon the full weight and resources of the U. S. government.

> . -

Alberta Romanini 52 Northgate Avenue Daly City, CA 94015

FOFUAR01965

LYDIA BOESCH Attorney at Law

110 MAYWOOD DRIVE SAN FRANCISCO. CALIFORNIA 94127 (415) 841-1060 (415) 841-0437 FAX Lydiaowen@aol.com

July 30, 2000

Brian O'Neill Superintendent, GGNRA Bay and Franklin Streets Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123 RECEIVED AUG 0 2 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Dear Brian:

Enclosed are two letters from park users of Fort Funston regarding how the closure at Fort Funston has affected them. I am forwarding them to you to be included in the comments solicited in the rulemaking process.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Warmest regards.

:

Very truly yours,

*Hydra Boisch* Lydia Boesch

Enclosures (2)

**FOFUAR01966** 

July 17, 2000

Lydia Boesch 110 Maywood Drive San Francisco Ca 94127

Dear Ms. Boesch,

The closure of ten acres at Fort Funston has negatively impacted my family. My wife and I used to go to Fort Funston as children. We both grew up in San Francisco. Now we take our child to Fort Funston. But now that the Park Service has closed off the very areas we played on as children. We cannot enjoy the fulfillment of an afternoon at Fort Funston due to the closure. The access trails that were so educational to our daughter have been taken away and in their place we have the concrete trails. Our visits to the old fort have diminished over the last few months.

Then we have our two dogs. Their exercise regiment has been seriously cut back due to less trail acres. The hills were great exercise for our 12 year old German Shepard. Those hills are what keeps him looking five years his junior. Another casualty has been the sight of my daughter interacting with her dogs and being comfortable around dogs and nature. These experiences are very important for a child in an urban setting.

One of the most galling aspect s of this entire affair is the way it was handled by the Park Service. The secretive nature in which there was no public input is arrogance at its worst. Instead of working with RESPONSIBLE dog owners that have used the park for decades, they chose to fight tooth and nail to keep access restricted. This is not responsible public policy or behavior for a government agency charge with serving the people who fund it.

Our family is opposed to the closure and want it reopened soon. It is the reasonable thing to do. Open the acreage to the public!

Respectfully,

**Douglas Moran** San Francisco



"He'll Make A Difference!" **DOUGLAS MORAN** Candidate for San Francisco Board of Supervisors DISTRICT 11

1601 Ocean Avenue #210 San Francisco, CA 94112 Phone 415.333.4615 Fax 415.333.4615 or 4616

www.douglasmoran.com





July 17, 2000

Lydia Boesch 110 Maywood Drive San Francisco Ca 94127

Dear Ms. Boesch,

The closure of ten acres at Fort Funston has negatively impacted my family. My husband and I used to go to Fort Funston as children. We both grew up in San Francisco. Now we take our child to Fort Funston. But now that the Park Service has closed off the very areas we played on as children. We cannot enjoy the fulfillment of an afternoon at Fort Funston due to the closure. The access trails that were so educational to our daughter have been taken away and in their place we have the concrete trails. Our visits to the old fort have diminished over the last few months.

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Respectfully,

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Maria Elena Camposeco San Francisco

#### DANIEL H. BROWN Attorney at Law

3300 Powell St., Suite 103 Emeryville, CA 94608

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Atta RECEIVEU JUL 31 2000 JUL 31 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S DIFFICE

Phone: (510) 428-1158 Fax: (510) 428-2021 e-mail: danielncf@aol.com

July 28, 2000

Brian O'Neil General Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area United States Department of the Interior National Park Service Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neil,

re: Fort Funston Proposed Area Closure

According to the GGNRA statement supporting the closure:

"A wide array of disturbances to the swallows at Fort Funston have been observed and recorded during monitoring, and/or photo-documented. While bank swallows are known to be quite tolerant to some disturbance, few colonies are subjected to the intense recreational pressure at Fort Funston. **Documented disturbance events at Fort Funston include**: cliff-climbing by people and dogs; rescue operations of people and dogs stuck on the cliff face; people and dogs on the bluff edge or in close proximity to active burrows; graffiti carving in the cliff face; **aircraft and hang-glider over-flights**; and discharge of fireworks within the colony." Emphasis supplied.

As president of the Fort Funston hang gliding association, Fellow Feathers, and a pilot who has been hang gliding at Fort Funston for over twenty two years, I have never observed hang gliders disturbing the bank swallows nor have there been reports from other hang glider pilots of disturbances. The fact that bank swallows successfully nested in the area before it was closed to hang gliding indicates that hang gliders do not disturb the bank swallows.

I am surprised by the claim that there are "disturbance events" by "aircraft and hang-glider over-flights" and that the "disturbance events" are "documented". It is obvious that discharging fireworks near a nest is disturbing but there appears to be no basis for claiming a hang glider flying 100' above the cliff creates a distrubance. To the best of my knowledge, there are no scientific studies showing that hang gliders disturb bank swallow nesting.

I plan on attending the August 29, 2000 hearing and request that you identify the documents referred to in the statement and that you provide the location at which they may be inspected.

FOFUAR01969

Very truly yours,

Daniel H. Brown President Fellow Feathers

hanggliding1108 lettertoO'neilrebank swallows

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Anne K. Björk 863 30<sup>th</sup> Aveaue San Francisco, CA 94121

July 27, 2000

Superintendent – Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Street, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in regards to the conversion of Fort Funston from on off-leash recreational area to a leash only area. I write this as a dog owner and lover of all San Francisco has to offer. However, this city has made it increasingly difficult for people to own dogs. We can barely find apartments to rent, and now you want to eliminate the space where our dogs run and play!

A leash free Fort is an *absolute* necessity for dog owners in this city, The natural boundaries of the Fort - the dunes, the ocean the fields - provide the freedom for dogs to exercise and frolic without the threat of automobiles and without interfering in other people's activities. There are surprisingly few city locations that offer such an ideal environment for dogs. I live less than a block from Golden Gate Park, but never feel comfortable walking my dog off leash there. I am also close to Ocean Beach, but the beach isn't always the right place to take my dog. The Fort is *always* the right place.

In the four years that I have been frequenting Fort Funston I've consistently marveled at the community and camaraderie (both canine and human) present there. The dog walkers are not only respectful of each other, but also of the environment. I understand the necessity of maintaining a natural habitat for bank swallows, but I must insist that these closures, and certainly any permanent closures, be supported by scientific fact. Do the swallows really need Fort Funston? Studies support that they are establishing themselves elsewhere, and really are not in true danger in this city.

I consider myself an environmentalist, yet I strongly believe that we must find a way for dog and bird to co-exist freely within our ecosystem. Closure of these lands will in all likelihood result in abuses elsewhere. Please please reconsider this permanent change to Fort Funston. It *truly* is a valid recreational need. Don't alienate the dog owners of San Francisco.

Sincerely.

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Anne K. Björk 863 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue San Francisco, CA 94121

July 27, 2000

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Sincerely.

anneusper

FOFUAR01972 GGNRA008148



Anne K. Björk 863 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue San Francisco, CA 94121

July 27, 2000

Superintendent – Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Street, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco

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Sincerely.

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FOFUAR01973

Suzanne Brown 1740 Sanchez St. San Francisco, California 94131

## RECEIVEL

AUG 01 2000

July 27, 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

#### PROPOSED FORT FUNSTON CLOSURE

Today's mail brought a disturbing notice. It is a notice of a meeting regarding further closures at Fort Funston in San Francisco.

Fort Funston was chartered as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. There have been previous "temporary" closures for protection of migratory bank swallows and to reintroduce native plants. None of these areas have been reopened for public use. Now, there is a proposal to enlarge a currently closed area from ten to twelve acres. Additionally, the proposal is to close the area permanently, even when no birds are present. Fort Funston is being incrementally denied to the public for recreational use.

Hikers, dog walkers, bike riders, joggers, fishermen, hanggliders, families on a picnic all use Fort Funston for its main purpose...RECREATION. It was not chartered as a botanical garden or bird sanctuary. Denial of access to the tax-paying public (the actual owners) is wrong. There is room for all to enjoy the outdoors in their own way.

Please support the users of Fort Funston in our efforts to retain our recreational area.

