

## **Individual Comments**

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nancy adess  
<naedit@horizoncable.com>

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
cc: John\_Jarvis@nps.gov  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

02/12/2007 10:37 AM  
PST

Dear People,  
I support the Park Service's evaluation of the best alternative for the Wetlands Restoration at Giacomini Marsh: Plan C.

Nancy Adess  
Point Reyes Station

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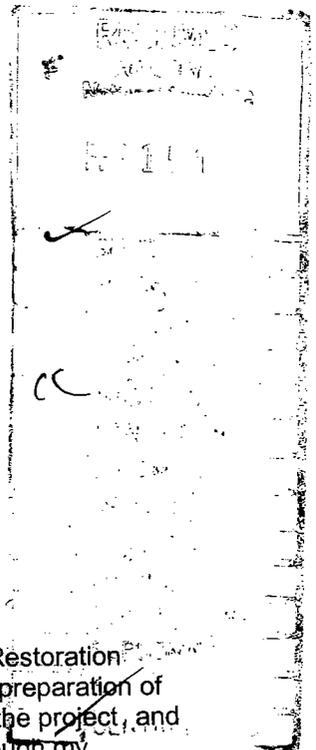


"Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook"  
<leslieai@horizoncable.com>

02/14/2007 11:06 PM  
PST

To: <Park\_Planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project

Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook  
12340 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956



Dear Superintendent,

I am writing to comment on the proposed project alternatives for the Giacomini Wetland Restoration described in the DEIS. I would first like to commend the efforts of the Park Service in the preparation of the document, the comprehensive treatment of issues related to benefits and impacts of the project, and of the consideration of community concerns represented in the different Alternatives. Though my preference from an ecological perspective is Alternative D, I would advocate the inclusion of the bridge to connect the north and south trails along Lagunitas Creek, and the same provision for potential trail extension up to Inverness Park as shown in Alternative C. Additional, more specific comments are detailed below.

The current public use of the existing trails at the southern perimeter includes walkers, dog walkers, bikers, and occasional equestrian riders. Of particular concern to me as a dog owner is that those trails are one of the very few places in this locality that owners can take their dogs for a walk off leash, where the dog can run free, meet other dogs, exercise and be happy. I am concerned that as a formal, public pathway operated by the NPS, dogs will no longer be allowed to walk and run off leash. This is a huge quality of life issue for me, and I'm sure, many other dog owners that have been using these paths for years. I also really enjoy the current un-improved character of those pathways. I would advocate allowing the existing trails to continue, but without formal improvement, except for the bridge to connect the N and S paths. My hope is that without formal improvement (interpretive signs, surface preparation, etc.) dog walking routines will be allowed to continue as they have been for many years on this property. I feel this way, the current use and enjoyment of this site by residents with dogs will be protected. If the plan is to continue to allow the current use of the paths, then trail improvement would be acceptable, as long as it is not widened beyond the existing boundaries, and grassy open areas and existing vegetation along the western portion of the path remain intact.

The trail on the north side of Lagunitas Creek connects to town at the current public access site near the Green Bridge. I understand the purpose of this access point is to protect the residents near 3<sup>rd</sup> Street from increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic. However, there is no safe and easy walkway on Rt. 1 to the public access site from town. There is currently no sidewalk which leads from Main Street or B Street along Rt. 1 to the access point. This is dangerous for pedestrians and bikers, especially for kids and walkers with dogs. Also, it is further from the center of town, which makes the path less accessible for some, particularly the seniors who currently use the trail. I suggest making trail access at 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and have that be part of the negotiations for the future of the parcel along C Street.

Additionally, I am concerned about the proposed fence along the north side of the trail for two reasons. I believe a fence along a wetland, which is intended to be part of an integrated tidal system, will impede wildlife access across the trail to Lagunitas Creek. Additionally, it could act as a debris trap during flood events, and could impede hydrologic movement. On a personal note, walking along a wetland beside a fence detracts from one's sense of open space and enjoyment of the location. I suggest the installation of a vegetative barrier of native shrubs in place of a fence. Dense but low-lying native shrubs and vegetation will act to deter human and canine crossing and will provide wildlife with protection from disturbance.

Also, I have a question: Will the existing public access trails will be closed during construction, or is there some way to provide some trail access that is safely protected from truck traffic and construction impacts, since construction activities will continue for many months per year, for 2 years or more?

In regards to flooding and changes in hydrologic processes, one concern I have is that the tidal inundation of the west pasture in combination with regular smaller scale storm events, will affect the groundwater elevation and in turn, may reduce the effectiveness of the septic system on the Gradjansky property where I am currently living. What is your assessment of this situation. The leach field backs up to the freshwater wetland at the east side of the property.

In regards to construction impacts on air quality and noise levels at the Gradjansky property, I fear that the BMPs listed will not reduce the impact to the less-than-significant level. Living right next to an access point for construction vehicles, it is the vehicular traffic passing through the access path which also affects air quality. Having experienced a short-term earth-moving project on the Giacomini property this fall, with vehicles passing by regularly for a week or two, I can tell you that it was noisy – particularly the effect of the rumbling vibrations literally felt in the house, and triggering my dog to bark throughout the day as they passed by. And this impact will last for months at a time as construction progresses. To address this, I would like to see construction schedules with the expected number of large-size vehicular trips planned for the access path next to and in back of the property. I also would like to request that construction activities at this location start at 8 am rather than 7 am which is a bit early. To hear rumbling and barking at 7:00 am on a daily basis for extended periods of time will definitely affect our quality of life. Also, a concern that I haven't seen addressed in the DEIS is the potential for air quality impacts related to dust created during dry months by trucks travelling over sandy pathways next to the Gradjansky property. Though the trees will create somewhat of a barrier, suspension of dust in the air can travel toward the house and yard. Would spraying the pathway with water be possible if particulates from the accessway become a problem?

I am also concerned that my and my neighbor's young children and our dog sometimes play on/near the pile of sand north of Fish Hatchery Creek adjacent to the Gradjansky property. I would like construction fencing to be installed securely along the path planned for construction vehicles all the way past the property line to prevent children and dog from entering a potentially dangerous situation.

In terms of the success of the marsh restoration, I advocate as much planting as possible be done to revegetate the marsh after excavation, and also after existing vegetation die-off occurs if new tidally adapted vegetation does not establish itself quickly enough. Restoration projects are most successful at minimizing invasives if native species are planted before non-native varieties have a chance to colonize.

Thank you for considering these comments. (I might have had more if I had time to get through the whole document.) I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook



"Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook"  
<leslieai@horizoncable.com>

02/15/2007 02:24 PM  
PST

To: <Park\_Planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Wetland Restoration comments

Dear Superintendent,

This is an addendum to my email I sent in last night. Here are a couple of points I forgot to include:

In the Alternatives B-D, the potential for the construction of a low berm in the west portion of the West Pasture was noted to protect the private properties. This idea was not noted in the maps, so I am curious as to what would trigger the implementation of this idea. Is funding included in the plan for that and what would the berm look like (ie location, elevation, will there be outlet possibilities for drainage from the ridge, etc). If it would help to protect the existing freshwater marsh vegetation and trees on site, it might be worth looking at. The trees provide perching areas for many birds (predatory, vultures of course, song birds and I have also seen great blue herons occasionally using the trees for a perch). They also act as a bit of a wind break for the property.

Also, on the map for Alternative D, in the west, what is the purpose of installing a "fence to limit cattle access" extending west-east to the creek if cattle will no longer be grazing on the pastures with this alternative? Is that a typo?

Thank you again, for your consideration of these and prior comments.

Sincerely,

Leslie Adler-Ivanbrook  
12340 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956  
415-663-8669

**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting  
January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

As a tenant in the Gradjensky house, could we get truck schedules for when they access the wetland along the property, and could there be a plan for temporary fencing on the north side of the pile of sand since my kids like to dig there. Safety issue. Thanks!

Feb.8,2007

Superintendent,  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Dear Superintendent:

I'm both a resident of Point Reyes Station and an environmentalist. On both counts I would ask you to support Plan D, and not Plan C, in the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration project.

I feel Plan C will increase noise, traffic and congestion in residential areas; I'm particularly concerned about the proposed parking lot site on Mesa Road. This site could be a marvelous "transition" zone for wildlife, and encourage Black Rails, Tidewater Gobies, and Red-legged Frogs to make a comeback. Coho salmon would also benefit; this site is the mouth of Tomasini Creek, and a transition zone here would enrich the wetlands immensely. Please continue your wonderful support for wildlife, and reject Plan C.

In my view, there are already access points available: White House Pool and Tomales Bay Trail are existing sites with parking lots, and Olema Marsh could easily be made ADA compliant.

I feel we need maximum restoration, more salmon, and less parking lots.

Sincerely,

*Ellery Akers*  
Ellery Akers  
P.O. Box 1267  
Pt. Reyes Station  
Ca. 94956

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Point Reyes Station  
Jan. 15, 2007

Dear Don and Lorraine,

I would like to say that I concur completely with Hathaway Barry's letter being sent to you regarding the Wetlands. That being said, I have other concerns to which I would like response, and I understand there will be no public input on the 25th. That may be just as well, considering the strong feelings in the community and the rift it has generated.

Is there a difference in the missions of a public park and wetlands? I thought that preservation and restoration for the future was the main aim of wetlands, and public access and public good was the main aim of a park. As Hathaway Barry notes in her letter, there are 72,000 acres nearby for public use.

My understanding is that the "Lodge" will remain in Giacomini custody for 25 years. If that is the case, and a public path goes right by it, who is responsible for law enforcement? Until now, the occupancy of the trailers would have discouraged strangers. Will the Park Service have regular inspections and checks? Will there be assurance of funding for this security until the "lodge" is no longer there? Who will be responsible for liability insurance for what takes place in the deserted lodge and its surroundings? Many years ago my niece, with our permission, camped on our property. She started to walk up the path and was chased off by Giacomini. She wasn't even making noise, and surely noise affects creatures as it affects humans. There is a current book in fact about effects of noise in our modern environment. Did Giacomini care for his cows? Does the Park Service care for the wetlands wildlife as part of its preservation?

Sincerely

*Doris Allen*

Doris Allen  
P.O. Box 610  
Point Reyes Station  
California 94956custer@svn.net

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Doris Allen  
<cust101@gmail.com>  
>

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands

01/26/2007 04:37 PM  
PST

Dear Don or Lorraine,

Thank you for the meeting last night. I found it informative and was relieved that it was not as unpleasant as one of our prior meetings. I had been sort of dreading it. I think all of you helped to set the tone.

As you know, I am firmly for Alternative D, DDDD! -- the environmentally preferred alternative. I see no reason to go against park tradition in not preferring the environmentally preferred alternative, and I certainly felt the sense of the group gathered at the meeting last night felt the same way. I was impressed by the knowledgeable questions and comments, also.

I feel that the difference between access (immediate gratification) and preservation/restoration (a legacy for the future) is striking.

"And this, our life, exempt from public haunt, finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in everything"

--Wm.

Shakespeare.

Because public input is important to the decision, I will correspond as I think of new input. Thanks again.

Doris Allen

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JAN 29 2007

Point Reyes Station  
Feb. 7, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Giacomini Wetlands Restoration DEIS/EIR  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

Dear Don and Lorraine,

I am writing once more to support Alternative D. It occurred to me that some of the opponents are familiar with the public paths through private property in England ("that happy isle"), but this is very different. There is a long culture there of sharing the private lands for hikers, and one doesn't hear of that tradition being abused. This land, however, is public land which is being restored as a natural wetland for posterity.

I do not anticipate hiking on many trails. At this point the earthquake trail is about my capacity. I do care very much, however, about posterity and the little bit of wildness available for future generations of man and beast, as well as the health of the bay.

In Walden, Thoreau said

"A man is rich in proportion to the number of things he can afford to let alone".

I think we can let these small wetlands be wetlands.

Sincerely

*Doris Allen*

Doris Allen  
P.O. Box 610  
Point Reyes Station, California  
94956

customer@svn.net

*cc Jon Jarvis*

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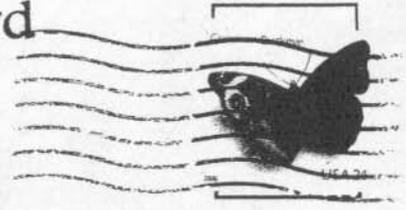
Superintendent Newbacher,

Please support the  
Environmentally Preferred  
Alternative D.

Postcard

FEB 7  
2007

"I never saw a moor  
I never saw the sea  
Yet I know how the heather  
looks  
And what a wave must be."  
- Emily Dickinson



Mankind does not need  
to experience everything  
Poets and scientists  
can do that for me.

Preserve  
Reserve  
Restore

Thank you all

*Taris Allen*  
Box 610  
Pt. Reyes Sta. Ct  
94956

Superintendent Newbacher  
Pt. Reyes Natl Seashore  
Pt. Reyes Ct  
94956

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Superintendent Neubacher 2/12 Postcard

Congratulations on your \$1 million grant from the National Coastal Wetlands Program.

I hope the restoration dollars will help make a decision to choose Alternative D.

"Only by keeping our distance from wilderness - some wilderness, at least, can we keep from fouling the wellspring of our own life" - Evan ~~the~~ Eisenberg, The Ecology of Eden.

Thanks for all you have done!



Doris Allen  
Box 610  
Pt. Reyes Sta. CA  
94956



Superintendent Neubacher  
Pt. Reyes National Seashore  
Pt. Reyes CA  
94956



Francine Allen  
<fa@horizoncable.com  
>

02/11/2007 09:27 PM  
PST

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration

I urge the Park to implement Alternative D.  
Thank you for considering my endorsement.  
Francine Allen

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"Sonja Anderson"  
 <SonjaAnderson@iscw  
 eb.com>

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Restoration

02/11/2007 02:35 PM  
 PST

Superintendent Don Neubacher,  
 I am a resident of Inverness and I would like the Park to implement Plan D reather than C. I would like to include the bridge and trail between Green Bridge and White House Pool but not the other public access that is included on alternative C. At a later time access from the Bay trail and the railroad bed should be discussed and considered, not at this time

Thank you,  
 Sonja Anderson

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My notes so far  
 I understand the  
 bridge!

Ann Asbury  
 POB 463  
 Pt. Reyes Sta.

February 12, 2007

Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes, California

Dear Don,

With this letter we again want to express our opinion relative to the Giacomini Restoration Plan. We feel that "Alternative D" provides the best 'beginning' for the wetlands. The natural processes will take some time to get established. Access for people seems a bit premature. Lets wait a few years, then look at this issue again.

Thank you for your consideration.