Suzanne L. Brown

Juzanne & Brown

FOFUAR01974
Luehrmann PMB 294 223 N. Guadalupe St. Santa Fe, NM 87501-1850

July 27, 2000 PMB 294 223 N. Guadalupe St. Santa Fe, NM 87501

RECEIVELU AUG 0 1 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Sts., Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent:

I am writing to express my support for the permanent closure of a 12-acre area of the northwest section of Fort Funston in order to protect the bank swallow habitat, enhance significant native plant communities, improve public safety and reduce human-induced impacts to the coastal bluffs and dunes.

Although no longer a resident of the San Francisco Bay Area, I have had many pleasant times enjoying the beauty of the GGNRA. When I visit the area, as I did a couple weeks ago, I usually visit some part of the GGNRA. I was pleased to read recently that land and property at the northern end of the Golden Gate Bridge would also join the GGNRA. There is plenty of area within the GGNRA for enjoying many types of recreation in addition to enjoying the natural beauty. Closure of a 12-acre area, in my opinion, can hardly be considered a major inconvenience.

I was surprised to learn that dogs are actually allowed off-leash since it is forbidden by law on all NPS land. I am a dog lover but feel they should not be allowed to run free anywhere their owners want to let them do so. Too many dogs who run off-leash are not adequately controlled by their owners. I hope that off-leash dog walking can be stopped in the GGNRA.

I imagine you have many challenges in managing a National Recreation Area that many probably consider to be a wonderful city park. But the fact remains that the GGNRA is NPS land and should rightfully be managed as such.

Sincerely,

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Donna Luehrmann

FOFUAR01975 GGNRA008151 1375 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue San Francisco, CA 94122 415 731 1474

#### RECEIVED

July 27, 2000

JUL 2 8 2000

Superintendent SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE GGNRA Bay and Franklin Streets Building 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent:

## Re: NOTICE OF PROPOSED YEAR-ROUND CLOSURE AT FORT

I am writing to emphatically **OPPOSE** the year-round closure of 12 acres of Fort Funston. The reasons given for this closure are nothing short of fantastic – and I don't mean in the sense of wonderful.

First of all, you state that the Fort is used by "beachcombers, walkers, hang gliders, paragliders and horseback riders, and other recreational users." Aren't you forgetting the number one user of the area? Dogs and the humans who walk them: to not mention this in an official document is clearly an attempt to disenfranchise those who utilize Fort Funston the most. Beachcombers don't use the Fort but the beach below; hang gliders and paragliders use the sky above (and the small area where they take off from). In addition you declare that "approximately three-quarters of a million visitors enjoy Fort Funston annually." I have been going to this area for 10 years and I have to say I don't see how 750,000 people could possibly go there each year. Perhaps you are counting and recounting all those dog owners who go several times a week or even daily (or more). How convenient to count them in the total but to discount them in describing who uses the park. In fact, I have never seen anyone counting park users either there or anywhere else in the GGNRA. Where do your numbers come from?

Below I respond to your comments in Section III.

- A. You note the numbers of swallows for many years. During the years with the highest counts, people and dogs walked along the burrows, apparently without disturbing the birds. As you correctly note, bird numbers went down after the storms that caused cliff loss. So there's your answer. The birds left because their habitat was changed BY NATURE. Unfortunately these things happen note the NPS policy on fires which are allowed to burn, although they no doubt kill countless animals and destroy habitat. There is no need to fence off this area. All the disturbances you list were happening in the years when the population was high. It is my understanding that these birds nest in a multitude of places that have high human and other activity. The birds will come back when they are ready to.
- B,C. The severe storms we had caused much of the erosion. Additionally, it seems to me that your conservation of the dune habitat is the further cause of the erosion in the cliffs. It wasn't until you started to pull up the iceplant that the cliffs started to deteriorate. There is a reason why the Army planted iceplant (and why the City of San Francisco planted it along Ocean Beach): It stops the sand from blowing around! While this iceplant may affect native insects and wildlife, it has been around for so many years that it is de facto native. If we take this trend to its natural conclusion, Golden Gate Park and all other parks in the City will be demolished and turned back into sand and whatever natural flora would thrive on it.

You blame heavy off-leash dog use for the deterioration of the dune communities because of canine trampling, urination and feces. Dogs have been running around this area for years and somehow the dunes were fine until recently, until, in fact, the native plant restoration started.

D. Sadly, people and dogs have fallen down the cliffs. The cliffs are terribly dangerous. But so are the cliffs off of Land's End and the Cliff House, and the surf along Ocean Beach. You have not closed these areas down, despite the fact that there have been many more fatalities and rescues in these areas through the years than at the Fort. Perhaps you could place signs pointing out the danger - just as you have throughout the GGNRA - rather than closing this area down.

Frankly, I believe your attempt to permanently close down this acreage is a covert attempt to curtail all off-leash dog activities in the GGNRA. I urge you to be careful what you wish for. If dogs are banned, your annual visitation will go down significantly (no matter how you come up with those numbers). If that happens, it would be hard to justify your current budget when it comes up for renewal.

I urge you to reconsider this closure.

Sincerely,

) enice Selleck

Denise Selleck

## RECEIVED

JUL 2 8 2000 Superintengent's office 320 Hazelwood San Francisco, CA 94127 July 27, 2000

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

Mr. O'Neill:

I am concerned about current plans for and the future uses of Fort Funston.

In your consideration of the GGNRA's "Notice of Proposed Year-Round Closure at Fort Funston and Request for Comments", it is necessary to seriously take into account the needs, history and concerns of the many citizens of San Francisco who walk their dogs daily in this urban park.

When the Fort became a part of the GGNRA, it was with a Congressional mandate to use this land for "open recreational space." Off-leash dog walking has been a legitimate open space recreational activity at Fort Funston for nearly forty years, and the people who use this park to walk their dogs daily are currently the largest users of Fort Funston.

In this urban area, it is absolutely essential that the long-established off-leash dog walking areas of Fort Funston be kept, and not further closed and fenced off.

Jon Mathurer Sincerely,

Linda Schurer

FOFUAR01979

#### RECEIVED

JUL 2 8 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE 320 Hazelwood San Francisco, CA 94127 July 27, 2000

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Sincerely,

ManganetEkyden

Margaret Ryder

FOFUAR01980 GGNRA008156 PECE 2000 نوري کې SUPERINTENDENT'S CALE

July 26, 2000 146 Swiss Avenue San Francisco, CA 94131

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets Building 201 Fort Mason. San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent,

Thank you for responding in the past to our comments concerning the pending closures at Fort Funston. We are writing now as part of the public comment on the GGNRA proposed year round closure of 12 acres.

We walk our dog, Ember, most days at Fort Funston. We use the paved and prepared paths, the sandy paths through the woods, and the beaches. This is the best possible exercise for our dog, as she can run freely through the sandy terrain, giving her young legs and heart the workout she needs as a Border Collie. It's also good for us, getting us out into the fresh air, giving us a chance to meet other dog walkers.

The areas that are currently closed on a seasonal basis represent some of the most interesting terrain at the Fort. There are stunning sunset views on the left side; fantastic sand dunes in the middle, and a great beach entrance on the right. There is a sheer joy in climbing up and down these dunes, marveling at how nature is constantly reshaping them.

We can appreciate that the Park Service wants to preserve this land. But we also are painfully aware of how little land there is for people and dogs to roam "wild" in the urban setting that is the San Francisco Bay Area. Fort Funston serves a vital purpose in providing an outlet for thousands of people and their dogs. Cutting back on the useable park space - when there is no replacement space anywhere nearby -- just doesn't make sense.

We hope you will place great importance on the recreational needs of thousands of people and their dogs who rely upon Fort Funston as a vitally important place to experience the outdoors, without a leash, in and around the city of San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Laine and Joel Barbanell Schipper, Jed Chipper and Ember

July 26, 2000

Mr. Richard Bartke, Chair, GGNRA Advisory Committee Ft. Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Mr. Bartke:

This letter concerns recent and proposed closures in the Fort Funston Recreational Park, located in San Francisco, CA.

In 1972, Congress passed legislation enabling the Federal government to take control of Ft. Funston on the condition that it be maintained as a recreational park. At that time, Mayor Brown spoke eloquently in support.