Norma and Gordon Ashby



Ashby, Box 550  
Inverness, CA 94937

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Harriet Barlow  
 <hbarlow@earthlink.net  
 >

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
 Subject: Tomales Bay restoration and access

02/12/2007 06:07 PM  
 PST

Dear excellent public servants at the Park Service,

May I say first that I am deeply grateful for the work you do in service to the Commons and to the present and future health of the parks and environs in this region and nationally.

I am a home owner in Pt Reyes (Los Reyes Drive). Full disclosure re: self-interest requires that I admit that my own life-style will be disadvantaged by your plans for "access" to the Bay. I walk, as do hundreds of my neighbors, from and to town on Mesa Rd. As you are aware, there is no side-walk to protect me or other walkers, their children and their pets, from the dangers of increased traffic if the parking lot is installed. As you realize, but I must include it here, there is already access at Martinelli Open Space, Olema Marsh and White House pool, away from town and residential areas.

But aside from my personal concerns, I believe that the determination that the Park Service made to restore the hydrologic and ecologic functions of the Bay were entirely legitimate and DID NOT include increasing human interaction with the Bay. We certainly don't want another situation such as that which required the closing of the salmon watching site in Lagunitas.

Of course I would be pleased to discuss this with you in person or to contribute in any way to a constructive conversation about this issue. Having spent many decades working on protecting the Adirondack Park from overuse (a constant struggle which is only held in balance by increasing the amount of acreage that is protected from human overuse) I know how contentious these decisions can be. Given that the original purpose of the restoration was for the health of the bay, let's stick to that goal. There are plenty of opportunities for people to enjoy the bay from other existing facilities and trails.

Thanks for taking my concerns into account.

Harriet S. Barlow

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Peter Barnes  
<peter@tomales.org>  
02/12/2007 08:35 PM  
PST

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration

Dear Don

I am writing to say that I support Alternative D with no southern perimeter path.

Congratulations for getting the money together for the restoration.

Regards

Peter Barnes

PO Box 237  
Point Reyes Station

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Coeyley Barry  
 <co\_barry@yahoo.com>

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
 Subject: In put on wetlands

02/14/2007 02:05 PM  
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Dear Don Neubacher,  
 I sent the following letter yesterday but then realized today comments need to be submitted by this evening at 5:00 so I am sending it via email as well

thank you  
 Coeyley Barry

February 13, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
 Point Reyes National Seashore  
 Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: Comments on the Draft EIR: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration

Dear Don Neubacher,

I would like to register my strong support for Alternative D.

As a Masters degree candidate in Environmental Studies, I am very focused on what best serves the environment. I also have a Masters in Education and I have been working to combine the two disciplines [in my life] to contribute in whatever way I can to increasing awareness about taking care of this planet. The wetlands restoration seems like just such an opportunity.

To this end, it seems to me that there is no choice but to go with the "environmentally preferred" alternative D. I would like to see the wetlands restoration proceed unimpeded by human access. This would be a model of restoration, exemplifying the urgency of putting the hydrological and ecological health of the bay first. This would provide a great example for future projects.

There are already plenty of public access and observation sites for our local wetlands.

I love Tomales Bay and, having grown up here and watched the water quality deteriorate, I would like to do anything possible to restore its natural function.

I support you to do whatever it takes to facilitate the free flowing of Lagunitas and Tomasini Creeks into Tomales Bay!

Thank you for your amazing work.

Sincerely,

Coeyley Barry  
 p.o. box 157  
 Pt. Reyes, Ca.

Hathaway Barry

RECEIVED  
Point Reyes  
National Seashore

FEB 14 2007

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Point Reyes	LAW ENFORCE
February 13, 2007	NAT. RES.
	RANGE COMS.
	FIRE MGT.
	INTERP.
	CULT. RES.
	MAINT.
	CONTRACTING
	PERSONNEL
	BUDGET
	CENTRAL FILES

Superintendent  
Pt. Reyes Natl. Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Rd.  
Pt. Reyes, Ca. 94956

Dear Don and Lorraine,

First, I would like to thank you both. It is ever more clear to me what a monumental effort this Wetlands Restoration Project is and I appreciate your excellent leadership and also, Lorraine, the beautiful way you led the public meeting (1/25/07). It certainly appears that there is less divisiveness in the community than there was at earlier meetings. I'm glad for this. May it extend to the implementation of the final restoration plan!

As you know, I am wildly in favor of Alternative D, the "environmentally preferred" option. Alternative C, the Park's "preferred alternative", increases public access thereby compromising the environmental goals. This will draw a lot more people into Point Reyes Station, which will create more noise, traffic, and congestion. I'm concerned for the long-term impact on the bay, the wildlife and their habitat, and the community of us who are trying to live respectfully nearby. Any increased human activity will detract from what I understood to be the original intention of the project - the fullest restoration of the wetlands and the hydrological activity of the once pristine bay. I would like to see Lagunitas and Tomasini Creeks allowed to flow freely, unimpeded by human activity or bridges. Who knows what creatures might take up residence?!

Since the earlier public meetings, Al Gore's film "An Inconvenient Truth" has come out and highlighted the urgency for maximum restoration possible, wherever and whenever possible. Noticing what's already here - 8 existing observation sites - I'm inclined to feel that's enough. Especially if no one's clamoring for more. Access already exists at White House Pool, Martinelli Open Space, and Olema Marsh (could easily be made ADA compliant) - all with parking, multiple observation points, and trails to enjoy. All are 1) away from town and residential areas 2) already existing and 3) require minimal financial output. I would prefer that the money go towards full restoration.

As for the proposed spur trail, I would suggest putting up a large ranch gate at the entrance on Mesa Rd. and leaving it to the wildlife. By the time the Giacomini's lease on the hunt shack is up, global warming and/or an earthquake may well have put the old railroad bed underwater anyway, and on its way back to riparian habitat! In addition to being a serious fire hazard, a policing nightmare (vandalism & noise), a teen hang out and all around attractive nuisance, the trail would be an invasion of the habitat of the residents - human and wild (especially the endangered Tidewater Goby). As Lorraine said at the Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, in response to why the southern trail didn't continue north from White House Pool to Inverness - "that would be looking into the people's back yards". Surely that is the case on the proposed east side spur trail, too.

A couple of examples that have stimulated my concern:

\* In Lagunitas, the spur trail off of Sir Francis Drake created to view salmon has been so misused that it has now been closed off, except for a few months of the year.

\* A cover story of the Marin IJ (5/9/05) read "Rare Frog Imperiled By Humans" because visitors to a waterfall on Mt. Tam had inadvertently become a threat to the very endangered species they were trying to protect. The article went on to say that the visitors (and their dogs) to a waterfall on Mt. Tam watershed were "accidentally crushing egg masses and disturbing mating habits." "The eggs from the frogs – federally listed as a species of concern – already face predation from California newts and non-native bullfrogs. ... And now people are the concern." ... The frogs are feeling the pressure of being in a heavily recreated area," said the natural resource specialist with the Water District. "We want people to have a connection with nature, but sometimes there is too much of a connection."

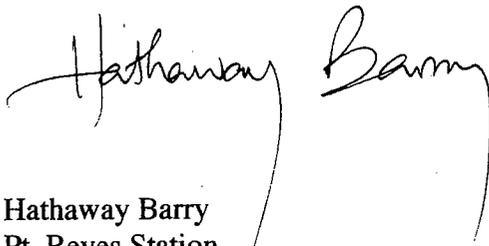
When I heard/read these things I wondered – might this be a headline about the proposed Tomales Bay Wetlands a few years down the road? And, with foresight, might we as a community avoid creating this situation, by remembering that what is for us a desire, is, for the wildlife, home.

I appreciate the very real safety issues of Levee Rd. And perhaps these issues (of traffic and speed) can be better solved by the county, rather than the wetlands.

In summary, I'm trusting the expert hydrologists, biologists, ecologists, (and all the other "ologists") and engineers who have worked so hard on this Draft EIR/EIS and concluded (as has the EAC, The Sierra Club, The Audubon Society, The Marin Conservation Group) that the environmentally responsible alternative is Alternative D. The benefit of the restoration for people is naturally secondary to that of the wetlands.

Thank you for all of your hard work!

with gratitude,



Hathaway Barry  
Pt. Reyes Station

cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov



Hathaway Barry  
<hath@horizoncable.co  
m>

01/22/2007 12:40 PM  
PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
cc: jonjarvis@nps.gov  
Subject: re Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

January 21, 2007

Superintendent

Pt. Reyes Natl. Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Rd.  
Pt. Reyes Sta., CA 94956

Dear Don and Lorraine,

We recognize and respect the desire for public access to the proposed Giacomini Wetlands. However, we feel these desires can be met in a way that does not set a **precedent** by significantly altering the quality of life for current residents (as none of the other proposed paths would), and are therefore opposed to the proposed "spur trail" on the southeastern perimeter. There are some factors which likely only those who live here are aware of and which we feel are essential to include in a complete EIR, so we feel obliged to share them with you.

As neighbors who would be most immediately and permanently impacted, our primary concerns are 1) **NOISE** 2) **SAFETY** 3) **INCREASED TRAFFIC/PARKING CONGESTION** 4) **PROPERTY VALUES** - i.e. **QUALITY OF LIFE**. We are guessing that many people don't realize how intensely sound travels upward. When it's not windy and the cows are in the nearby pasture, we can hear them chewing! And one of us even has a hearing aid! You know how it feels on a bus or other public space when someone starts talking on their cell phone? That's what it's like living above the roadbed. Every conversation. Most of us moved here because we enjoy the quiet of rural life. If the proposed path is implemented it will change that possibility forever. It would be especially intrusive on weekends when most of us are wishing for the sanctuary of home and rest. We invite you to come and hear for yourselves.

If public access is granted, there will be no control over the amount and frequency and amplitude of noise. This is a startling prospect. I imagine the wildlife, if they were burdened with forethought, might feel the same way. The roadbed affords a wildlife corridor and, as you well know, any increased human presence will diminish wildlife activity and habitat. At one meeting, Don spoke of his own experience of living far above Whitehouse pool parking lot and yet being

disturbed by the weekend noise coming from people gathered there.

Realistically, who would **police** the pathway? And what about the very real **fire hazard** of smokers out for a stroll? **Vandalism** of the hunt shack? The inevitable roving **dogs** and their effect on wildlife? People coming to **drink**, to **argue**, in search of better **cell phone** reception? And where will they **relieve themselves**? Although the proposed pathway might be lovely for the occasional silent birder, more realistically – oy! what an **attractive nuisance**. Having a **public rather than private neighbor** is a vast quality of life change, and leaves us feeling very **vulnerable**. And, of course, affects **property values** as well. We are asking you to feel how you might feel if you lived here.

In addition, having a destination point here and yikes! – a possible parking lot, observation deck, and picnic table?! – would exacerbate not only the noise but also increase the foot, bike, and car traffic on Mesa Rd.. We feel sad and concerned about this prospect. We do not look forward to more booming voices of bikers, as they zoom by, yelling back and forth to each other about their jobs and their latest trips and their lives. Or vehicles parked all along the bottom of Mesa Rd. Or curious humans hopping fences.

There are 75,000 acres of Park for people to walk in and already several existing access points (with parking) to the proposed Wetlands. Most of us don't want to go to town any more on the weekends because it has become so crowded. Must we let this crowdedness now spill over into our residential neighborhood? New access points will create this. (Especially when they get published in the next *Secret Places of Pt. Reyes* !) The roadbed is not going to become a through pathway (although this might well be considered an invitation by those who would like it to), so it seems a heavy cost for very little advantage. Let's use the limited funds available for restoration, not *more* public access. ADA access could easily be met at the White House Pool c Olema Marsh parking lot.

Please hear us! We are seriously and ardently trying to hold onto our neighborhood and a quality of life that we cherish. Quiet

itself has become an endangered species and we humans are all suffering from the lack thereof.

As current residents, we are part of the existing environment so we are urgently requesting that you reconsider the proposed, unnecessary pathway and consider the habitat of those who already

live here as seriously and heart-fully as the habitat of the rails and goby and red-legged frogs is being considered.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Respectfully

(and with great appreciation for all the work you have done on behalf of the wetlands),

Marianne Sakellar	Susie Logan	Doris Allen	Hathaway Barry
Justin Tibbitts	Ben Logan	Nancy Sakellar	Kai Barry
Gabriel Tibbitts	Nick Logan	John Sakellar	Coeylen Barry
Kate Wilson			
Maria Wilson			



Kai Barry  
 <kaibarry@yahoo.com>  
 02/13/2007 10:31 AM  
 PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands -- Alternative D

February 13, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
 Point Reyes National Seashore  
 Point Reyes Station, CA 94956  
 RE: Comments on the Draft EIR: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration.

Dear Don Neubacher:

I would like to express that I am strongly in favor of Alternative D for the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration. I believe it's important to restore the wetlands as much as we can and to keep human access to a minimum. There are already plenty of access points.

I grew up in Point Reyes and would not like to see the community so drastically changed. Adding access points throughout the town and in the Mesa neighborhood will welcome the park's tourists into our sleepy community. Additional access points will only increase traffic congestion and parking problems within the town.

It is important to remember the spirit of restoration and return these wetlands to the animals and ecosystems we took them from in the first place.

I am firmly in support of Alternative D.

Thank you for your time.

Kai Barry  
 Point Reyes Station.

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Julia Bartlett  
<jjub@horizoncable.com>  
m>

02/13/2007 01:11 PM  
PST

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Restoration Plan Letters Due by Tuesday 2/14

Subject: EAC Announcement: Giacomini Restoration Plan Letters Due by Tuesday 2/14

Dear Don et al,

Thank you for asking us for our opinions on this important matter. I am in favor of plan D with the addition of the southern bridge.

Thank you.

Julia Bartlett

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**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting  
January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

I prefer Alternative D, with the inclusion of southern public access trail. The possible spur trails at Mesa Rd + the Martinelli Property would interfere w/ the free access of crabs from wetlands to uplands - v. imp't. Thank you.  
Julia Bartlett

THOMAS G. BATY

P.O. BOX 534, INVERNESS, CA 94937

4157669-1682

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Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes CA 94956

Subject: Comments on Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

Dear Don,

Here's my bit of lay-wisdom on the Giacomini Project. I would like to offer a voice of support for Alternative D with the addition of two significant changes.

The first is the widely-supported inclusion of the pedestrian footbridge over Lagunitas Creek. Since Alternative D calls for spur trails from both sides of the "Southern Perimeter," bridging the two seems like a golden opportunity for non-vehicular connectivity with minimal environmental downside. The price-tag of such a bridge seems to be the only real deterrent, but wouldn't this qualify the project for some transportation-type funding? May I suggest that the NPS consider naming the bridge the "Sis Arndt Memorial" in honor of her unwavering advocacy of this ecosystem for so many years.