Esteemed board members, this is a case of a few individuals in a regional office of a Federal agency taking and proposing actions which circumvent the intent of Congress. *Should these individuals be able to undo what it took legislative action to achieve?* 

Since I last wrote, U. S. District Judge William Alsup supported our contention that NPS had acted in bad faith when it made extensive changes to the use and accessibility of the Fort Funston Recreational Park. As a result, NPS has been compelled to publish a notice of intended closures and ask for public comment.

Unfortunately, this concession was won at a considerable financial cost. San Francisco's citizens have had to go to Federal court to challenge NPS/GGNRA. Legal expenses already total into the tens of thousands of dollars and are expected to run into tens of thousands more before this struggle is over. Individuals of moderate means, like myself, are shouldering this burden. It's not right that it should be so costly for common people to protect their rights against the capriciousness and callousness of a few bureaucrats who can call upon the full weight and resources of the U. S. government.

The citizens of San Francisco, who rely on the Advisory Committee to act in their best interests, ask for your support. **Please** take a moment to read my letter to the Superintendent of GGNRA (enclosed) in response to its Notice of Proposed Year-Round Closure at Fort Funston. It sets forth some of our arguments and concerns in detail.

You will see that NPS/GGNRA has abused the public trust in this matter and that although NPS was forced to ask for public comment, its past actions call into doubt its willingness to consider opinions that differ from its own. And you will see that the repercussions of the restrictions that have already been imposed, and additional closures that are proposed, on the use of GGNRA

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managed parks, will adversely impact the City of San Francisco and its citizens.

I am hopeful you will conclude that by adopting a more moderate approach to managing this **recreational** park, NPS/GGNRA can, with public review and input, achieve reasonable environmental goals and protect the threatened bank swallow without compromising the diverse interests of the park's users (i.e. hiking, biking, off-leash dog walking, sight-seeing, bird watching, etc.).

Sincerely,

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ALBERTA ROMANINI 52 Northgate Avenue Daly City, CA 94015

July 19, 2000

RECEIVEN JUL 2 4 200) SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICI

BAO' S. Sheen Gy: B. O'Neill M. Scott

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Fort Mason, Building 201 Bay and Franklin Streets San Francisco, CA 94131

RE: Proposed Closure of Twelve Acres of Fort Funston

To Whom It May Concern:

Several months ago I visited Fort Funston with my Yellow Labrador, Chance. I was shocked to find that a large portion of the park was fenced off. I have recently been told that the GGNRA proposes to take two more acres and further restrict access

Chance and I do not live in San Francisco, however, we do come regularly to visit. Fort Funston and Ocean Beach are two of our favorite haunts. Living in Chico. Chance only gets to go surfing when we visit one of these two sites something he and I both love to do.

It's my understanding that National Recreation Areas were created to provide a number of outdoor experiences for both residents and tourists. While I don't deny the importance of maintaining a natural environment, I don't understand why GGNRA officials consistently trample the rights of dog owners. Walking and playing with a dog are healthy and appropriate uses of recreation areas. Dogs play an important role in family life today and they need exercise as much as their human counterparts. Fort Funston and Ocean Beach have provided my dog and myself with exercise and entertainment for several years. I probably would not have visited either place if I didn't have a dog.

Please give the people. and their dogs, the twelve acres that are proposed for closure. There are very few places in San Francisco where dogs and people can play. Fort Funston is considered the Disneyland of the canine world. Can you imagine what it would feel like if Disneyland no longer allowed children to visit?

Thank you for considering my letter.

Sincerely.

Vin Bour

Erin Brown (and Chance) 1110 Arbutus Avenue Chico, CA 94131

RECEIVED 1 2000 Mr. Morton S. Gensberg B. O'Neil y: M. Sec SUPERINTENDENT'S OF un Francisco CA 94110-5507 D.M. C. Powel R. Scott July 26, 2000 Mr. Brian O'Neill Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123 Dear Mr. O'Neill: I 'd like to thank you for the new drinking fountain recently installed at Fort Funston. It's become a very popular meeting Again, thanks. losh U Mort Gensberg 2000 Member The Humane Society of the United States

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July 25, 2000

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I do not often write letters regarding political matters due to the fact that I work in the field and understand the simple fact that money is the only thing that truly matters in political discussions. However I find the continued closures at Fort Funston to be of such a personal nature that I have no choice but to voice my opinion.

About a year ago I rescued a puppy from the side of the road by one of the other National Parks in Oregon (a park where gasoline powered dune buggies are allowed despite noise and air pollution as well as a tremendous amount of erosion). She has become a source of great joy in my life and an integral part of my family. I have lived in the City of San Francisco for over 12 years and had only visited Fort Funston ONCE prior to taking on the responsibility of caring for a dog – it is not an easily accessible nor extraordinarily hospitable place for the average resident of the Bay Area or visitor. Now that has changed dramatically. We visit Fort Funston in the GGNRA with great frequency. I read that Fort Funston has about 750,000 visits a year – I did a little math to discover that I visit at least two times and day and my dog visits about three times a day to come to a total of 750 to 1000 visits annually. We are there each weekday morning at 6:30 am and then in the evening at 6:00 pm. My dog also visits Fort Funston with friends on weekdays while I am working. We, as frequent park users, believe our interests and needs are not being listened to with any seriousness by you or anyone within the National Park Service.

There are three main points that I'd like to address in this letter how the continued closures at Fort Funston have a negative impact on my life:

- Stress relief. I suffer from moderately high blood pressure due to the extremely stressful nature of my profession. My doctor has applauded my efforts to walk for over 2 hours a day at Fort Funston with my heart rate over 120 beats per minute as a method to ensure I do not have a heart attack. By participating in recreational activities with my canine companion at Fort Funston, I've noticed a dramatic change in my fitness and mood. If I lose access to this park, I will be forced to walk for several hours in my neighborhood a day with my dog which leads to my second concern;
- 2. **Safety**. As such a remote and inhospitable place to the average Bay Area resident, I've found Fort Funston to be tremendously safe for both me as a woman and my

FOFUAR01986

companion. Each morning and evening I see a series of friends and acquaintances who keep and eye out for both me and my dog. There is also the issue of traffic – the likelihood of my canine companion to be hit by a car while taking our daily walks at Fort Funston is minimal unlike having to walk her in my neighborhood. Even on leash she is at risk as much as I am to being hit by a car or being harassed. If Fort Funston is declared off limits to dogs and my dog or I am hurt in some way due to having to walk in other areas I will hold you and the Park Service personally responsible. Initially I took my canine companion to Ocean Beach for her off leash recreation but found it to be tremendously dirty and unsafe (I have found soiled diapers, broken bottles, fishhooks and used IV needles on the beach). Being able to go to Fort Funston gives me the feeling of security because of the community that has developed in the 40 years that people have been able to walk with their canine companions;

3. Loss of Housing. I, like the vast majority of residents of the Bay Area, have concerns regarding my housing situation. My rental housing providers have been very kind by allowing me to live with my dog. However part of my job as a responsible tenant is to maintain cleanliness and quiet enjoyment of the entire building. By exercising my companion with great frequency, I find that she behaves very well when she stays at home. Maintaining a harmonious relationship with my housing provider and neighbors is one of the overlooked positive benefits of being able to freely access Fort Funston.

I respect the need for preserving the environment and safety of all visitors at Fort Funston, but taking draconian measures to insure that no one but a select group of contributors to the GGNRA be able to access public land is an abhorrent use of public land. Many people have declared that the dog walkers are selfish and do not care about the environment. This is a falsehood beyond words – I live with a member of the environment and care for her in the way that is best for her species. We also have a fundamental responsibility to care for the animals we, as humans, help domesticate a hundred thousand years ago. To deny an entire species that is dependent on humans for love, food, shelter and activity is truly cruel and shortsighted.

Thank you for/you attention

Jennäfer M. Finlay 1614 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue San Francisco, CA 94122 415-665-0475

A.,

RECEIVEN 101 5 2 5000 SUPER STREET, SCATE July 25, 2000 Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation area Bay+ Franklin Streek, Bldg 201 Fort Maron San Francisco, CA 94123 Dear Superintendent: I whole heartidly support your lifert to preserve the swollow Colony & reative plants, wedlefe and jevlogy of the Fort Function I definitity . why dogs should be allowed to run at parge in This area - they shaved be on leacher. Derverely E. O'lorner Ms. Dorothy E. O'Connell P.O. Box 217 Fairplay, CO 80440

FOFUAR01988

BECEIVEL JUL 2 7 2000

July 25, 2000

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets, Building 201, Ft. Mason San Francisco, CA 94123.

As a frequent visitor to Fort Funston, I fully support the National Park Service proposal to close year-round approximately 12 acres of Fort Funston to off-trail recreational use by the public. The protection of habitat for native species should take priority over human recreational use, given that there are numerous other beach recreational opportunities nearby. Thank you for protecting threatened species and native ecosystems.

Jeff Miller Berkeley

J. Miller 2325 A Carleton St. Berkeley, CA 24704



**FOFUAR01989** 

Superintendent Golden Gate Wational Recreation Are Bay & Franklin Streets, Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

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S. Sheen g: B. O'Vaill N. Walt Y. Ruan Ans

I support a permanent closure of the 12 - der area of the NW RECEI JUL 2 5 2000 section of Fort Function SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE to protect she bank swallow haled at from Superinder lent dogs & people . We must protect the bank Lolden Sata War. Rectura must protect the bank Bay & Franklen St swallow colony Nother Bay & Franklen St Bld 201 Thank you Jean King San Francisco (A 94123 Jeanette King 4205 Colgate Way 

# JUL 3 1 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Sts., Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent,

I'm writing in support of the proposal to close the 12 acre section of Fort Funston to protect habitat for the bank swallow. These remnant coastal bluffs and dunes and all their associated plant and animal life need added protection now before further degradation occurs.

As a lifetime dog-owner and someone who was born and raised in California and wants to see its natural heritage protected, I believe protection of a rare native ecosystem has to take priority over the preferences of a few vocal pet owners. Further, I question whether it is appropriate to allow dogs off-leash on National Park Service land. Please continue to follow the NPS mandate to preserve our increasingly rare natural resources so that future generations will be able to enjoy them as we have.

Sincerely,

**Chris** Clifford

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2809 Ponteverde Lane Davis, CA 95616

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July 24, 2000

## RECEIVELJ JUL 2 7 2003

5605 Vantage Point Road Columbia, MD 21044 July 24, 2000

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Sts., Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent:

As I understand it, on July 14, the National Park Service officially proposed in the Federal Register a permanent closure of a 12-acre area of the northwest section of Fort Funston to protect the bank swallow habitat, "enhance significant native plant communities, improve public safety and reduce human-induced impacts to the coastal bluffs an dunes, a significant geological feature." This official listing followed previous management efforts by the park which were opposed by an organized group of dog-walkers who sued. The judge sided with the dog-walkers, requiring the NPS to perform a full public process before protecting this resource.

I believe that this closure is essential to protecting the swallows and other valuable remnants of the habitats that once covered this area of the coast. In addition to the swallows, Fort Funston is one of only three sites in San Francisco where California quail still survive, along with burrowing owls, brush rabbits and other native wildlife.

I also would like to express my concern about why dogs are allowed off-leash here, when off leash dog walking is forbidden by law on all NPS land.

Sincerely,

July 24, 2000

Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets **Building 201** Ft. Mason San Francisco, CA 94123 JUL 2 8 2000

### RECEIVED

Re: Proposed Habitat Protection Closure

SUPERINTENDENT'S SPICE

I have read and looked at the map of the Proposed Habitat Protection Closure plan for Fort Funston. It seems to me that the proposed plan has been carefully considered and planned by the professional staff of the National Park Service (NPS) personnel. Protection of the bank swallow and the restoration of the native plants is a small area of the Fort Funston Park and it would be a small inconvenience for to some of the park users. Considering the greater good of protecting the bank swallow and restoration of the dunes the small inconvenience to some of the users should not interfere with the greater good for the protection of the bank swallow and restoration of the dunes.

I support the plans of the NPS and feel that they should not be altered and if necessary enforcement of the proposed habitat protection.

> Thanks for letting me comment on the plan. W-B. Commos William R. Commins 595 John Muir Dr. C703 San Francisco, CA 94132 (415) 841-9196





JUL 27 2....

FROM THE DESK OF THE BAY AREA OUTBACKER -TERESA A. NEMETH

July 24, 2000

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Sts., Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Sir,

I hope that you are doing well today. This is the fist time I am writing to you concerning about the issues that are taking place at the Fort Funston within the **Golden Gate National Recreation Area.** 

As an environmental activist and resident of the Bay Area, I have been doing volunteer work on local, state and national environmental issues for the past several years.

The National Parks and Conservation Association has sent information to me concerning the proposal of protecting the remaining bank swallow colony. I understand that they are listed as a threaten species under the California Endangered Species Act.

In addition, I understand that a study on the possible causes of the erosion was done recently on the sandstone cliffs in question. This has included human activities such as cliff climbing, illegal graffiti, and rescues in a sensitive habitat area. Pet owners also bring the their animals into the area, with most of dogs running off-leash.

On July 14, the **NPS** officially proposed in the Federal Register a permanent closure of a 12-acre area of the northwest section of Fort Funston to protect the bank swallow colony, the wildlife, and the habitat.

Sir, I am in strong support of this closure. We need to take care of this area and restore it back to near natural conditions. The public and the tourists who come into this area needs to be educate on the ongoing conditions that are affecting this critical and sensitive section within Fort Funston.

I tried to do some research dealing with the dogleash laws at the National Park Service Website. I have not found any information posted for the Fort Funston area. As a suggestion, I would like to see it added to the **GGNRA Home Webpage**.

Please place my name on your mailing list. I would like to keep inform on the ongoing issues that are taking place within the **GGNRA** of the National Parks..

Thank you for reading this letter.

Helping to maintain a sustainable society and a restored environment.

Respectfully

levera Mimitt  $\sim$ 

Teresa Nemeth 1189 Harrison St. Apt.2 Santa Clara, CA 95050 408-296-5821

Superintendent Brian O'Neill Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Streets Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123 JUL 2 7 2000

Dear Superintendent O'Neill,

I am writing to object to the permanent 12-acre closure proposed for Fort Funston. I believe that the closure, and the rationale expressed for it, are misguided and unfair to the hundreds of citizens that use that park recreationally each week.

Your department's proposal states that the closure is necessary to:

1) preserve the waning colony of bank swallows that nest in the area each year

2) enhance public safety

3) prevent unnatural erosion of the bluffs

4) facilitate the restoration of native habitat to benefit the swallows and other species.

Objectives 1, 2 and 3 could easily be accomplished by a fence positioned along the edge of the bluff, far enough in to ensure the three-foot deep burrows of the swallows would be protected from cave-ins (and that the fence would not have to be replaced annually due to the natural erosion of the cliffs). Native coastal scrub could be planted along the fenceline, to obscure the unnatural-looking fence and provide further erosion control.

Objective 4 is especially misguided, given that the swallows relocated after iceplant and other non-native vegetation was removed from their previous colony site at the Fort. I am concerned that the same plan is about to be put into effect again in this new location, especially as there is no scientific evidence to support the assertion that native plants are preferable to the bank swallows. In fact, Fish & Game scientist Barry Garrison states the following in his extremely thorough <u>California Partners in</u> Flight Riparian Bird Conservation Plan:

"There appears to be no selection for specific vegetation communities at most nest sites as selection is directed at the nesting bank or bluff itself where soil type, height, and slope are the primary factors determining whether the site will be used for nesting (Garrison 1989).

Throughout California, colonies are mostly located amidst lowland vegetation types including riparian forests dominated by willows (Salix spp.) and Fremont cottonwood (Populus fremontii). Many colonies along the Sacramento and Feather rivers occur under cultivated crops including deciduous orchards, irrigated row crops, and dryland grain crops."

Based on the available scientific materials, there seems to be no reason why a zone of native vegetation need be plunked down in the middle of a much-loved and highly trafficked recreation area, especially if that vegetation is as fragile as the Native Plant Society claims it is. Why not establish native habitat in any of the dozens of acres that visitors to the Fort do not walk through? There, the plants would not require costly and unattractive fencing to protect them, and any animals that should decide to

take up residence among them could do so peacefully and without attracting birds of prey to the bank swallow nesting site.

Finally, I object to this closure on the grounds that it is flagrantly and arrogantly disregards the enabling statute under which the GGNRA was formed. These lands were given to the NPS by the city of San Francisco for the express purpose of providing *recreational* open space for local citizens, in *perpetuity*...not just as long as the GGNRA didn't have other plans for them.