The second suggested change would be to reach further into your partnership with the State Lands Commission on this project and secure the jurisdiction/management of the northern half of the headwaters marsh—what is now the Tomales Bay Ecological Reserve. While I strongly support the Park's fairly recent limitations on hunting in the Bay, this policy has caused a discernable concentration of hunting activity on the TBER. Does it make much sense to spend millions of dollars on a marsh restoration to create conditions that may well increase hunting pressure within the very marsh system we are attempting to preserve and protect? There is a very real possibility that the improved waterfowl habitat in the Giacomini Wetlands will increase hunting on the Bay. My previous recommendations for a comprehensive marsh management plan were met by observations from your staff that hunting/no hunting boundaries will always generate greater hunting pressure, but this discussion took place well before the development of your current policy.

Of course I realize the Giacomini Project is about far more than simply duck and goose habitat. But yesterday morning I found myself thinking about the Giacomini Wetlands as I hiked out along Limantour Estero and marveled at the thousands of ducks and geese feeding and loafing in that salt marsh system. Wouldn't it be fine to truly protect another "complete" marsh through this deal? Seems like a very choice opportunity.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Baty

Dear Park Staff

I strongly endorse Plan C  
that includes pathways &  
a connecting bridge  
across the creek.

Thank you

William Bant

Box 81

Unwees Ct 94937

February 12, 2007

Superintendent D  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Orleans, Ca 94950

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Re: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan-

Dear Superintendent Neubacher:

This letter is in support of comments presented by the Chairperson of the Design Review Committee of the Point Reyes Station Village Association.

Restoration measures described in 'Alternative D' should make the least negative impact. "Wetlands are the hardest part of the environment to repair once damaged" says Christopher Hallowell, author of 'Holding Back The Sea'.

Public access should be limited to an observation area away from the residential areas.

The purpose is to restore the wetlands. Doing so in the simplest, most straight-forward manner can only help the process.

Thank you,

Elizabeth L. Beatty  
P.O. Box 534  
Point Reyes Station, Ca 94956



"Elsie Becker"  
 <elsiebecker@gmail.co  
 m>

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

02/10/2007 10:36 AM  
 PST

Dear Superintendent Neubacher:

I am in favor of plan D for the restoration project since I feel that there is so much public access in the Pt. Reyes Peninsula area that it is time to give wildlife more access without human interference. Also, for the same reason, I don't see the necessity of a trail between the Green Bridge and White House Pool.

Sincerely,

Elsie Becker

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February 11, 2007

Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes, CA 94956

Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

Please support Plan D, WITHOUT the 100 ft long Bridge. It is crucial to maintain and expand wetlands for bird migrations. Maintaining wetlands means a quiet place for migrating birds to rest. The addition of the Bridge to Plan D breaks the barrier between the goal of maintaining wetlands for migrating birds and weekend TOURIST activities.

Sincerely,

John Becker  
PO BOX 1102  
Inverness, CA 94937



cc:  
Regional Director  
National Park Service  
1111 Jackson Street  
Suite 700  
Oakland, CA 94607

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P.O. Box 1147  
Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956  
February 7, 2007

Superintendent  
Pt. Reyes National Seashore  
Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956

Dear Superintendent Neubacher,

Regarding the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan, I support Alternative D.

I feel strongly that as much of the former ranch as possible should be off limits to people and domesticated animals. Since most of the thousands of acres of adjacent National Seashore and GGNRA are accessible to the public, there is no reason to further limit the "kidneys" of the bay.. Every bit of wetlands will help restore Tomales Bay to its original pristine state .

This project can become a national model of responsible stewardship of our environment. I hope that no special interest group will be allowed to diminish it.

Sincerely,

*Lee (Lee) Benzinger*

Lee Benzinger

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"Winston Black"  
<winstonblack@msn.co  
m>

02/13/2007 11:10 PM  
GMT

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Bridge at Giacomini Old Dam Site

Dar Sir:

It is a good idea to consider the installation of a bridge at the site of the old Giacomina Dam.

Best, Winston Black, 58 Drake Summit, Inverness  
Mailing: P O Box 15, Pt. Reyes Stn., CA 94956

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FEB 6, 2007

DON NEUBACHER  
SUPERINTENDENT  
PT. ROYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

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DEAR DON -

PLEASE LET THIS NOTE SERVE AS MY NOTIFICATION TO YOU AND NPS THAT I ENDORSE ALTERNATIVE D FOR RESTORING WETLANDS ON GIACOMINI RANCH.

THE IDEA OF A BRIDGE OVER LAQUINAS CREEK IS A BAD IDEA THAT INCREASES HUMAN ACTIVITY IN THE RESTORATION AREA. ALSO YOUR FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY COMES INTO PLAY WHEN ONE GOES TO THE TROUBLE ~~TO~~ TAKE THE COST FOR TRAIL + BRIDGE AND THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF BICYCLE RIDERS IN INVERNESS PARK. DO THE MATH AND YOU WILL FIND IT POOR USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO SPEND SO MUCH PER EACH BIKE RIDER.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, FROM MY PERSPECTIVE AS A PROFESSIONAL WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER + FIELD NATURALIST, WHO HAS RESTORED WETLANDS MYSELF ON MY RANCH IN THE KLAMATH BASIN, THERE IS SO LITTLE COASTAL WETLANDS IN CALIFORNIA THAT THE PRUDENT COURSE OF ACTION MANDATES DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO CREATE ~~AS~~ THE OPTIMUM CONDITION FOR THE WETLAND RESTORATION.

NO "BRIDGE TO NOWHERE !!"

Sincerely,  
Jugga Blaha  
PO Box 152  
Inverness, CA 94937



BBochte@aol.com  
02/12/2007 08:13 PM  
EST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
cc: jon\_Jarvis@nps.gov  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

Dear Park Service,  
I am a long time resident of Marin County, bike rider and hiker. I am emailing in response to your considerations for the restoration of the Tomales Bay estuary. I am adamantly in favor of Alternative D to allow for the optimal healing and vitality of this unique ecosystem. I know there are already miles and miles of hiking and biking trails in Marin. An estuary is a biological nursery and needs to be treated like one. Please consider Alternative D for the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan.

Bruce Bochte  
311 Rydal Avenue  
Mill Valley, CA 94941  
415-381-3456  
bbochte@aol.com

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"Susan M. Brayton"  
 <susanbrayton@horizo  
 ncable.com>

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Project

02/12/2007 08:54 PM  
 MST

I support Plan C ... however,

At the January 25th meeting you passed out cards asking for comments on additional issues that were not brought up at the meeting.

It is not clear from the maps I have looked at today if the County will still maintain the current County Parks adjacent to the Giacomini Ranch and at White House Pool. I would like (responsibly) to continue to walk my dog in this area, as presently permitted, as would other residents who have companion animals. And in view of the proposed bridge & path to Point Reyes Station, as well as pedestrians & cyclists, I hope it will be permissible for those of us with dogs who also live in this area to walk from White House Pool to town with our animals,

Thank you for your consideration.

Susan brayton

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Brostrom  
1116 Curtis St  
Albany CA 94701

OAKLAND CA 946

12 FEB 2007 PM 7:11



2/12/07

Superintendent Pt. Reyes  
National Seashore  
Point Reyes, CA

This is just a short note to voice my opinion that there should not be trails into a newly proposed wetland restoration on Tomales Bay. There are plenty of opportunities for hiking at Point Reyes, White House Pool and Martinelli Open Space. What is in short supply are habitats without human intrusion.

Margaret Brostrom  
1116 Curtis St Albany CA

Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes, CA 94956

Dear Superintendent,

As a twenty-three year resident of West Marin, I am writing this letter in support of Plan D. The reason so many of us live here is due to the beauty of the nature and the privilege of living so close to wildlife. The site of the proposed parking lot on Mesa Road (Plan C) is crucial to wildlife. After all the habitat that has been destroyed for our "conveniences," paving over an area used by other species can no longer be considered an option. I ask you from my heart to please support Plan D.

Sincerely,



Sharon Buquen  
M.A. Education  
State of California Credentialed Teacher

Buquen  
P.O. Box 1046  
Bolinas, CA 94924

RECEIVED	
Point Reyes National Seashore	
FEB 12 '07	
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<input type="checkbox"/>	SCIENCE
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAT. RES.
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**Ann Nelson**

01/25/2007 11:26 AM PST

To: Lorraine Parsons/PORE/NPS@NPS, Don Neubacher/PORE/NPS@NPS  
cc:  
Subject: Fw: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

FYI



**2bab4@earthlink.net**

01/24/2007 10:36 PM EST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

Email submitted from: /pore/parkmgmt/planning\_giacomini\_wrp\_eiscir\_draft\_2006.htm

i support EAC's proposal of Plan D with a bridge over the creek. As a user of both ends of this trail, I would be delighted to make the walk without detouring to Levee Road.

Thank you for your consideration. I am sorry not to be free to attend the meeting on Thursday the 25th.

Barbara Carlitz

# Catherine Caufield

RECEIVED	
Point Reyes National Seashore	
FEB 12 '07	
P. O. Box 884	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SUPT. Inverness, CA 94937
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCIENCE 415-669-1570
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SPECIAL USES road.us
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February 12, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes, CA 94956  
via email: [park\\_planning@nps.gov](mailto:park_planning@nps.gov)

Re: Draft EIR, Giacomini Wetlands Restoration

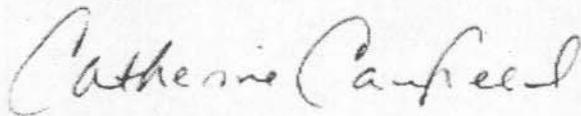
Dear Superintendent Neubacher,

I want express my support for Alternative D, the environmentally preferred alternative, of the Draft EIR. Wetland and creek restoration and wildlife protection should be the overriding values of this restoration project. Public access, education, views, etc, should take second place to these priorities. I am especially concerned about the negative impacts of placing a bridge in the stream buffer zone of Lagunitas Creek, perhaps the most important salmon creek in Marin County, and one that has suffered much abuse and needs all the restoration it can get.

I support the arguments of others, more qualified than I to make them, regarding the ways in which Alternative D would be more successful than Alternative C in achieving the primary goal of ecosystem restoration and I wish to register my strong support for their conclusions and for Alternative D.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

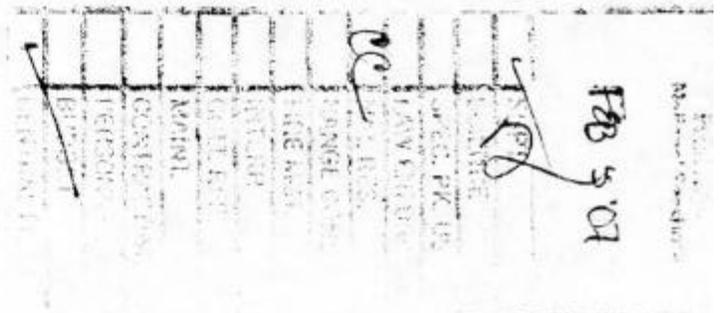


Catherine Caufield  
cc: Jon Jarvis

## I am voting strongly for Proposal D.

1. Proposal D is consistent with the values of our community. It asks that we do the uttermost for the restoration, preservation and protection of our natural environment.
2. Public access can always be considered in a second stage, later on, when we have seen how successful the restoration process turns out to be, whether it requires more money and time and therefore more focused energy than presently imagined.
3. I strongly disagree with the proposals from the Sierra Club and the Biking Club, that we undertake considerable public access as a modification of Plan D. Two reasons for this: aesthetic and aesthetic It is certainly a lovely idea to link our communities, but a structure like the bridge, prominently positioned at the entrance to a beautifully preserved wilderness area is bound to give us the look of artificiality—as if we were a golf course or worse yet, a kind of Wilderness Theme Park. It is very difficult to preserve, quite easy to destroy, the integrity of a place like Point Reyes.
4. Preservation/restoration is headed in a direction that restores the natural flow and shape of our land. The public access, as presently conceived, seems to move in the opposite direction—adding structures that are not and have never been part of our natural terrain.
5. There are so many miles of trails for bikes and horses and walkers in Point Reyes. Why is it necessary to take this area so close to town and introduce what is bound to occasion at least some added congestion, privacy issues, parking problems?
6. Let us concentrate our energy, our money, our planning capacity on the environment.
7. **Proposal D is what the Point Reyes Peninsula is! The other proposals do not do it justice.**

**Kim Chernin, 704 B Street, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956 663 9511**





gchisholm@audubon.or  
g  
02/12/2007 01:35 AM  
EST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration EIR/EIS

Email submitted from: /pore/parkmgmt/planning\_giacomini\_wrp\_eiseir\_draft\_2006.htm

Dear Don Neubacher:

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project. We are supportive of the Alternative C and pleased to see this important restoration project get underway.

As a neighbor I would like to bring several issues to you and your staff's attention along our common property boundary just north of the Giacomini Clubhouse.

We have a number of eucalyptus trees along our boundary though I am not sure of the exact line between our property and NPS managed land. We would be supportive of the removal of the boundary eucalyptus and working together on the removal of eucalyptus on our hillside along with the restoration of native upland habitat on both our land and the old railroad grade next to the pasture. We would be interested in undertaking a collaborative project to restore native habitat.

In addition, prior to full transfer of the property I would like to ask that the sizeable pile of irrigation pipes that have been abandoned for a long time along our property line be removed and that an abandoned shack on our common property boundary be removed and that the electric line to the shack be shut down to reduce fire risk.

I appreciate your attention to these details and look forward to working with you and your staff to seeing this project succeed.

Sincerely,

Graham Chisholm and Kelly Cash

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Kay Clements  
<kay@kwmr.org>  
02/12/2007 12:35 PM  
PST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: wetlands restoration

Hi,  
I just wanted to comment briefly on the proposed trail connecting Inverness Park with Point Reyes Station. I believe access to Pt Reyes via an off road trail would be used by many residents and kids on bikes and a good idea. What I would like to see is the trail as a throughway, not a freeway for weekend bicyclists.