As a tax-paying citizen of San Francisco and a dedicated visitor to Fort Funston, I urge you to scrap this poorly conceived plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely Laura Cavaluzzo

156 Henry Street San Francisco, CA 94114 laurac@slip.net

cc: The Honorable Diane Feinstein The Honorable Nancy Pelosi The Honorable Tom Lantos The Honorable Barbara Boxer The Honorable John Burton Mayor Willie Brown

FC /1 /

22 July 2000

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Sts., Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

I am writing to support the proposed closure of a 12-acre area of the northwest section of Fort Funston to protect the bank swallow habitat and other native species. I also think that dog-owners should be reminded that the leash law on park lands is an important part of the park's preservation policy.

With my best wishes,

iame McGilley

Diane McColley 310 Oaklawn Avenue South Pasadena, California 91030



Diane McColley 1151 Oxford Rd. San Marino, CA 91108



Superintendent Golden Gate National Recuestion Gue Bay and Frenklin Streets Building 201 **FOFUAR01997** Fort Masm - min co CA 94123

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2525 Moraga Street San Francisco, CA 94122 (415) 664-9744

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JUL 1 9 2000 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

CY: Scott Ryan T. Themas S. Fairell R. Scott H. Waltholl H. Aguilar

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

July 14, 2000

Dear Supt. O'Neill:

As someone who has a great fondness for both dogs as well as wildlife, I am writing to encourage you to keep the six acres of dunes *closed* to protect the bank swallow colony.

I sympathize with urban owners of dogs who have few areas of dog-friendly open space, but it seems to me that the bank swallows have suffered—and continue to suffer—more. To say that bank swallows must lose their nests so that dogs can romp through the area in passing—as transitory recreationists like their owners—seems to be an unfair situation for wildlife.

Fort Funston's precious remnant of native vegetation and wildlife is too precious to lose. It is one of the last remaining areas of native dune flora in the city, and the restoration going on there, as you know, is an excellent collaboration between volunteers and park employees.

Please protect the swallows and increase efforts to restore Fort Funston's degraded vegetation with ecologically diverse indigenous flora.

Thanks for the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely, Jolagna

Christine Colasurdo

RECEIVELJ

MICHAEL JACOB 379 ELWOOD AVENUE OAKLAND, CA 94610 510 444-2701

July 24, 2000

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets, Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

S. Shean Cy: B. O'Waill M. Scott N. Walthall Y. Ruan T. Thomas

RE: Please do not close off more of Fort Funston

Please do not close off acreage at Fort Funston to people or dogs. Please remember that your charge is for a recreation area, not to return land to some unachievable pristine condition.

I believe that there is misguided movement in some places today that involves the attempt to launch struggles against human use in inappropriate places such as those few urban places where people and their dogs can enjoy the beauty and freedom of an off-leash walk.

The earth and the land need conserving and restoring; there is no question about that. However, it strikes a blow against sound environmental policies when you limit and punish city dwellers who have come to use and cherish tiny little pieces of beautiful land on the coast.

This does nothing but alienate people and create enemies of environmental efforts who would otherwise be friends. In cities, you would be better served to create and enhance beautiful areas that people and their dogs can use. They would then come to cherish your work and support you in the larger effort.

Respectfully,

Michael Jacob

### RECEIVED

July 24, 2000

JUL 2 5 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets Building 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent:

I am a voting member of the San Francisco population who is proud of her city, parks, citizens, and canine companion.

I am writing to tell you about my discomfort in the closures at Fort Funston for dog owners. This renowned park with exceptional access to the beach and sand dunes is a small slice of heaven for dog and people lovers in a city that shares it's diversity and warm with millions of people each year. My cocker spaniel, Toby, and I have shared this park at least three to four days a week for the past six years (after bringing Toby home from the SPCA). After working in Oakland all day, I hurry home so we can experience the utopia that belongs to all of us.

I have never met such gracious dog companions, not only do they keep the park up but they always seem willing to help out each other - which you know doesn't always happen in large urban areas. Toby is a great animal and people dog, many times we have stopped to share his love with children and the elderly who visit the park without animals. The joy they receive is a small fraction of what we receive from having this experience together.

To think that the harsh realities of life can be forgotten for a few minutes a day at this majestic setting is a blessing only San Francisco and the National Park Service can give. By continuing to limit space (lately changed from 10 to 12 acres), the National Park Service who represents all of the citizens is taking away inch by inch the few places left at which we can enjoy nature in an atmosphere of peace.

I do hope you will consider carefully the space issues brought to your attention by the Fort Funston Dog Walkers Association. The rumor at the park is that this is a first step to take away all off leash privileges. If the rumor is the National Park Service's real intention we are all in a great deal of trouble. What is the National Park Service for - if not for the privilege to be in a protected area with nature. Please don't lower your standards as what has occurred with the State Park System in their unfriendly attitude towards dogs.

Sincerely,

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Nancy Collins 122 Clinton Park San Francisco, CA 94103

S. Sheen Cy: B. O'Neill M. Scott N. Walthall Y. Ruan T. Thomas

Cy: S. Sheen, M. Scott

Author: GOGA WR Information at NP-GOGA Date: 7/24/00 8:43 AM Normal

TO: Brian O'NeillSubject: Fort Funston ----- Message Contents

Brian - this was emailed to the PWR Information Office - the senders email address is rutkowski@terraworld.net.

craig glassner

Forward Header

Subject: Fort Funston Author: "Robert E. Rutkowski" <rutkowski@terraworld.net> at np--internet Date: 7/22/00 1:44 PM

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay & Franklin Sts., Building 201 Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintent:

"...to promote and regulate the use of the...national parks ..which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." National Park Service Organic Act, 16 U.S.C.1.

The quote above from the act which established the National Park Service (NPS) in 1916 applies to every unit of the park system, whether it is designated park, monument, recreation area or seashore. This story regards an effort be the park service to uphold its mission, and the opposition it has garnered from a group of park users. Your help is needed to protect a threatened resource.

As you know, the controversy over management of the Fort Funston area in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). Fort Funston's 230 acres include one of the best continuous exposures of a sandstone formation revealing the last 2 million years of California geologic history and the largest remnant of the San Francisco dune complex, of which only 5% still exists.

#### FOFUAR02003

It is my understanding GGNRA over the past several years has engaged in numerous efforts to protect and restore the dune ecosystems (which face threats primarily from invasive exotic plant species and trampling from humans and animals) It is also working on plans to protect a colony of rare bank swallows. The migratory birds, as their name suggests, build nests in 'burrowed holes in suitable banks along rivers and beaches. There is a colony in the Fort Funston that is threatened by continuing erosion of the coastal bluffs they nest in. The Funston bank swallow colony is one of only two remaining on the California coast (most California bank swallows breed in the Sacramento River Valley and are declining there). They are a listed GGNRA008179 threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act.

The park has studied both the causes of the erosion and ways to prevent it. Some of the most serious threats are activities such as off-leash dog running and cliff climbing. Others include graffiti-carving in the soft sandstone, fireworks set off on the beach below the bluffs, rescues of people and dogs trapped on the bluffs and overflights of hang-gliders. The number of visitors to Fort Funston has increased dramatically in the last five years.

On July 14, the NPS officially proposed in the Federal Register a permanent closure of a 12-acre area of the northwest section of Fort Funston to protect the bank swallow habitat, "enhance significant native plant communities, improve public safety and reduce human-induced impacts to the coastal bluffs an dunes, a significant geological feature." This official listing followed previous management efforts by the park which were opposed by an organized group of dog-walkers who sued. The judge sided with the dog-walkers, requiring the NPS to perform a full public process before protecting this resource.

I believe that this closure is essential to protecting the swallows and other valuable remnants of the habitats that once covered this area of the coast. In addition to the swallows, Fort Funston is one of only three sites in San Francisco where California quail still survive, along with burrowing owls, brush rabbits and other native wildlife.