I believe that visitors to the area bring a different sensibility - not to say they don't appreciate what is here, but I think it is a little removed from the community and not always as conscientious. When you are on a trail and see your neighbor, you make the extra effort to call out or move aside. If a trail is going to connect IP and PRS, let it be to facilitate and protect local traffic, not provide another raceway for the bicyclists to group up and dominate.

thanks for your consideration.  
Kay Clements

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CENTRAL FILES



Ann Nelson

01/11/2007 03:24 PM PST

To: Brannon Ketcham/PORE/NPS@NPS, Lorraine Parsons/PORE/NPS@NPS  
cc:  
Subject: Fw: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project: Draft Environmental Impact Statement / Environmental Impact Report

FYI



gerry@horizoncable.com

01/11/2007 06:01 PM EST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project: Draft Environmental Impact Statement / Environmental Impact Report

Email submitted from: /pore/parkmgmt/planning\_giacomini\_wrp\_eiseir\_draft\_2006.htm

Having such short notice to address my concerns about the subject Project please know that these matters are not all of them:

I object to the fact that the local newspaper of record, either in the County of Marin or in West Marin did not report your deadline being today for the deadline to comment on the subject study plan.

The study does not describe why the CALTRANS money has a link to being used to consider "Transportation" issues on and near the subject property.

The study/report contains no cost estimates for each of the four proposals. There is no cost/benefit analysis for each of the four proposals.

The report presents little to no summary information showing how using the property's edges for public enjoyment and transportation had no negative impact on restoring the property's wetland features.

The report has little to no information that deals with important matters concerned about:

(a) Bicyclist safety issues including accidents in the area; (b) Why bicyclist use in the area is discouraged due to poor conditions for safety and enjoyment (very narrow roads, heavy motorized traffic, etc.) (c) Motorized traffic patterns between towns and neighborhoods bordering the property to show that such traffic is increasing; (d) There is no safe way to travel by foot or bicycle north of Point Reyes Station to the Martinelli Park. (roadway there has little to no shoulder space) (e) Explaining why the nearby town's community plan shows no interest in reopening the nearby Abandoned Railroad Right-Of-Way (ARROW). This includes why it has little giving local residents easy access to the property's easterly side, to other neighborhoods, and to the area south of the subject property. (f) That the property's ARROW connects to the ARROW on the east side of the nearby town that also connects to the ARROW at Tocaloma that has been reopened. Omitting this significant off-road transportation system information misleads the reader who does not know the area on an intimate basis. (g) No mention is made about the fact that for the past 27 years the local community has shown an interest in having this ARROW reopened while at the same time well connected residents living on the hill adjacent to the

ARROW have done what they can to defeat its reopening; (h) No analysis shows how the ARROW uses none of the dry land near what had been wetland before the ARROW was constructed over a hundred years ago; (i) Why the restoration project must include transportation issues in the area of the subject property. If its edges are not considered for public use (bike and walking paths) then an important opportunity is abandoned. (j) The Olema Marsh public access path issue should be considered in all four options and so it is included in the option settled on. (k) Dating back 27 years (1980) it has made been known at public meetings and in public reports that it wants the subject property's ARROW reopened so it connects to the ARROW on Point Reyes Station's east side all the way to the ARROW at Tocaloma that is in use for the public's safety and enjoyment benefit.

Lastly, it must be noted that none of the public hearings about a matter of this importance that concerns the public at large (those residing outside of West Marin) was never held outside of West Marin - even though it is known this public uses their federal parks here in West Marin on a basis that represent 82% of the users from the Bay Area and beyond.

For all these and more reasons it must be known that the subject study was biased in favor of only restoring the property to a wetland while it ignored how public access can coexist along with wetland restoration.

Gerry Coles PO Box 353, Bolinas, CA 94924 (tele: 868-1108)



Gerry Cirincione-Coles  
<gerry@mermaidhill.com>  
m>

02/14/2007 08:27 PM  
PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
cc: lorraine\_parsons@nps.gov  
Subject: Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project

Please be advised that your subject's EIR is incomplete until it deals with the following matters:

- (a) As the dire effect Global Warming will surely have on the restoration project, and the data presented in the EIR now does not deal with how the additional height of two more feet over previous expectations - means the EIR is insufficient in this regard.
- (b) That it was most arbitrary (slanted to favor Alternative C) how the study dealt with various schemes to allow public access, but did not show, for example that the abandoned railroad right-of-way (ARROW) could be restored to public use (as proposed in Alternative A) along with having the maximum method of restoring the property to a wetland (as proposed in Alternative C or D) - even a casual reader of the EIR will easily note its bias that favors Alternatives C and D, but don't consider opening the ARROW to public use.
- (c) That no public meetings to encourage public comment were held outside of West Marin shows an intent to influence the results of the EIR to favor Alternative C (aka: the "Preferred Alternative) even though a NPS study proved that more than 80% of the public who frequent the federal parks in West Marin actually reside outside of Marin County. The NPS made no effort to solicit public comments from the public who use their parks in West Marin because it hosted no public meetings outside of West Marin means that the subject EIR has not had a fair hearing as far as the greater public is concerned. Considering that the public who attended the public meetings on this subject are locals who are well known to not be receptive to having 3 million visitors in their area - thus the results of the meetings reflect the EIR report's bias, which results in their not being receptive to making the subject property being made more attractive to visitors. In this regard the EIR should cite the fact that the West Marin Chamber of Commerce (WMCC) is not a member of the Marin County Visitors and Convention Bureau because the latter wants to service the needs of visitors to Marin County and while the WMCC, like the local residents has not shown this interest on a local basis.
- (d) Considering that the town of Point Reyes Station borders the subject property, but has nothing in its General Plan that proposes any convenient access for its residents on the subject property or to the federal park to its north that has no access but from Highway One - proves a local bias against giving this matter a thorough hearing at the local level, which is the only feedback the NPS seems to have relied on in its EIR with regards to ordinary civilian input that isn't scientific.
- (e) While several consultants whose Literature is cited in the EIR (J.G. Evens, PWA, etc), and it is well known that their bias did not support opening the ARROW, means that the EIR's Literature information does not cite that of any known supporter for opening the ARROW.
- (f) With regards to the List of Preparers, it can be substantiated that one person who contributed to the EIR at this level (Jules Evens) has

made it clear in a public record (Point Reyes Light) that he is against opening the ARROW to public use. That this EIR used no consultants who understand the benefits of wetlands coexisting with ARROWS, Alternative Transportation, etc. shows its bias that favors a maximum wetland restoration with an a minimum of public access.

(g) With regards to Public Safety: the fact that the EIR concerned with a property that borders a town that has the most residents of any town in West Marin needs additional information about an issue of vital importance considering that all roads bordering the subject property, and the town nearest it, are narrow two lane roads that must accommodate about 3 million visitors (1 million cars?). This EIR must have project how public safety would be improved if the 550 acre property's ARROW is reopened, and it had off-road paths along its southern and western edges for the benefit of bicyclists and hikers so they could travel away from high speed motorized traffic.

(h) With regards to CALTRANS contributing the greatest share of purchase monies to acquire the property the EIR explains almost nothing about the "...legal agreement between CalTrans and the park, which only obliges the park to mitigate 3.6 acres, all agencies agreed that more fully restoring lands on the acquired property was the ultimate goal, and the MOU called for restoration of a 'significant portion' of the historic marsh." Why isn't the MOU in the EIR? Does "significant portion" mean 80% (440 acres) or 90% (495 acres)? In either case it easily leaves enough land to be set aside for public access: 440 acres in wetland leaves 110 acres for public access, or 495 acres restored to wetland still leaves 105 acres for public access. Considering that the EIR contains no analysis that shows any computations for how much land would be used for public access in any of its alternatives means the EIR is totally inadequate with regards to its meaning of: "significant portion".

(i) Considering that the ARROW had been in historical "transportation" use for many decades, that the public roads near the subject property are not safe for bicyclists and pedestrians, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to conclude that the property can be restored to wetland, but at the same time must also accommodate the public's transportation (aka: safety) needs. And this is what the ARROW would accomplish as would construction of other off-road paths near its southern and western edges.

Gerry Coles  
PO Box 353, Bolinas, CA 94924  
(tele: 415-868-1108)



Rigdon Currie  
<rigdon@horizoncable.com>

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc: Johnson Trish <patrish@horizoncable.com>  
Subject: Giacomini Property

02/09/2007 03:26 PM  
PST

I like Plan C with the additional access and the bridge.

Rigdon Currie  
1 Balboa Ave., P.O. Box 1120  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956-1120  
415-663-1755  
415-663-1756 (fax)  
415-999-5855 (mobile)

RECEIVED	
Point Reyes	
National Park Service	
	FEB 12 '07
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Kathryn de Laszlo  
<delaszlo@svn.net>  
02/12/2007 09:59 PM  
PST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: bridge over creek for Inverness Park/Point Reyes Station

Dear Mr. Neubacher,

The reply to a bridge or no bridge is, from our household, a resounding yes! There is no better way to preserve the majority of our natural habitat than to create viable alternatives to vehicle transportation. Families and all those inclined to seek out alternative modes of traveling locally will benefit and be given the great gift of a close up reminder of the fragility and rarity of our landscape. there is nothing like getting out of the car and passing slowly through our immediate environment to remind us of what needs preserving for the future. Kathryn de Laszlo, Stephen Marshall and daughters. (415) 663-1964 email:delaszlo@svn.net

<b>RECEIVED</b>
Point Reyes National Seashore
FEB 13 '07
SUPT.
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LAW ENFORC.
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PERSONNEL
BUDGET
CENTRAL FILES



Barbara Deutsch  
 <undone@lmi.net>  
 02/14/2007 12:56 AM  
 PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
 Subject: explaining a seeming duplication

RECEIVED
Point Reyes
National Seashore
FEB 14 2007
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Dear Superintendent Neubacher and Regional Director Jarvis:

I sent this earlier today (now yesterday) from my husband's computer (his e-address Barry@ddw.com) forgetting to identify it as my comment, not a second from him (Barbara's own comment from that e-address earlier this week). *OK - Rec'D 2/12/07*

I re-send mine now from this computer, to correct mis-impression -- and, I hope, allay a confusion.

Yours irregularly, but less so than before,  
 Barbara Deutsch (resident of levee road, Pt. Reyes Station)

comment in favor of alternative D, un-a-briDgeD

I am among those many who Do not want to see commercial exploitation or any carelessness in the implementation of a wetlanDs restoration project maDe financially possible by professional generosity and environmental conscientiousness.

who aDvocate the alternative most Desirable in terms of habitat restoration,

who wish human presence NOT to Degrade wilDlife habitat OR opportunities for other humans to enjoy and learn from unDisturBeD wilDlife presence

and who Desire that whatever is Done, be Done so as to restore where absent and safeguard where present:

integrity of eDge, especially the water's eDge, but also the eDges of pathways

full, continuous, complex riparian habitat in the estuarine eco-tone, with optimized structural Depth and Density, in orDer to proviDe the concentration of resources that will naturally be sought there

effective buffering for wilDlife Dispersal corriDors

alreaDy establisheD wilDlife, and natural recovery alreaDy unDerway

maximum potential retrieval of natural sounDscape

least possible Disruption to visual field (e.g., Disallowing human intrusion in an unnaturally elevateD or accelerateD manner, or with what appear to be preDators, causing fright and other stress to wilDlife)

provision for choice for both wild and human beings, including the choice to be in a place free from domesticated or mechanized artifacts

and for the assurance wildlife (and humans with sensitive awareness, itself in great need of restoration) derive from limited and muted human access

expanded amplitude for re-ascendance of natural patterns and rhythms

the full complement of diversity, re-endowed with capacious amplitude for evolved inter-relationship

future opportunities for expanded and integrated habitat recovery

the capacity of animals (the overwhelming majority of whom are invertebrates, "on thousands of whose backs every step is taken"), distinguished from us and our domestic subjects above all by their evolved perfection, to live as fully as possible in what is after all their world, not ours; -- and, by that means, safeguarding for ourselves the possibility of authentically knowing them -- a knowledge that brought us into being, and that may yet rescue us from our present uncertainties about ourselves

and our own recovery of the awareness of who we truly are:

one recent and not yet reliable occupant of "a world of beings, in infinite and mysterious acts of connection, created from the earth, itself a being."

[quoted from Paul Shepard's "Digging for Our Roots," **Encounters with Nature**, p. 114]



Barry Deutsch  
 <barry@ddw.com>  
 02/11/2007 06:04 PM  
 PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetland - Plan D

Dear Superintendent Don Neubacher:

Please follow the goals and purpose of the Restoration. This considerable and unusual opportunity can be THE example for future projects on how to bring back native wildlife and increase the habitat for creatures - other than our species! As a property owner and resident of Pt. Reyes Station, I'm particularly conscious of the sensitive nature of the wetland's edge. The impact of human disturbance on the river, birds, turtles, mammals, and all the other creatures is painfully obvious. The joy of seeing a Green Backed Heron or a Great Blue waiting... and wading in Lagunitas Creek is memorable - alas, so is their flight, caused by unleashed dog/s being "walked" along the bank while their owners chat obliviously.

Being conscious of the needs and political pressures of the situation, I strongly endorse PLAN D as is: WITH NO BRIDGE. I suggest you use the \$800,000+ estimated cost of that bridge toward making the South Side of the Levee Road safe for bicycle and horseback riders, or find some other way to relieve the pressures on wild creatures, to whom we owe at least that.

Sincerely,  
 Barry Deutsch  
 11270 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard  
 Pt. Reyes Station

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Don Neubacher  
02/12/2007 03:55 PM  
PST

To: Ann Nelson/PORE/NPS@NPS  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

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Don Neubacher  
Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

415-464-5101 (office)  
415-233-0303 (cell)  
415-663-8132 (fax)

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that we can all experience our heritage.

----- Forwarded by Don Neubacher/PORE/NPS on 02/12/2007 03:55 PM -----



cornelia@horizoncable.  
com  
02/12/2007 06:13 PM  
EST

To: don\_neubacher@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

Dear Mr Neubacher

I am writing to tell you that I very strongly support Plan D with no mutli use path along Lagunitas Creek.

I gathered at the meeting that you have been under a lot of pressure from the Marin Bike Coalition and others to put in the multi use path along Levee road.

I am probably one of the few local people who bikes regularly along Levee Road. I do it about 5 times a week and usually during peak hours. I think it is one of the safest stretches to bike around here because the road is wide and straight.

If people want to make it safer then all the county needs to do is mark off part of the hardtop for a bike path as they are doing in Fairfax. This would slow the traffic down a bit too.

The proposed multi use path will be so wide it will cut through prime riparian habitat and create noise and pollution along the waters edge.

It also attract weekend road bikers who will come down there in groups and at speed making everyone jump out of their way. I regularly walk the Samuel P Taylor multi use trail and it's positively hazardous, especially for children or seniors. They come at you at 20 miles an hour or more.

Please change your recommendation to Plan D.