I write in support of this proposal. I express concerns about preserving the bank swallow colony and other native plants, wildlife and geologic formations. I also suggest you question why dogs are allowed off-leash here, when off leash dog walking is forbidden by law on all NPS land.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

Yours sincerely, Robert E. Rutkowski, Esq.

cc: Bob Stanton

2527 Faxon Court Topeka, Kansas 66605-2086 Fax: 1 785 379-9671 E-mail: r\_e\_rutkowski@hotmail.com

RECEIVE : 200 2 7 200 الااز - TERLIT?

2221 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue San Francisco, CA 94116 July 24, 2000

Superintendent Golden Gate National Recreation Area Bay and Franklin Streets Building 201, Fort Mason San Francisco, CA 94123

#### Dear Sir:

We feel such sadness about the entire situation at Ft. Funston. It appears that those of us who have tried to make our feelings known about the fences and closure at Ft. Funston are being punished by the GGNRA, in particular, and our elected representatives, in general, by their lack of understanding and help. It seems that the more we try to explain our needs and unhappiness, the worse we are punished. It makes us think that if we had not tried to work with the GGNRA, we would have had fewer problems. That doesn't sound like workings of a democracy to us. It's almost as if we are being shown that GGNRA has the absolute and unyielding power and we have no opportunity for input regardless of Ft. Funston's traditional uses before being taken over by the NPS.

We have two dogs that we care for as if they were family members, which we believe they are. We feed them, love them, exercise them, train them, and clean up after them just as anyone would do for family members they love. We also pay taxes and vote. So far, we're not sure we're being represented by anyone we voted for. It has gotten to the point that we're afraid to say what we think and how we feel for fear that things will get worse instead of better. Certainly there seems to be an iron curtain erected by the NPS and, perhaps by our elected representatives, to exclude us, but not other groups who clearly have the ear of the NPS.

My family cares about the bank swallows and about the native plants. We live in a very densely populated city that has only so much space for everyone to live. We must share this space. We must care about each other. Are we to believe that the GGNRA is omnipotent and is interested in responding only to certain groups? Why are tax-paying and law-abiding citizens of San Francisco being treated as if GGNRA can do whatever they want to us and if we dare to say anything, we will be punished. We are very sorry for all of us because we're so at odds with each other. There's no reason for such hostility. We do hope that this letter stating our feelings doesn't cause you to permanently fence off even more acreage at Ft. Funston.

Yours truly Lee & Patfick Noakes

The Honorable Barbara Boxer cc: The Honorable John Burton The Honorable Diane Feinstein The Honorable Tom Lantos The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Mayor Willie Brown Supervisor Gavin Newsom Supervisor Mabel Teng

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anterter ... 566/871M ensolo (ARNOD) notenn Tho T :0A San Francisco, CA 94123 Building 201 Fort Mason Golden Gate National Recreation Area Brian O'Nehl, Superintendent DILLOS INFINITIALIOS NUL 13 2000 RECEIVED PLEASE HELP THE HUNDREDS OF DOG WALKERS TO HAUG A VOICE IN FT. FUNSTON USF FUTURE POLICY. Mr. Frederick Beall 249 Grattan St. San Francisco, CA 94117 FOFUAR02006 GGNRA008182

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JUL 1 4 2009 SIPERINTENSENT'S OFFICE

July 12, 2000

SHARON MICHAI SKF **65 Chaves Avenue** San Francisco, CA 94127 Smichalske@AOL.com

O'Noill cy: Scott Y. Ruan T. Thomas S. Farrell M. Aguilar C. Powell M. Welthell

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I am writing to ask your support in the fight to keep Fort Funston an open recreational area as it was originally intended. I'm sure you are aware of the on-going legal struggle over this matter. I would like to inform you of several issues.

Congress mandated that the Golden Gate National Recreation Area lands be set aside as "open recreational space." In 1995, approximately 20 acres of land were closed off from public use for native plant restoration. In my opinion, there were *never* any native plants growing on the sand dunes at Fort Funston. The Army planted ice plant many years ago in an effort to keep the ever moving sand in place. We were told by the GGNRA that this land would be returned in five years. It has now been five years, but the land remains fenced and closed from any public use.

In 1999, another 10 acres of land was closed from public use because a "threatened" species of bank swallow burrows holes into the cliffs on the ocean side of Fort Funston and nests there. We've heard many reasons for this closure so I'm not sure which one is genuine. One reason is protection of the bank swallows who are only there a few months of the year. I am, of course, more than willing to help a threatened species. But I'm sure there is some way the birds can nest undisturbed on the cliff side and people can still walk on the other side. A second reason for the closure we were told is that the cliffs have become unstable resulting in too many rescues of people and dogs, hence public safety. The fact of the matter is 30 acres of land are no longer "open recreational space."

This additional 10 acres was closed without any public notice or meetings. The GGNRA did not follow its own rules which require public input. The fact that the GGNRA purposely and secretively closed this land has been so noted in a court of law. The court ruled this land must be opened again to the public when the bank swallows leave which is in a few weeks from now.

Off-leash dog walking has been a legitimate recreational activity at Fort Funston for nearly 40 years. The dog walkers by far are the largest users of Fort Funston, but were purposely left out of the planning process. Many, many groups use Fort Funston. An area named Joe Hill (a steep sand hill) which is now closed was a favorite practice area for the Lowell High School track team. Many schools bring children to picnic at Fort Funston, allowing inner-city kids to meet a dog live and in person and learn they are not to be feared. I also often see a lot of elderly walkers enjoying the ocean view and migrating whales. Of course, there are also the hang gliders, horse riders, kite flyers and picnickers using the area as well. My point is this is one "open recreational space" which is *really* used by thousands of people daily.

It is unfortunate this land closure has become a "dog versus bird" issue. It is not. It is a people issue. That land is designated for public use and I ask you to please look into this matter, learn the truth and support the public's right to use Fort Funston.

Sincerely,

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Michalske.

Sharon Michalske

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JUL 1 4 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

July 12, 2000

Sheigla Murphy 570 Head Street San Francisco. CA 94132 Sheigla@AOL.com

CY: Scott 4. Ruan 1. Thimas S. Farrell M. Aguilar C. Powell N. Walthall

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

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

I am writing in support of keeping San Francisco's Fort Funston of the Golden Gate Recreational Area an **open area** as it was originally mandated and as it has been for the last forty years. I would like to inform you of several issues (of the numerous issues currently in contention) that are important to me, your constituent.

As you know, Congress legislated that Golden Gate National Recreation Area lands be set aside as "open recreational space." In 1995, approximately 20 acres of land were closed off from public use for native plant restoration. As a fifty-year-old native San Franciscan, who has enjoyed using Fort Funston for as long as I can remember, I do not think there ever has been *native* plants growing on Fort Funston's sand dunes. The Army planted ice plant during their construction of the bunkers during World War II in an effort to keep the ever moving sand in place. San Franciscans were promised by the GGNRA that this land would be returned in five years. It has been five years, but the land remains fenced and closed from **any** public use.

In 1999, another ten acres of land were closed from public use to protect species of bank swallows that burrows holes into the cliffs on the ocean side of Fort Funston in order to make nests. Fort Funston's frequent visitors have heard many reasons for this closure One reason is protection of the bank swallows who are only there a few months of the year. I do, of course, support any measure to protect a threatened species. But I'm sure there is some way the birds can nest undisturbed on the cliff side and people can still walk on the other side. A second reason for the closure that San Franciscans were given was the ocean side trails have become unsafe because of too many people and dogs falling from the cliffs down to the beach and the expensive rescues. Whatever the reasons proffered, Fort Funston's visitors have been deprived of 30 acres of congressionally mandated "open recreational space." The 1999 closure of ten acres was done without any public notice or meetings. The GGNRA did not follow its own rules which require public announcements and meetings. There is currently a federal court case in which Judge William Alsup so noted. The court has already ruled this acreage must be re-opened to public access when the bank swallows are finished breeding in a couple of weeks.

Off-leash dog walking has been a legitimate recreational activity at Fort Funston for nearly 40 years. Many, many groups use Fort Funston. An area named Joe Hill (a steep sand hill) which is now closed was a favorite practice area for the Lowell High School track team. Many schools bring children to picnic at Fort Funston, allowing inner-city kids to enjoy a beautiful and unique natural area and to interact with the dogs who are walked off-leash but under voice command. Lots of people (hang gliders, kite flyers and families with young children) with and without dogs enjoy Fort Funston and until recently very harmoniously. This particular piece of GGNRA is utilized by literally thousands of people on a daily basis.