Thank you very much,

Best wishes

Cornelia Durrant  
9 Los Reyes Drive  
Point Reyes Station



"MikeBin"  
<mikebin@svn.net>  
02/11/2007 10:31 PM  
PST

To: <Park\_Planning@nps.gov>  
cc: <mmery@horizoncable.com>  
Subject: Marsh Option D

Agree with Michael Mery's analysis and comment. C would be ok, but D is preferred as it emphasizes restoration over access....of which there is enough. Mike Durrie, Inverness

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**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting

January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

Prefer alt. D with addition  
of bridge on southern trail.

Please eliminate spur trail  
at Mesa Rd going north.

Chuck Eckert

ALICE HART ECKART

Box 1090, 11 Mesa Road, Point Reyes, CA 94956

415 663-9016

eekart@horizoncable.com

Point Reyes  
National Seashore

FEB 9 - '07

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February 7, 2007

Mr. Don Neubacher, Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes, CA 94956

Re: Tomales Bay Wetlands Restoration Plan

Dear Mr. Neubacher:

Congratulations on the excellence and timing of the Draft Environmental Report on the Tomales Bay Wetland Restoration Project. I attended the public meeting and found the presentation informative and thorough.

After reviewing the details I am convinced that the choice should be Alternative D. It best meets the primary purpose of restoring natural hydrologic processes and wildlife habitat in the entire Tomales Bay watershed. Public access is a secondary issue.

I am particularly opposed to any development leading to an Eastern Perimeter trail that could eventually connect Mesa Road and the Martinelli Open Space to the north. Opening this area to hikers, bikers, dogs and horses would contradict the intent of renovation of natural habitat and restoration of the wetlands. It also would negatively effect the downtown Point Reyes Station, Overlook and Mesa Road residents with increased traffic and parking problems, and present privacy, security and noise concerns. I also wish to point out that our Community Plan specifically calls for protection of the Mesa bluff and a trail at its base would be a negative impact.

Neither do I encourage the Southern Perimeter trail and bridge because it would benefit so few people for such a short distance for a very large expenditure, and seems to counter the primary objective of restoration of the wetlands.

Sincerely,



Alice Hart Eckart

cc: Jon Jarvis, Regional Director  
National Park Service  
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700  
Oakland, CA 94607



Barbara Eastman  
<eastman@horizoncable.com>

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands

02/07/2007 06:01 PM  
PST

This letter is to urge the Park Service to chose the Alternate D regarding the Giacomini Wetlands restoration. My opinion is that this alternate would protect the increase of human presence that will adversely impact the wetlands and the wildlife. The project was to restore hydrologic and ecologic function of the bay not to increase visitation to our small community. There are already 75,00 accessible acres just a few minutes and miles away. Tomales Bay is depleted of 50% of its wetlands. The bay has pressing water quality problems. WE NEED MAXIMUM RESTORATION. I urge you to select Alternate D. Thank you,  
Don and Barbara Eastman

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2/12/07

ATTN: Superintendent  
 RE: Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project DEIS/EIR

After careful consideration of the materials provided to the public for the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project and attending the public meeting on January 25, 2007, I feel that there is a significant gap regarding public access and transportation around the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project.

In 2005, new Transportation Legislation for the National Park Service was passed into law as part of the SAFET-LU bill. These legislation funding changes do not appear to have been accounted for in the current DEIR. <http://www.nps.gov/transportation/alt/> is link where I read the information

Has the park considered these new funding opportunities including Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands and a Recreational Trails Program. As of 2006, the details were still being worked out on this program. Now is the time for the Park Service to get involved and secure funding for better public access for residents and visitors.

The southern perimeter trail shown in Options A, B & C is crucial to the local residents in terms of moving between towns, and will likely reduce vehicle trips around the Giacomini wetlands. Regardless of the chosen option, it should include not only the bridge at White House Pool, but also the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding with Marin County Public Works to extend the path from White House Pool to Inverness Park.

I prefer Options A & B because they include more comprehensive public access for the community. A connection to Railroad Point would enhance foot travel throughout this area. To not maintain hiking access to the railroad right of way is a loss to the community.

Future acquisitions including the railroad right of way as a continuation of the Cross Marin Trail into Point Reyes Station would go a long way towards moving people with an alternative to automobiles in the area.

Automobile emissions are one of the most destructive sources of single point pollution that exist. Reducing auto trips is crucial to the health of the wetlands as well as the plant, animal and human life in the area.

The park would do well to consider the larger picture in making your final determination regarding the option that is really best for the environment.

Sincerely,  
 Amanda Eichstaedt  
 Bear Valley Inn  
 Olema, CA

*Amanda Eichstaedt*

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FEB 15 07



"Bart Eisenberg"  
<barteisenberg@comcast.net>

02/12/2007 11:30 AM  
PST

To: <Park\_Planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Marsh comment

Bart Eisenberg  
Box 250  
20 Sinaloa Ave.  
Forest Knolls, CA 94933

February 11, 2007

Dear Superintendent Neubacher

I want to express my support for alternative D in the restoration of the wetlands. Given the scarcity of wetlands in general and the abundance of recreational opportunities in West Marin, I believe that the balance should be tipped toward reviving this nearly lost ecosystem. Of course, the restoration itself also represents an educational opportunity—but that, rather than recreation, per se, is where hope the emphasis will go. In an era when so much wildlife habitat is lost, what a treat it will be to watch a bit of it be regained.

Thanks to you and your staff for this great stewardship. The word is overused, but in this case, it's completely apt.

Sincerely,  
Bart Eisenberg

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**Gayanne G. Enquist**  
**P.O. Box 577 – 15 Via de la Vista**  
**Inverness, CA 94937**

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February 11, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

Dear Don,

I urge the Park to implement Alternative D, which for me is "what's best for the Bay." The ecological restoration is primary and all the other interests are secondary because of the rarity of wetlands (in general) and the overall health of the Bay and our entire ecosystem.

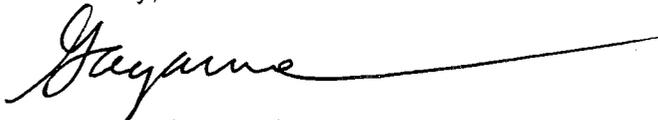
My grown daughters, who grew up in Inverness, remember and often brag to faraway family and friends that "Tomales Bay is one of few remaining pristine bodies of water—aren't we lucky?" How long ago was that a reality? I need to remind them that this isn't the case now.

Eliminate the access point parking area at the former worker housing site on Mesa Road. Access already exists at White House Pool, Martinelli Open Space and Olema Marsh. These trails, parking, etc. could be made ADA compliant. The Ag zoned property on the East side of the marsh should be in public ownership with removal of all barns, etc.

I am a long-time birder and believe that any increased human presence will impact the birds, wetlands and all other wild life. Please help to protect this environment with the most complete restoration possible.

Thanks to you and your staff for a strong evaluation and analyses, and for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Gayanne G. Enquist  
Cc: NPS-J.Jarvis

Jules Evens

RECEIVED Point Reyes Marine Laboratory
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P.O. Box 839, Point Reyes Station  
California 94956 USA  
telephone 415/663-1148  
fax 415/663-9235  
e-mail [jevans@svn.net](mailto:jevans@svn.net)

February 6, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: Comments on the Draft EIR: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration.

Dear Don:

Although I worked on the compliance phase of the Giacomini Restoration Project as a wildlife biologist, I am submitting these comments as a private citizen, a long-time resident of Point Reyes Station, and a naturalist intimately familiar with the wetlands of Tomales Bay.

First, I appreciate the excellent evaluation provided by the Draft EIR and the thorough work that your staff has provided. You have cultivated perhaps of the best natural resources staff in the country and their excellence is reflected in the depth of the Draft EIR. I look forward to watching the restoration proceed and the health of the bay improve.

I would like to take this opportunity to urge that the Park implement Alternative D, "the environmentally preferred alternative." Because the entire impetus of this project was ecological restoration, I feel strongly that all other considerations (public access, education, viewscapes, etc.) should be secondary to that restoration process. The Park has a responsibility to protect and enhance habitats that sustain and support special status species. This can be accomplished only by advancing the most extensive restoration effort available given the constraints of the watershed and the site.

Toward that end, I hope the Park will incorporate the following goals into the Final EIR:

- 1) Implement Alternative D, without a bridge across Lagunitas Creek (as has been suggested by some advocates of public access);
- 2) Focus restoration efforts on the downstream portions of Lagunitas, Bear Valley, Olema, and Tomasini creeks. This requires limiting public access so that riparian and transitional marsh vegetation can develop fully at the fresh/brackish saline interface: this area is the most critical transition zone for numerous listed species, including salmonids.

3) Maximize tidal action and tidal access to the estuarine reaches of all drainages that feed into the south-end of Tomales Bay. This last goal argues for the various elements of Alternative D summarized in pages 77-80 of the Draft EIR. Of particular ecological importance is the adaptive restoration of Olema Marsh (pg. 79).

Alternative C, the Park's "preferred alternative," addresses some of these goals, but only as half-measures. Alternative D provides a more environmentally comprehensive approach, and, once implemented, will result in a more hydrologically dynamic and ecologically functional restoration.

Finally, I would like to suggest that the Park consider renaming the project and the site. Although the Giacomini family has made important contributions to the social and economic fabric of West Marin, the "reclamation" of the tidal wetlands at the south end of Tomales Bay, beginning in 1947, to create the Giacomini Ranch did more to degrade the ecology of the bay than any other modification, before or since. A more appropriate name would be "Tomales Bay Wetland Restoration."

Again, thank you for your dedication to the natural environment of Point Reyes and Tomales Bay and for leading the Park Service forward in the spirit of restoration. I look forward to the day when clapper rails again nest and in these wetlands, when night-herons roost undisturbed in willows overhanging salmon swollen waters. Maybe someday we'll

Naturally,



Jules Evens  
P.O. Box 839  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956.

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FEB 13 2007

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February 11, 2007

Don Neubacher, Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes, CA 94956  
Attention: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

Dear Don Neubacher,

Thank you for your support of extensive wetlands restoration of Giacomini Ranch at Tomales Bay. I am glad that the Park has taken a strong stand for the restoration of these critical wetlands.

However, I support even greater restoration of the wetlands than the Park's current plan of Alternative C. I believe that Alternative C is insufficient because it allows too many new access-related impacts. We must do all that we can to maximize restoration of the wetlands.

I support Alternative D, because it will minimize adverse impact on the wetlands and goes the farthest in restoring the natural character of the region. I also support the construction of a bridge over Lagunitas Creek and the trail connection between Green Bridge and White House Pool, because of the contribution they will make to minimizing impact on the wetlands.

Thank you for your consideration,



Tom Faulk

Tom G. Faulk  
901 Lark Court  
Novato, CA 94947



Jeff Felix  
<bonnandjef@horizonc  
able.com>

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini wetlands restoration

02/11/2007 04:32 PM  
PST

Dear Park Planning Team,

I am in complete support of the position put forth in Michael Mery's recent letter to you. Most importantly, I urge the Park to adopt Alternative D, which makes environmental needs and concerns the priority.

Thank you very much for seriously considering my point of view, along with that of others who are concerned enough to make their views known.

Bonnie Felix  
POB 935  
Point Reyes Station  
Ca. 94956  
414-663-1867

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Jeff Felix  
 <bonnandjef@horizonc  
 able.com>

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Plan D

02/09/2007 06:32 PM  
 PST

We, two residents of Pt. Reyes Station, vote for Plan D. Plan C with a parking lot off of Mesa Road is unacceptable as it will invite intrusion into the natural habitat defeating the whole purpose of the project. We hope that you will not give in to the special interest groups which have a stake in getting Plan C through but prevail for the wild life, who are not organized pain in the asses, and implement Plan D.

Thanks,  
 Jeff & Bonnie Felix  
 171 Mesa Road  
 Pt. Reyes Station, Ca 94956  
 415 663-1867

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Point Reyes  
National Seashore

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PACIFIC LAND INSTITUTE  
Randall Gray Fleming, Architect

P.O. Box 252  
36 Cypress Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956  
(415) 663-8266

February 14, 2007

Point Reyes National Seashore  
National Park Service  
RE: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration

*I am very pleased that the Park Service is proceeding to restore the wetlands. I do have several concerns and recommendations with regard to the alternatives presented in the EIR.*

Public Access: I support Plan C, yet with the deletion of the parking and trail at Mesa Road.

- Encouraging pedestrian access from Point Reyes Station to the wetlands is very important. To increase pedestrian accessibility, extending the trail system from the observation area overlooking the wetland north along the edge of the wetlands and joining with 3<sup>rd</sup> street should be considered.
- With a town edged loop trail system, the parking and limited trail system that is north of the green barn off of Mesa Road should be deleted. Eliminating this parking and trail could reduce extra automobile trips that will occur from the town to the Mesa Road parking area and help create fresh water marsh with less disturbance.
- The wetlands and trail systems will likely increase visitor use and parking in the town. This increase will in turn add to already limited parking. To maintain a pedestrian, bike, and equestrian accessible town, the NPS needs to study traffic and parking impacts in the town and recommend mitigations, such as parking, shuttle access from existing park visitor sites, etc.

Urban Storm Water Runoff: This is not directly addressed in any alternative.

- The towns (Point Reyes Station and Inverness Park) will likely generate storm water runoff that includes sediments, nutrients, oil, heavy metals, pesticides and pathogens. A combination of grease/oil traps, primary settlement ponds, and the wetlands themselves should reduce these pollutants before entering the Bay. The NPS should monitor current pollutant loads, and with the County involvement, address urban runoff.

Pollutant Removal by the Wetlands

- It was mentioned in the public meeting that presented the alternatives; that the restored wetlands will have the capacity to remove 2 to 18% of pollutants entering into the wetlands from the surrounding watershed. While this may be reasonable, I am surprised that the wetlands would not remove higher percentages of pollutants. From my urban storm water experience, I understand that bio retention systems can remove 68 to 90% of pollutants. Perhaps the NPS could increase the performance standards of the alternatives, and adjust wetland configurations as necessary to maximize pollutant uptake efficiency.

Randall Fleming



forester@sonic.net  
 02/13/2007 03:04 PM  
 PST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Restoration Plan

Dear Mr. Neubacher,

Unfortunately my husband and I were unable to attend the Jan. 25 public meeting, and we would like to voice our concern now.

Alternative D certainly provides the most extensive restoration potential for the benefit of wildlife, whereas Alternative C allows too much public access at the expense of wildlife.

EAC has the great idea of modifying Alternative D to include a bridge over Lagunitas Creek, which would provide low-impact public access by creating a continuous trail between White Housse Pool parking lot and the Green Bridge. This is our preferred solution.

Thank you for reading and considering our view.  
 Lynne and Phil Forester (Tomales residents)

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Kenneth Fox  
P.O Box 87 Point Reyes Station 94956

Rec'd  
FEB 16 2007  
February 2007

Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
Attn: Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: Comments on Giacomini Wetlands Restoration.

Dear Don:

Thanks for the hard work on this plan. I wanted to add a personal note as well. As you know, I worked a long time to get people out of their cars and have a decent alternative to the motorized method of transportation. I firmly believe that people will be more appreciative and have better understanding of nature if you get them out of their cars and into nature. I know that there are impacts to all our activities, but the impact of automobiles is seriously underestimated. I strongly support both the restoration both as it's benefit to species habitat and development of a formal trail for educational value for the public. Informal trails also have their purpose and can be accommodated in some areas.

I support a modified version of Alternative C. You have struck a good balance in general with Alternative C, and that it is really the "preferred environmental alternative" than considering that it calls for a huge amount of restoration and at the same time includes educational opportunities and allows basic transportation for non-motorized transportation, something that many of the self-crowned environmentalists seem to ignore as they drive gas-guzzling pollution spewing SUVs to take care of their second or third properties or drink PC Latté's.

Considering that the Giacomini will retain the old duck clubhouse and road to it for at least another 25 years, it makes good sense to have that be an area that the public can feel free to use and monitor activities around the old clubhouse. Remember that the public was swindled by a convicted war-time profiteer who grabbed the land and had the public pay for illegal reinforcement of his levees, and after all that the public had to pay over 5 million dollars for the land,

**I recommend implementing Alternative C, with the following emphasis:**

1. Make elimination of the northern transecting dike of the western pasture highest priority.
2. Build a full-spanning bridge over Lagunitas Creek as soon as monies become available (we note that those monies are coming from a different source than restoration fund. Those who say that those monies would be more wisely spent on improving the connectivity between the Olema and Giacomini marshes are being disingenuous, Think of how much money it would take to remove the levee road entirely?. Undertake the restoration and development of the trail concomitantly. Furthermore, the funding necessary to alter Levee Road in order to fully restore connectivity between Bear Valley/Olema Marsh and Lagunitas Creek may be much more than the pedestrian bridge.
3. Extend the trail along the western pasture utilizing both the park lands and the county easement on SFD. Extending western perimeter trail to allow basic transportation and promote education regarding the importance of transitional wetlands. (Remember, a great number of exiting trails in the park pass over or are within wetland areas. E.g. Muddy hollow trail, bear valley trail, Estero trail. And the Limantour road was built by the park through some pretty sensitive habitat in the name of fulfilling park priorities)
4. Utilize the old Inverness Park post office as an educational tool for teaching both history and the importance of the restoration.
5. Include the access point parking area at the farm worker housing on Mesa Road and maintain existing ranch road as an viewing access trail. Consider raising Mesa Road on a causeway rather than digging new alignment for Tomasini Creek. (Eliminate Mesa Road altogether in favor of lighter use trail?...) )
6. Buy the property at the corner of B street and Highway One for a parking area and have a trailhead there that connects to trail toward the dance palace. The since visitors and residents can easily walk from town just as the farm worker housing site where there is very good pedestrian access from Mesa Road. Michael Mery is wrong about this, many people walk along mesa road Maybe he doesn't want the general public to know that he lives near there? The parking lot at the old Ken Parr/ Bear Valley Stables is underutilized and I have not seen or heard much problems from it, so I don't see that there will be a great problem with other smaller parking lots.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

  
Ken Fox

Lorraine Parsons

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PHILIP L. FRADKIN  
 P. O. Box 817  
 Pt. Reyes Station, CA94956  
 415-663-8733  
[philfrad@earthlink.net](mailto:philfrad@earthlink.net)/[www.philipfradkin.com](http://www.philipfradkin.com)

Supt. Don Neubacher  
 Attn. Giacomini Wetlands Plan  
 Pt. Reyes National Seashore  
 Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956

January 26, 2007

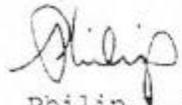
Dear Don:

Great planning job!

I favor Alternative C rather than D for the following reasons. I don't agree that D is the most environmentally sensitive alternative. The more extensive grading will be disruptive to wildlife and humans, the transition from marsh to grasslands is a more natural environment both in visual terms and as a way to provide habitat for more diversified species, and there is no way that you are going to control the outflow of Tomasini Creek in big storms, regardless what course you choose for it. Humans are part of the environment too, and the bridge will be an environmental enhancement in terms of the leisurely pleasures of walking and biking and diminished use of vehicles for those of us who live in West Marin.

I would only add, as I have at each workshop and hearing, that it makes no sense to provide a huge, new refuge for waterfowl and still permit hunters to set up on the northern edge and bang away at the incoming ducks.

Sincerely,



Philip L. Fradkin



The Dance Palace  
 <dance@horizoncable.com>

02/13/2007 11:55 AM  
 PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: wbuxbaum@svn.net  
 Subject: Giacomini wetlands restoration

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Point Reyes
National Seashore
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Don Neubacher  
 Point Reyes National Seashore  
 Point Reyes, California 94956

February 13, 2007

Dear Don:

I am writing to you in regard to the Giacomini wetlands restoration project. As you formulate your plans, I hope you will take into consideration a long-time community use of the area: that of the children in Dance Palace Camp.

Generations of kids have participated in this camp (the only ongoing day camp in the Point Reyes/Inverness area) since its inception in 1980. Over 70 children ages 6–14 attend camp each summer, with 35% of those kids receiving scholarship assistance. Activities include art, ceramics, theater, music, martial arts, and more; but one of the very basic activities at camp is called outdoor adventures – and these adventures have always centered around hikes and programs in the area around the creek.

Our outdoor adventure program expands the knowledge of our campers about West Marin’s unique ecosystems; teaches basic information about local wildlife, plants, and the ecological diversity of our local riparian areas as well as the challenges of conservation and preservation; and encourages West Marin youth to take a greater interest in science and environmental stewardship. Age appropriate activities reinforce their school-year biology studies and teach them about habitat requirements, life cycles, creek ecology, and each child’s important role in helping preserve our special local environment.

Every day during the camp season for the past 26 years, kids from camp have walked down to the creek from the Dance Palace, using the access at Third Street. This magical outdoor space has indeed been their extended playground and learning area. I strongly urge you to consider including public access to the wetlands area that is quickly, easily, and safely accessible to the kids in Dance Palace Camp (and indeed for all users of the Dance Palace Community Center) as you move forward with your plans for the Giacomini wetlands restoration.

Sincerely,

Carol J. Friedman  
 Executive Director, The Dance Palace Community Center



LYNNFRANCO@aol.co  
 m  
 02/12/2007 05:56 PM  
 EST

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
 cc: LYNNFRANCO@aol.com  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project - Comment

Dear Sir; You and your staff are to be commended for the effort necessary to procure and develop the plans for restoring the Giacomini wetlands. Plan C seems unique in providing significant public access while maintaining 99% of the ecological benefit.

We have a home on the wetlands outside the boundary area marked red in your presentation. There is question of concern which would effect a small number of homes on the wetland between Inverness Park and Inverness. We were hoping for clarification about your description of increased potential for flooding due to an elevation of .6 to 1.6 ft of water during a 12 year flood event on the western side of the restoration. Since our home foundation is on poles in the mud flats and the Jan 1st 2006 waters reached within a few inches of flooding the house, we wanted to know did your Hydrologists evaluate the expected rise in water outside the immediate adjacent private properties.

Your report indicates the immediately adjacent homes are on raised fill. Since ours is not, did you consider the possibility of mitigating any danger to our and other homes at greater risk of flooding? What would be the expected drop off in water highth as one moved closer to Inverness? Do you consider the Jan 1st 2006 flooding as a 12 year event. Thank you for your consideration and reply.

Nathan Kaufman 510-5482500  
 e-mail lynnfranco@aol.com  
 12660 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Inverness Ca  
 P.O. Box 567, Inverness Ca,

94937

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llouisefranklin@aol.com

02/12/2007 11:47 AM  
EST

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov

cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Marsh input

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Dear Don: I want to cast my vote for Plan D. I feel strongly that there is quite enough public access, and the primary goal should prioritize full wetland restoration. Wetlands are extremely precious and vulnerable ecosystems and I am especially concerned about ground nesting birds such as the plover. Everything and anything that assists wild species here is vitally important. Easy public accessibility means dogs, and more dangers for vulnerable species. The public comes here to view and enjoy and become educated about wild life and wild lands. Lets ensure that this area becomes a prime example of a true wetland. This will, in the long run, contribute the most to the goals of the Point Reyes National Seashore. Thank you for all of the work you and your staff have done. I most appreciate your efforts to provide us with all of the variables.

Sincerely,  
Louise Franklin  
Resident, Inverness

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"Tom Gaman"  
<tgaman@forestdata.com>

02/14/2007 06:13 PM  
PST

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Tomales Bay Wetlands Restoration

14 February

Don Neubacher

Alternative D sounds to me like the best option. There are few coastal wetlands in California, and the south end of Tomales Bay is under increasing visitor pressure every year. While we have lived in Inverness the visitation has increased dramatically. Therefore I support the "environmentally preferred alternative". Thank you.

Tom Gaman

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**Ann Nelson**

01/23/2007 03:10 PM PST

To: Lorraine Parsons PORE/NPS@NPS  
cc:  
Subject: Fw: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetlands

Do we have a draft, or final, timeline? Would you please copy me on response or let me know if I may do anything to assist.

Anni



**aleta@lmi.net**

01/23/2007 03:47 PM EST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetlands

Email submitted from: /pore/parkmgmt/planning\_giacomini\_wrp\_eiseir\_draft\_2006.htm

I write for Bay Nature magazine and we want to track the progress of this project. Can you please tell me the timeline once the public comment period is over? What are the next steps?

Thank you,

Aleta George Ear to the Ground, Bay Nature Home office: 707.429.3529 E: aleta@lmi.net



"Ann"  
<agessert@svn.net>  
02/12/2007 07:11 PM  
PST

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: preference for wetlands

To Whom.....

I would like my voice counted among those who support Plan D for the Giacomini Wetlands.

I support the most environmentally protective plan, even if it means some inconvenience to humans and human traffic. I support the most extensive protection of the wetlands that is possible. However, I do also support footpath connection between the green bridge and the white house pool area, which I believe means a bridge being built.

Thank you for adding my thoughts to the many you have already received

Ann Gessert  
Inverness  
669-1544

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Ms. Joyce Goldfield  
 P.O. Box 581  
 Inverness, CA 94937

**ASPCA**



*Comments on islands  
 Giacomini - Project  
 Restoration*

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*My choice of Alternatives  
 for Giacomini wetland restoration  
 would be D - with the exception  
 of having Pt. Reyes station  
 connected to White House Pool  
 via a bridge over lagoons  
 Creek (at old summer dam site)  
 for children + adults to pass  
 commute (as proposed in Alternative C)  
 from Rt. 1/2 mile*



John Gouldthorpe  
<john\_gouldthorpe@yahoo.com>

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

02/14/2007 06:44 AM  
PST

To the Giacomini project management team:

After reviewing the EIR and visiting the sites proposed to be developed under Alternative C what makes the most sense to me is Alternative D, with the addition of a bridge across Lagunitas Creek.

Thank you

John Gouldthorpe  
PO Box 879  
Marshall, CA 94940

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Ann Sheree Greenbaum  
 <asg\_yoga@yahoo.com>

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: wetland restoration

>  
 02/12/2007 02:33 PM  
 PST

Dear Don,

I very much appreciate the efforts of the Park to thoroughly consider appropriate ways for administering the restoration of the Giacomini property.

It is clear to me that it is imperative for the restoration to be the most ecologically sound approach possible. Given the proposals currently being considered, I implore you to choose Plan D.

I would also appreciate your consideration of the idea of burying the utility pole lines along the levee road and the land atop them becoming a foot path from Inverness Part to Point Reyes Station. I was told this idea was mentioned at the last public meeting regarding the restoration along with a funding source for such a project.

I offer my gratitude to you and your staff for your conscientious determination in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ann Sheree Greenbaum

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<http://answers.yahoo.com/dir/?link=list&sid=396546091>

WETLAND RESTORATION PLANS A, B, C, D

Since moving to Walnut Place Senior Housing in Pt. Reyes Station five years ago, I found it odd that you could not walk out into our wonderful, nearby parkland without walking on the road. I tried this numerous times—along the Levee Road (Sir Francis Drake) and Hwy. 1—and found it dangerous to do this and also not very pleasant.

What I and others who either don't drive or don't care to hop in a car every time we wish to be out in a natural (not man-made) environment really need are paths into natural habitats in the area.

I like the plans that include a bridge across Lagunitas Creek and a trail that connects it to the one that extends east of Whitehouse Pool. It could be if "D" is the preferred one----it could include the bridge and path along this creek....as some organizations (Bicycle group, Sierra Club) have advocated.

We walkers and bicyclists need safe paths within a natural setting. Please do include them for we who love to be in nature and love to walk or ride bikes. Think of the youth and the seniors.

Sincerely,

*Gail Greenlees*

Gail Greenlees (Walnut Place resident)

PO Box 567

Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956

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Marine Department  
FEB 13 1997

**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting

January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

Please be sure to include

The Southern Perimeter  
Public Access Trail with Bridge

to connect up to Whit House Pool  
& beyond to Saveress Park.

There are those who do not

drive (whether young or elders)  
and wish to walk in a natural  
setting & not on the road — (the  
levee rd)  
which is taking your  
life in your hands.

Gail Greenlees  
PO Box 567  
Pt. Reyes Station  
CA 94956



Sadja Greenwood  
<sadjagreenwood@yah  
oo.com>

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: my vote is for plan D

02/12/2007 06:39 PM  
PST

I second the remarks by Michael Mery in his letter to  
you. Sadja Greenwood, 440 Birch Rd. Bolinas.

---

The fish are biting.  
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TonyGrif@aol.com  
 02/06/2007 11:33 AM  
 EST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
 Subject: Lagunitas Creek - Alt D

I am a registered voter and resident of Inverness, CA and I am in favor of what is currently call "Alternative D", which calls for no trail and no trail over Lagunitas Creek. The proposed bridge and trail are inconsistent with "original wetlands" purpose of the project.