This is not simply a dog versus bird or plant issue. It is a public access issue. Fort Funston had long been designated for public use. I ask you to please support everyone's, regardless of their species, right to enjoy Fort Funston.

Sincerely,

heigla Minrphy, Ph.D
B. O'Neill Cy: M. Scott C. Prevell

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JUL 1 2 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

3620 Market St., #5 San Francisco, CA 94131 July 10, 2000 7/

M. Aquilar S. Farrell N.Walthall

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

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

I urge you to limit the area of Fort Funston that is open to dogs off leash, if not completely to comply with Regulation 36 CFR, which states that all pets must be on leash.

The coastal dune flora at Fort Funston is one of the few remnants of the once massive San Francisco dune complex. It deserves protection from all the impacts that a dog park would bring to a fragile area. I hope you will work to protect this scarce vegetation as a natural resource.

Sincerely,

harnell

Lawrence Maxwell larmax@pacbell.net

Lindsay Kefauver

3739 20th Street, San Francisco, CA 94110

VISUAL RESOURCES

415/647-5649 FAX 415/647-5029

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JUL 1 1 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Brian O'Neill Superintendent GGNRA Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Superintendent O'Neill:

On behalf of everyone who walks at Fort Funston – especially the dog walkers – I wanted to thank you for the wonderful new water fountain and two attached water bowls at the top of the sand ladder on the east side of Battery Davis.

Also the new wooden bag boxes are a huge improvement over the billowing bags tied to posts, those plus the lidded trashcans make the area so much more attractive and tidier.

Thank you to you and your staff, who made the decision to make these improvements, all of which greatly enhances everyone's enjoyment of the Fort.

Cordially yours, soer Kefæren Lindsay Kefauver



B. O'Neill Cy: M. Scott R bert RECEIVED T. Thomas Y. Ruan S. Farrell JUL 1 0 2000 Mr. O' neill, 7-7-00 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE In writing about the off dogs endancering the constat flora at Lort Tunston The Code of Tederal Begulatione; like the codes govering all california state poules states that all sets must It on a leash. Why is this sugulation (36 CPR Z.15) not being enfonced at: Fort Function ? natural resources and visitor expensive for diverse user ghoups a's mat adequately protected by the Loldon State National Recreation areas current policy of allowing dogs to roam off-leash throughout most of Font Function. about flora & protection: The fenced area on the bluffs above the bank swallow nesting colony ought to be nestoned with native vegetation and protected from trampling. Iceptant (carpobiotas colulis) is overtaking the diverse remnant native plant communities. In some\_ areas, the thompleing is so aftensive that not over iceplant has survived continued. FOFUAR02013 GGNRA008189

Function mars Jeam and activity various stewardship by the parties intrepretative and doing excellent work an be espande charle Thank you for your time. Regarded Kourma D. Starden 145 GARDENSIDE #19 94131-1386 S.F. CA 415-401-6193 B. I am a boung raised Dan Franciscan and I litre the direction we are taking of rectoring the native plants populatione, San is united Francis Ma . was and AD Many the environment, touresin, and give use all pride in our unique azain. FOFUAR02014 GGNRA008190

## JUL 1 0 2000

320 Vallejo Dr.#35 Millbrae, CA 94030

B. O'Neill

Cy: M. Scott

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

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

July 7, 2000

Subject: Fort Funston an off-leash dog run?

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

The impact of off-leash dogs on the Fort Funston dune habitat is becoming increasingly overwhelming.

The wonderful work of the Fort Funston Green Team in removing exotic, invasive iceplants and restoring native dune vegetation should not be voided by off-leash dog interests.

Then there is the unique situation of Bank Swallows breeding in an ocean cliff colony. The colony's location should be afforded every possible protection.

I strongly feel that Fort Funstion dogsushould be leashed to protect this unit of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area from further degradation in the function of the strength of the str

Sincerely Minun Werner Schumann

B.OWeill ay: M. Scott C. Powell M. Aguilar S. Farrell N. Watchall

July 6, 2000 Brian C'Neill GGNRA Fort Mason, Building 201 San Francisco, CA 94123 RECEIVED JUL 11 2000

re: Fort Funston

Dear Brian, I am writing to express my interest in the unique biological resources at Fort Funston. I am very concerned about off-leash dogs havassing and/or encroaching on the bank swallow colony on The cliffs. My goodness, nesting bank swallow areas are incredibly rare. They really need to be fully protected. Surely we can find some way to accomade dog walkers without causing damage to bank swallow I am also concerned about the replant taking over the remnant native aveas and would like to see the replant removed and native species restored throughout Fort Funston. Please, protect the swallows from off-leash dogs and do move to restore native biochivers, ty

Thanks, Randy Zebell 247/15th Ave San Francisco, CA 94116

Author: GOGA Superintendent at NP-GOGA Date: 6/30/00 10:07 AM Normal

fyi

Forward Header Subject: YES-Bank Swallow Protection Author: "B. London" <blondon@pacbell.net> at np--internet Date: 6/30/00 9:41 AM

Dear Mr. Brian O'Neill,

I want to express my support for the closure of areas in Fort Funston to

protect native habitat and the bank swallows.

I often walk at Fort Funston and usually see dogs digging up the plants and chasing birds, while the owners stand and watch. Dog owners become very self-righteous and legalistic when it comes to the protection of dogs, but often as not, the dogs are not licensed, off the leash, off the trails, chasing birds, digging up habitat, and pooping all over the place. The law, it seems, applies only to others, not to their dogs.

Thank you for your protection of these fragile areas.

Barbara London

FOFUAR02017

GGNRA008193

686 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave San Francisco, CA 94121 June 25, 2000 RECEIVED

B. O'Neill Cy: M. Scotl Y. Ruan T. Thomas

Mr. Brian O'Neill, Superintendent GGNRA Fort Mason Bldg. 201 San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Mr. O'Neill,

For the past two years, my wife and I have volunteered our Saturday mornings to help restore San Francisco's native dune flora at Fort Funston. I am writing to you to support the expansion of this project, and to resist dog-walkers who would not welcome other uses of the park.

JUN <sup>2 8</sup> 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

I respect the desire of some San Franciscans to use Fort Funston with their pets. However, the density of free-roaming dogs at Fort Funston does not make it a welcoming place for non-dog walkers. Hence few people without dogs go there for the sake of a quiet stroll or a picnic in pleasant surroundings. This is too bad, because its restored areas are beautiful and offer unparalleled glimpses of the flora and the fauna that originally graced the coast. In spring the restored areas are stunning.

As part of the GGNRA, Fort Funston should be more than just a canine theme park. Dogs at Fort Funston should adhere to the federal regulation (36 Code of Federal Regulations. Section 2.15(a)(2)) that dogs in national parks be leashed. Although a leash diminishes a dog's freedom and perhaps alters its enjoyment of its outing, to my knowledge it is not the policy of any national park to prioritize pet recreation above human recreation or above wild flora and fauna.

Just as Fort Funston should not be turned over to free-roaming pets, it should not become a private nursery for native plant enthusiasts either. I suggest that once a leash law is in effect, some boardwalks be thoughtfully directed through some of the restored habitat so that visitors can see the beautiful and diverse flora up close. The sand is not shifting much in many of the restored areas (thanks to the plants) and hence a walkway of some sort would not get buried. Such a walkway would be particularly appropriate near the visitor's center, which itself would benefit from a sign directing people to it at the crossroads by the park entrance. It also might be interesting to make a few signs to help visitors to identify and appreciate some of the most striking flower species. The picnic tables by the visitor's center are nice; it would be nice if some were set up in areas away from the visitor's center.

Fort Funston has served well as a dog resort for a long time. For a long time, the closest thing to multiple use has come from hang-gliders, who don't much cross paths with unleashed canines. As the difficulty of exiting San Francisco on crowded freeways increases, as open space in and around the Bay Area is developed, and as the public's appreciation of biological diversity and natural history grows, Fort Funston should improve to meet the needs of everyone.

Sincerely.