In short, I am against Alternative C, which is reported to be the preference of your department

Anthony Griffin  
 2 Camerson  
 Inverness, CA 94937

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doug@yosemitecreek.com  
02/14/2007 09:42 AM  
MST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov, pore@yosemitecreek.com  
cc:  
Subject: Wetlands Recommendation

I would like to voice my support for Alternative D for the Giacomini Wetlands. Originally I favored C, preferring increased access, particularly at Mesa Road. As a resident at 65 Mesa Road and as a walker I thought the easier access would be preferable, especially for those of us who live here. After talking with my neighbors I have changed my mind. The feeling here seems to be that bringing increased traffic and visitors to the edge of a residential area is not desirable and that access should be gained in areas away from residential areas so as not to impact those of us who live here. I am not against increased access for people coming here to visit but we should not increase their incursion into residential areas.

In addition, I would like to have a pedestrian bridge over Papermill Creek at White House Pool. Anything that makes travel between Pt. Reyes and Inverness Park safer for our children and ourselves should be encouraged. Done well, a minimal bridge would not have a deleterious effect on the environment. In the spirit of compromise, I hope the NPS will consider those of us who live here as part of the environment as well.

Doug Haner  
65 Mesa Road  
Pt. Reyes Station, CA. 94956  
(415) 663-8571

*[Faint, illegible text with handwritten marks]*

Point Reyes National Seashore Park Headquarters  
Point Reyes, CA 94956

December 14, 2006

Superintendent:

My husband and I enjoy birding. During the recent high tide December 4 on a gorgeous morning we made our way out on to "Waldo's dike" to look for rails and other exciting birds pushed out of the wetlands and fleeing the herons and egrets. We joined an informal group of birders including locals like David Wimpfheimer and some members of Audubon Society who had come all the way from Santa Barbara. We spoke with the folks widening a portion of the dike along the creek and prepping it for replanting with native flora. We are all hoping that the portion of the dike we were using would somehow be salvaged for future nature lovers. Can you tell me what the plans are for Waldo's Dike and the public access to it off Sir Francis Drake near Drakes' View Street in Inverness?

I believe that continued public access would guarantee the bonding of people with you can stand out there at high tide and count 40 snipe flying by to dryer ground, watch rails being eating by egrets and great blue herons, and see your first ever Swamp Sparrow as we did, it comes to mean so much more. This is potentially a place for ranger led walks to teach people about the life hidden in the pickleweed. If the dike needs to be breached for the restoration project, could you include culverts or a bridge in the plan so we can still walk out there and feel ourselves part of the life of the marsh?

Thanks for your attention to this and for buying and restoring the ranch lands to wetlands!

Sincerely,

*Nancy Prince Hanson*

Nancy Prince Hanson 488-4202

PO Box 1184  
Woodacre, CA 94973



"Roger D. Harris"  
<busirh@comcast.net>  
02/12/2007 09:56 PM  
PST

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Support Alternative D for the Tomales Bay Restoration

NPS:

Please support alternative D for the Tomales Bay Restoration.

Roger D. Harris  
10 Echo Ave  
Corte Madera, CA 94925

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I Mary Haines -  
would like to see  
- a pathway and  
Bridge to Inverness  
Park, alternative C  
OR D with Bridge  
& path

Mary Haines  
2-14-07

February 12, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

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RE: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan - Comments on Draft EIS/EIR

Dear Don,

Having read and reread the excellent letters created by Jules Evens, Hathaway Barry, and Wiebke Buxbaum I know they have said everything I would write if I only could do it as well. Since they have paved the way, my message will be simple, brief, and to the point.

I live on the Point Reyes Mesa, Cypress Road, at the edge of the bluff overlooking the former Giacomini ranch lands. I have resided here for thirty five years. So, I know very well this special place under consideration.

We have a very serious mission to restore these wetlands. As you and I each stated during the public meeting, "The United States wetlands have suffered a 37% loss, while the wetlands of Tomales Bay have been diminished by 50%!

Frankly, I think the handwriting is on the wall, Don. Considering the global warming catastrophe confronting every living being we must do anything and everything we can to help control the impending worldwide disaster.

The most obvious, and therefore the first thing we can do for this restoration project is to keep it simple and restore every square foot we can. Bridges and new trails going almost no where are not necessary. We have a long way to go just to reach the United States statistic of 37% wetland loss, when we really should be striving for 100% restoration.

For the record, I am in complete agreement with the Point Reyes Village Association - Design Review Committee's recommendations.

Very truly,



Patricia Healy  
P. o. Box 429  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Superintendent P. R. N. S.

Point Reyes

CA 94956

RECEIVED	FEB 12 2007
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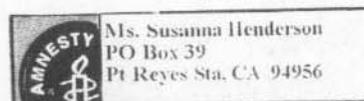
Dear Superintendent —

Thank you for your thoughtful choices for the Giacomini lands —

I am in favor of # C — so we can still walk there — perhaps even bike + walk to Inverness Park —

However — I am very concerned that we may lose our off-leash DOG walking priveledges — the blackberry tangle with it's labyrinth of paths and access to the creek are a joy to us owners and to our dogs — We are very diligent about cleaning up after our dogs.

Sincerely,  
Susanna Henderson





for the preservation & enjoyment  
of the American people (.)  
- Natl. Park  
inc. 1909

Sunday

DON:

An ADA trail to a prominent view of  
the E. Shore of MARSH - FABULOUS!  
Congratulations, thank you, way-to-go!  
What a great visitor-use addition -  
That guy in a Wheelchair at the Pine  
Cone can now take his disabled  
wife for some easy bird-watching  
from a world class view-spot!  
May Plan C go forth unopposed by  
trailer-trash sentiments from  
NIMBY Mesa Rd!! They've got  
huge back yards and 20-ft of  
brambled embankment protecting them,  
even if people walked on the  
old ROW. (Yes, I did leave a Comment  
Card.)

I, of course, will/am/would  
lobby for connection to Martindale area  
& could defend a "primitive  
footpath" connecting 2 used  
areas as not increasing the  
"moderate use" intended for the  
Marsh. Foot-steps won't hurt  
any thing along this disturbed E. edge.  
Your clever compromise is so good  
that I can WAIT (at try later?) on  
"connection" via old ROW.

(Please) give me a confidential "hint"  
(Yes, No?) at Box 623 or 663-862? IF, in  
3 yrs, a private donor to create a  
connection thru Eastern Foundation might  
meet consent (not objection) from NPS.

(born repair = culverts, "primitive footpath", exclusionary signage - stay-in-trail, etc., etc)

Happy Now with Plan C  
Jambou & Good Luck!  
- Bob Hildreth  
to the Party

JAMBO, Don Neubacher...

Bob Hildreth  
Box 623, PR St.  
663-5162

**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting  
January 25, 2007



Nat'l Parks are for preservation & use ("enjoyment") of the people!  
Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:  
The old railroad ROW belongs to all!

⊕⊕⊕ re  
My issue: Visitor Use at old farm access/horsing area @ Mesa Rd crossing over creek.  
I strongly support Plan C's "facility/view/ADA trail" there (I also support Plan B's connector trail up to Coastal Access/Martindelli property.)

If plan C fits most other environmental aspects best, couldn't same connector trail be put in C?

If not, but ADA trail to View Spot is planned, could a PRIVATE DONOR talk to NPS and Seashore foundation?? (Ignore MESA RD. selfish concerns).

"primitive path" (on old ROW from ADA/View to Martindelli Access)

WADE B. HOLLAND

POST OFFICE BOX 87  
INVERNESS, CA 94937 USA

(415) 669-1631 • FAX (415) 669-1460 • wade@svn.net

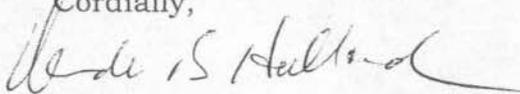
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February 9, 2007

Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Attn: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project  
Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956

After a more-than-cursory reading of the DEIR/DEIS for the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project, attendance at the public workshop on January 25, and careful consideration of the project and the Alternatives, I wish to express my support for proceeding with the Project on the basis of implementing **Alternative D**, the environmentally preferred alternative.

However, I also feel that Alternative D should be amended to **include the bridge over Lagunitas Creek** to connect the two segments of the Green Bridge to Whitehouse Pool trail. Without the bridge connection, you would essentially have two orphaned trail segments that go nowhere, at the same time that you would be forcing the through users of the route to resort to the shoulder along the Levee Road. I believe strongly that the bridge is essential, but in conjunction with adopting (and as an amendment to) Alternative D.

Cordially,  


Wade B. Holland



"Madeline Hope"  
<hopexing@HorizonCa  
ble.com>

02/12/2007 09:20 AM  
PST

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Alternative D with a bridge connector to PRSta

Please know that I am in full support of alternative D with the bridge connector to PRSta For the safe route to school for young people and local citizenry we need more bike AND pedestrian paths. Thank you Madeline Hope Shoreline Unified School District Trustee

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**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting  
January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

Progress Reports to the community  
How are things going?  
Will NPS be providing this info  
to the wam community?  
M. Hoge



Cxl777@aol.com  
02/14/2007 09:03 PM  
EST

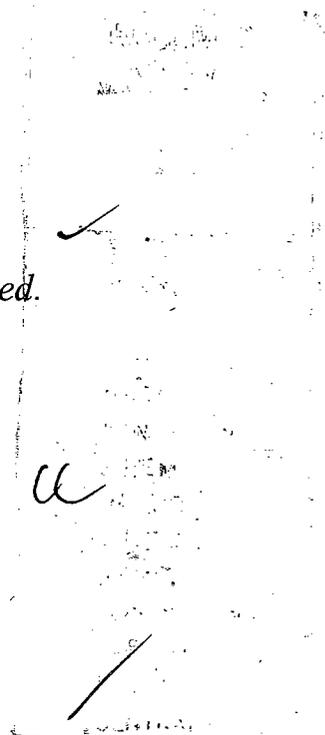
To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Marsh

*Superintendent Don Neubacher:  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956*

*The undersigned would like to see "Alternative D" implemented.*

*Sincerely,*

*Drayton and Joyce Howe  
Point Reyes Station*



Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station CA 94956  
Attention: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

February 9 2007

Louis Jaffe <louis@overlookmedia.com>  
PO Box 235  
Point Reyes Station CA 94956

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To the Giacomini project management team:

I am a homeowner on the Point Reyes Mesa bluff who attended the January 5 2007 informational meeting on the Giacomini Wetlands restoration plan, and I have studied the full EIS / EIR.

Regarding the choice of alternative, I agree with the advocacy groups including the Sierra Club, the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin and others:

Alternative D, the environmentally preferred alternative, would be my preference. However, I would like to see the pedestrian / bike bridge over Lagunitas Creek added to Alternative D (as described in Alternatives A through C), to connect the important southern perimeter trail corridor.

If it's not possible to add the bridge to Alternative D, then I would prefer Alternative C.

Regardless of which alternative is finally implemented, I would like to bring your attention to an area of invasive vegetation not currently identified in the project mapping that urgently needs clearing. It is along the Tomasini Creek slough, immediately south of the Martinelli Ranch.

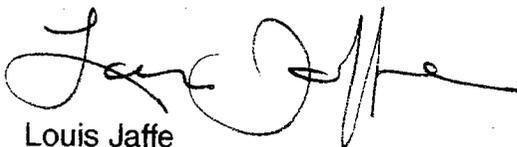
This backwater slough with its levee is retained in all planning alternatives as habitat for the endangered Tidewater Goby. Within view of my property on Point Reyes Mesa bluff, eucalyptus trees have taken root and are growing to large size on the levee itself. They may threaten the structural integrity of the levee.

On the historic railroad grade along the east side of Tomasini Creek a dense grove of eucalyptus has become established, continuing on private property ascending the bluff. French broom infestation is also extensive in this area.

I've spoken to the other adjacent property owners, and we would like to coordinate efforts with the Park Service to remove invasives and restore native habitat on the privately owned section of the Point Reyes Mesa Bluff bordering the historic railroad grade.

Please add removal of these invasives from the Tomasini Creek levee and historic railroad grade to any restoration plan. To document this issue, a map and photos of the area described are included with this letter.

Thank you very much



Louis Jaffe

Giacomini Wetlands restoration area:  
Invasive non-native vegetation on Tomasini  
Creek levee and historic railroad grade, adjacent  
to Point Reyes Mesa Bluff, off Overlook Road  
(near boundary of Martinelli Ranch).

Photographed January 29, 2007 by Louis Jaffe.



Eucalyptus trees on levee, railroad grade, and adjacent private property.



Recently fallen sapling on bank of slough. Larger tree in background  
fell across slough, bridging from east bank to levee.

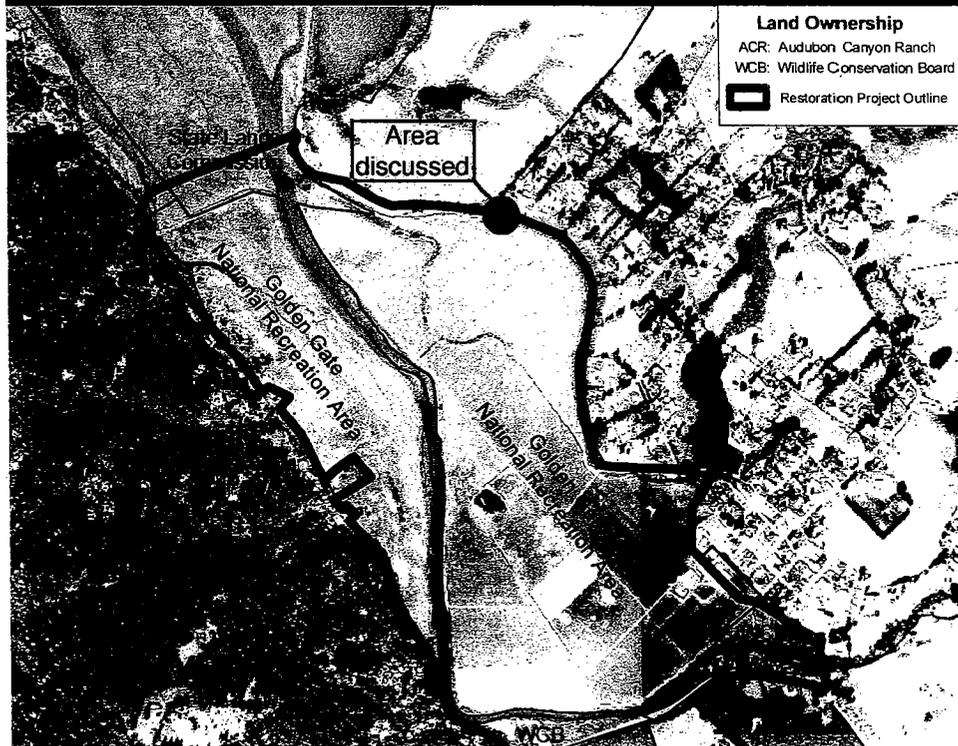


Closeup of eucalyptus on levee. High tide in the slough inundates  
the base of the tree.