Dr. Matthew Orr

FOFUAR02018

GGNRA008194

JUN 2 6 2000

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

HABITAT RESTORATION SUPPORT GROUP c/o Sandy Goldberg 5934 Taft Ave. Oakland, CA 94618

June 20, 2000

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

N-161

Bruce Babbitt, Secretary Department of Interior 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

John Reynolds, Regional Director National Park Service, Pacific West Region 600 Harrison Street, Suite 600 San Francisco, CA 94107 Robert Stanton, Director National Park Service 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Gentlemen:

We request that the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) and the National Park Service (NPS) manage Fort Funston and GGNRA in compliance with 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 2.15(a)(2), which requires dogs to be on a leash in national parks and recreation areas. This regulation states:

"The following are prohibited: ... (2) Failing to crate, cage, restrain on a leash which shall not exceed six feet in length, or otherwise physically confine a pet at all times."

The GGNRA and NPS recently, in documents filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of CA, in *Fort Funston Dog Walkers v. Babbit* (Case No. C 00 877 WHA), stated that this regulation prohibits dogs off leash at Fort Funston. NPS regulations do not provide authorities the discretion to disregard the regulation for a particular location in a national park or recreation area.

While some of the undersigned are dog owners and understand the desire to provide areas where dogs can be walked off leash, national parks and national recreation areas are not the appropriate locations for this activity.

GGNRA has had a policy allowing dogs off leash and off trail at Fort Funston (see enclosed brochures) and other areas in GGNRA. Until recently, there were signs at Fort Funston indicating that dogs could be off leash, or as it is sometimes referred to, "under voice control." As a result of this well-publicized, long-term policy a situation now exists where hundreds of off leash dogs are found at Fort Funston.

This results in the following adverse impacts:

- It prevents natural growth of native vegetation and Srces out native wildlife (such as California quail).
- Ø Off leash, off trail dog walking has denuded slopes of all vegetation.

- The incredible diversity and beauty of the restored dunes, where dogs must be on a leash and stay on the trails, demonstrates the high habitat value of the rest of Fort Funston. It is expected that Fort Funston will be included in the recovery plan for the rare plant, San Francisco Lessingia. This further indicates that this is valuable habitat and off leash dogs should not be allowed to degrade it.
- The "voice control" policy simply does not work with the large number of dogs that visitors regularly bring to Fort Funston. Routinely, dogs are seen wandering without their owner anywhere in sight. Groups of dogs run and chase each other, ignoring voice commands by their owners. It is impossible to prevent dogs from running up to small children, who may be frightened. Numerous dog fights have occurred, and numerous people have been attacked or bitten by dogs.
- Frequently dogs run or are chased by other dogs over the steep coastal bluff and get trapped on the cliff. Park rangers lower themselves over the cliff to rescue the dog, risking serious injury. These risks are unreasonable and unnecessary.
- The extent of off leash dog use at Fort Funston degrades the experience of visitors who simply want a quiet, peaceful walk to appreciate nature.

GGNRA rangers routinely observe many dogs off leash, however they make no effort to inform people that they are required to put their dog on a leash or to enforce the leash requirement, except in limited areas closed for habitat restoration. This reflects an intentional policy of the GGNRA and NPS not to enforce the leash requirement found in NPS regulations, but rather to affirmatively allow <u>hundreds</u> of people to violate the federal regulations.

The GGNRA and NPS have the responsibility to take appropriate actions to educate visitors about the leash requirement and to enforce the regulation requiring that dogs must be on a leash. We request that the GGNRA and NPS immediately begin to do so.

As volunteers, we have each dedicated hundreds of hours working to restore and protect the GGNRA and we believe that it is equally important for the GGNRA and NPS to uphold their obligation to fully protect the Park resources. We are hopeful that the Park will do so. However, we also request that you consider this letter notice of our intent to file a legal action in federal court to require the GGNRA and NPS to manage the GGNRA and Fort Funston in compliance with 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 2.15(a)(2).

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely. Sandy Joldberg

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Sandy Goldberg, Chris Vulpe, Joy Durighello, Jaime Cabada, Ingrid Cabada, Adele Fasick, Virginia Krasevac, Marianna Pieck, Peggy Van Diem, Shirley Suhrer, Charlie Starbuck, Lucy Stofle-Anderson, James Dougherty, Dale Smith

Members, HABITAT RESTORATION SUPPORT GROUP

cc: Chuck O'Connor, U.S. Attorney's Office; Ralph Mihan, Field Solicitor, Dept. of Interior; GGNRA Advisory Commission

## Golden Gale

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

# **ENJOYING** THE PARK WITH YOUR DOG



## **DOING YOUR PART**

There are many opportunities to enjoy Golden Gate National Recreation Area with your dog. It is important to remember that national parks contain resources that can be seriously damaged by dogs that are not properly controlled. Rules pertaining to dogs are designed to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for you and your dog, as well as other visitors, while also protecting park resources.

Your cooperation is necessary if this is to remain one of the premier national park sites in the country. Please be mindful of restrictions on off-leash dog use and observe the rules of common courtesy and dog etiquette. You may be cited and fined for a violation of these rules. (36 CFR Part 2)

#### Leash Length

0

In areas requiring leashes, dogs must be kept on a leash no longer than six feet.



#### Dog etiquette

Always pick up your dog's litter. It is unhealthy, contaminates the environment, and affects the territorial behavior of some wild animals. It is inconsiderate to leave your dog's litter in public areas.

Many children (and adults) are frightened by dogs. Hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians may also be disturbed, and even endangered, by dogs that are not effectively controlled. Please show respect for others by closely managing your dog. Barking and aggressive dogs are not appreciated in any park area.

#### Service dogs

A service dog is one that assists someone who has a vision or hearing impairment. If you have a service dog, please inquire at one of the park visitor centers for assistance in planning a hike.

#### What is "Voice Control"?

In some areas, dogs are permitted off-leash under "voice control." This means the dog must respond immediately and obediently to single commands. In a voice-control area, a dog owner must ... - be familiar with the boundary of the voice-control area

- carry a leash at all times
- leash the dog immediately if it displays aggressive behavior toward any person or other animal or is not responding to commands
- assure the dog does not dig holes, chase wildlife, destroy vegetation, or enter any fenced or closed areas. or disturb other visitors.

continues on reverse

### WHERE CAN I TAKE MY DOG OFF LEASH?

You can allow your dog off leash under voice control in these areas. In most other areas of the Park, your dog must be on leash. In some areas, pets are prohibited entirely to protect sensitive resources.

#### SAN FRANCISCO

#### **Ocean Beach**

Dogs are allowed on Ocean Beach under voice control from Stairwell 1 south to Stairwell 21. Dogs must be on leash south of Stairwell 21 to Sloat Boulevard in order to protect the endangered Western Snowy Plover.

#### Fort Funston and Burton Beach

Dogs are permitted off leash under voice control in much of Fort Funston and on Phillip Burton Beach. However, dogs must be on leash in the Bank Swallow habitat area.

#### **Baker Beach**

Dogs are permitted, under voice control, on Baker Beach north of Lobos Creek. Dogs must be on leash south of Lobos Creek and in parking lots and picnic areas.

#### Crissy Field and Beach

Dogs may be off leash under voice control on Crissy Field east of the West Gate of the Golden Gate Promenade, and north of New Mason Street. Dogs must be on leash west of the West Gate of the Golden Gate Promenade and south of New Mason Street throughout the area. Dog owners must keep their dogs out of fenced dune areas.

#### West Pacific Avenue

Dogs may be off leash under voice control along the corridor adjoining West Pacific Avenue from the Broadway Street entrance to the 14th Avenue gate. Dogs must be on leash in the forest and fields east of Lovers Lane and north of the Ecology Trail.

#### MARIN COUNTY

#### Rodeo Beach

Dogs are permitted off leash under voice control on Rodeo Beach from the shoreline to the crest of the dune. Dogs must be leashed from the crest of the dunes inland to Rodeo Lagoon and in the parking lots and picnic areas.

#### Oakwood Valley

Dogs are permitted off leash under voice control on, and immediately adjacent to, the Oakwood Valley Trail north of the small cattle pond. Dogs are not allowed off leash south of the pond, and may not enter the pond.

#### <u>Muir Beach</u>

Dogs are permitted off leash under voice control on Muir Beach from the shoreline to the crest of the dunes. Dogs must be leashed from the crest of the dunes inland to Big Lagoon and in parking lots and picnic areas.

Remember, people, dogs, and wildlife can enjoy this park together if you follow these rules. Please do your part.