# Project Area

Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project



Detail from Project Area map, Giacomini Wetlands project EIS / EIR with emphasis added to pinpoint area of invasive plants on berm and historic railroad grade



Current Google Earth imagery showing eucalyptus on Tomasini Creek berm and Point Reyes Mesa bluff. Martinelli tract at upper left; Overlook Road mid right.

ATTN: Superintendent  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project DEIS/EIR  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956



Dear Don,

I am writing to support selection of Alternative D as the preferred alternative. Based on the alternatives offered in the DEIR, D best maximizes the habitat for native plants and wildlife, and D provides **viewing areas** -- which I believe are the best way to provide low impact public access, consistent with a sound environmental educational message.

My remaining comments are aimed at strengthening the definition of D to

- Assure that D is the best environmental alternative
- Assure that public access in D is satisfactory, and at least from some perspectives, superior to the other options
- Improve the evaluation of alternatives to fairly consider Alternative D.

**Add an ADA compliant trail to Alternative D**

Probably the most important and easiest way to enhance Alternative D is to put in the ADA compliant access included in alternative A. D already includes the Dairy Mesa viewpoint. To enhance D use the option as defined in A: " A decomposed granite trail that would be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act would be constructed from C Street in the vicinity of 3rd Street along an easement to the edge of the Dairy Mesa, where there would be a viewing area to allow the public to experience and enjoy the restoration project and views of Tomales Bay... This viewing area would consist of simple facilities such as benches, picnic table, and interpretative exhibits." (page 49)

Alternative D is faulted for lack of ADA-compliant access in several places where the alternatives are compared:

Criterion 5 of section 101(b) and 102(1) - "Alternative C would appear to offer the best benefits ... **including an ADA-compliant access component**" (see page 96)

The Preferred alternative selection: "Alternative C offers the best combination of restoration and public access benefits ... and **incorporates an ADA-compliant access component.**" (see page 96)

Table 1: Incorporate opportunities for the public to experience and enjoy the restoration process – In alternative D "there would be no through-trail or **ADA-complaint access components**" (see page 99)

Those statements are an unfair evaluation since it is easy to add an ADA-compliant component to D without sacrificing the environmental benefits of D.

### **Impacts of spur trails and a through trail**

There is much discussion in the DEIR about the desirability of having spur trails and a through trail. Many people would like spur trails and many would like to ride bikes from Inverness to Point Reyes Station. But, these desires do not enhance the restoration and they are not necessary for the public to experience and enjoy the restoration process.

Despite all the attention given to spur and through trails in the DEIR, the negative impacts of the recommended trails are omitted or the discussion is incomplete. Here are some of the impacts that should be considered in the final EIR:

Dogs in the wetlands and buffer areas. Where there are trails, there will be some who abuse the privilege and let their dogs, even encourage their dogs, to disturb wildlife and some dogs will carry diseases into wildlife habitat.

Disturbance occurs along trails especially ones that combine multiple modes of travel

Habitat is directly impacted by trails and their maintenance. Most of the spur trails intrude in the SCA riparian areas protected in the LCP (There is no discussion that I could find of this conflict of Alternative C and D with the LCP).

I object to the portion of the south perimeter trail included in both alternative C and D. (Creation of Southern Perimeter Spur Trail from Point Reyes Station to Location of Former Summer Dam including a new entrance area at Green Bridge County Park). This area has riparian habitat and has the potential for improved riparian habitat and associated buffer zones. This area should be restored for maximum habitat value and flood protection values. Planning the south perimeter trail through here I think violates the guideline on the project's purpose: **"public access opportunities should not conflict with the project's purpose of restoring natural hydrologic and ecological processes and functions"** (page 30)

About two thirds of that south perimeter trail along the east pasture falls within the SCA/LCP riparian zone and the graded entrance area is entirely located within scrub-shrub riparian habitat, designated as CDFG Riparian (see figure 34). Degrading these riparian areas is not discussed anywhere in the DEIR, so far as I could see.

### **What is appropriate and satisfactory public access?**

Viewing areas will allow people to enjoy and experience the restoration without intruding into it. An associated interpretive message can reinforce the need to protect wildlife and habitat, and minimize disturbances.

If the spur trails are eliminated from Alternative D, public access still will be available at three viewing areas:

- Easy access at the west end of the existing north levee
- Hike in, trail access to a viewing area along the existing Tomales Bay Trail at the top of Railroad Point
- Dairy Mesa viewing area (with ADA-compliant access as discussed in this letter)

These access points and trails satisfy the objective of the project: "The Park Service and the CSLC have committed to incorporating opportunities for the public to learn about the value of wetlands, the problems facing Tomales Bay, and the restoration process through trails, viewing areas, interpretative exhibits, and volunteer/educational opportunities."

(Page 12)

### **Excavation of the south west corner of the east pasture**

Alternative D includes a restoration step titled: Excavation of Southwestern Portion of East Pasture to Intertidal Elevations (Figure 16). This step appears to reach the limit of diminishing returns. 50,000 cubic yards would be excavated to convert 8.4 acres of grassland to tidal marsh. This spot will likely be inundated anyway as the sea level rises due to global warming. The excavation seems to offer a low return in a project restoring more than 350 acres of low-, mid- and high Tidal Salt Marsh (acreage from page 546).

Alternative D is supposed to describe the Environmentally Preferred Alternative, yet Alternative D is faulted for this excavation. See the comments comparing Alternative C and D; e.g. Alternative C " provides other environmental benefits by decreasing the amount of excavated sediment that would be disposed of off-site and thereby minimizing impacts on air quality, demand for non-renewable energy resources, and traffic in the local community and region." (Page 96) This fault in D is sprinkled through the evaluation in the same way that lack of ADA-compliant access is touted.

For the final EIR, I would expect the project planners to decide if the excavation is worth the effort. If it is, then it should be included and not listed as a negative. If it is not worth the effort because of the damaging side effects, then remove it from the environmentally preferred Alternative D. (Here is a similar kind of trade off to illustrate the process: Round-up would be a great way to kill invasive plants, but it would have terrible side effects in this wetland restoration.)

### **Starter channel**

Alternative C includes a good restoration item: " Creation of New Lagunitas Creek Tidal Channel (Create Tidal Channel; Figure 14)" I did not understand why that is not included in Alternative D, too.

### **Another Starter Channel**

Alternatives B, C and D include a restoration step of "Removal of Riprap and Regrading of Creek Bank in southern portion of East Pasture (Remove or Breach Levee; Figure 11)" Since this is an area where the creek will rise over the bank, and hydrologists have debated whether Lagunitas Creek will "dramatically change course in the future by cutting through the East Pasture in this location." (page 56). Creating a starter channel here might be a win win step which creates flood reduction benefits and environmental benefits (more area for riparian habitat, some seasonal wetlands, and isolation of important riparian and buffer areas from disturbance). I don't know what the right size would be, but I imagine a 100 foot wide swale graded and planted with willows and alders, at around 10' NAVD88 and running west until the slope takes over. One of the objectives of the DEIR is stated as "emphasis was placed on those alternatives that would create the most sustainable and dynamic ecosystems." (page 30)

### **More Island-like Refugia**

The DEIR describes high tide refugia of 1.1 acres at the north levee (page 36). This will be highly valuable habitat since shore side high tide areas are more subject to disturbance by land predators and human caused factors. I found it remarkable that the fill for the refugia had to be mitigated with wetland creation in a project that is creating about 350 acres of new salt marsh. low-, mid- and high Tidal Salt Marsh.

If 1.1 acres is appropriate for the existing salt marsh by the north levee, how much isolated refugia area is needed for the whole 350 acre salt marsh restoration? There are planned refugia on berms in the project, but there are no additional isolated, island-like refugia. If another 5 acres of such refugia were created, perhaps more excavated fill can be used on site, and valuable habitat can be created.

### **Figures and Tables in Chapter 4**

It is difficult to follow the changes under the different alternatives. Chapter 3 has extensive figures and tables on existing conditions. There are no figures in Chapter 4 illustrating what the restoration might be like. The tables that are in Chapter 4 show summary qualitative descriptions such as "major beneficial". But, it is hard to make before and after comparisons when the data is scattered in the text.

Some of the ones that might be useful are listed here

Table 10 shows acreage of most dominant vegetation type. There should be such a table for each alternative.

Table 14 shows the estimated frequency of flooding and vertical flood elevation for key locations. There should be such a table for each alternative.

A version of Figure 28 for estimating the height of the southern end of the east pasture after restoration.

I realize that the models have much uncertainty, but the text says that the conclusions are based on maps and predictions. "Analysis of potential changes in cover or areal extent of native vegetation communities with implementation of the various alternatives is based on maps that predict long-term changes in vegetation communities in the Project Area once equilibrium, or, more accurately, dynamic equilibrium conditions have been reached." (See for example, page 453)

Thank you for considering my comments. The DEIR contains excellent information and analysis. The project team should be commended for their work. I appreciate the opportunity to participate.

Sincerely,

Rick Johnson  
PO Box 981  
Inverness, CA 94937

**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting  
January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

I want to put my 2-bits behind Plan "C" —  
I think "D" is too radical — all the earth-  
moving will impact the environment detrimentally  
as much as any restoration value it will  
achieve. BUT "C" is great! Thanks  
Tom Killion — 51 Laurel, I.P. (PRS, 94956)



Richard Kirschman  
 <kirschman@marincoun  
 ty.net>  
 02/12/2007 11:52 AM  
 PST

To: "Frederick Smith, Jr., Environmental Action Committee of West Marin"  
 <eac@svn.net>  
 cc: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
 Subject: EAC Announcement: Giacomini Restoration Plan Letters Due by  
 Tuesday 2/14

Fred,

The more public access the better. Access is very educational. Compared to the current status of these lands, either alternative "C" or "D" represents a gigantic step in the right direction.

Richard Kirschman

On Feb 9, 2007, at 2:12 PM, Frederick Smith, Jr., Environmental Action Committee of West Marin wrote:

> Dear Richard,  
 >  
 >  
 > This is Fred at the EAC reminding you that written letters on the  
 > Tomales Bay Wetlands Restoration project on the old Giacomini ranch  
 > are due by this Tuesday, February 14.  
 >  
 > The EAC is excited to see Point Reyes National Seashore's support for  
 > extensive restoration of the wetlands at the south end of Tomales Bay  
 > for the benefit of wildlife, including Coho salmon that spawn in  
 > Lagunitas and Olema Creeks. No matter what the outcome, the wetlands  
 > will be restored!  
 >  
 > But we are concerned about the Park's support of Alternative C, which  
 > calls too much public access at the expense of wildlife. The EAC  
 > supports Alternative D because it is the Environmentally Preferred  
 > alternative that provides for the most extensive restoration of the  
 > Tomales Bay wetlands. Also, please include in your letter whether you  
 > think that the bridge over Lagunitas Creek and trail connection  
 > between the Green Bridge and the White House Pool is a good idea.  
 >  
 > Remember, if the Seashore does not get enough support for Alternative  
 > D, we could end up with a restoration plan that includes too many new  
 > access-related impacts. So please write your letters in support of  
 > Alternative D to the address or e-mail below.  
 >  
 > Remember, we'll only end up with a plan we like if we ask for it.  
 >  
 > The Park is accepting written letters on this proposal until next  
 > Tuesday February 14. Please send your letter or e-mail to:  
 >  
 > Don Neubacher, Superintendent  
 > Point Reyes National Seashore  
 > Point Reyes, CA 94956  
 > Attn: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project  
 > E-mail: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
 >  
 > For more information on the plan, go  
 > [http://www.nps.gov/pore/parkmgmt/  
 > planning\\_giacomini\\_wrp\\_eiseir\\_draft\\_2007](http://www.nps.gov/pore/parkmgmt/planning_giacomini_wrp_eiseir_draft_2007)  
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CENTRAL FILES	

> Thank you all for your support of the EAC of West Marin.  
>  
> For Truth, Justice and the Riparian Way.  
>  
> Fred Smith  
> Executive Director  
>  
>  
> --  
> Frederick Smith, Jr.  
> Executive Director  
>  
> Environmental Action Committee of West Marin  
> Protecting West Marin since 1971  
> Box 609  
> Point Reyes Station, CA 94956  
> tel: 415-663-9312  
> fax: 415-663-8014  
> email: eac@svn.net  
> <http://www.eacmarin.org>  
>



"Jane Kriss"  
 <janekriss@gmail.com>  
 02/12/2007 11:58 AM  
 PST  
 Please respond to jane

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands

Don Neubacher, Superintendent  
 Point Reyes National Seashore  
 Point Reyes, CA 94956

Dear Don:

I'd like to weigh in on the Giacomini Wetland restoration project. I fully support Alternative D, since I would like to see the maximum amount of restoration possible. Horses and dogs especially do not belong in the wetlands or near the creek, and there would be a major enforcement challenge if a path were there ostensibly for people only. It's delicate, precious habitat, that we have the opportunity to save for the species that need our protection. Walking and biking paths (and we need both...) should be addressed as a separate issue, away from the waterways.

Sincerely,  
 Jane Kriss  
 Inverness resident

--  
 Jane Kriss  
 415.669.7331  
[www.janekriss.com](http://www.janekriss.com)

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Rhonda Kutter  
<rikutter@horizoncable.com>

02/13/2007 10:35 PM  
PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

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National Seashore

FEB 14 '07

**Rhonda Kutter**  
**PO BOX 876**  
**Point Reyes Station, CA 94956**  
**415.663.5451**

February 13, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

Dear Superintendent Neubacher:

I am the Chairmen of the Committee for a Family-Friendly Point Reyes (CFFFPR). This organization was formed over a year ago and our primary goal has been to get a toddler playground in PRS-- it is scheduled to start perhaps as early as this spring as part of the County Restroom and Parking lot project. We are also actively persuing improving and expanding local walkways make them safer for everyone, especially children, parents with toddlers and strollers, and also the less abled.

I was very sorry that I could not attend the Park's Public meetings regarding the Giacomini Wetlands project. As a working parent of a five year old, evening meetings are a challenge--and illness prevented me from attending the last meeting, so my letter will be of a general nature, since I am not as familiar with all of the nuances of the various plans. I do appreciate all the time that has gone into investigating the various plans, as is apparent from all of your work.

Though I am not officially representing the CFFFPR (we haven't had a need for a meeting recently) I would like to speak for many parents like myself, who live or visit Point Reyes Station on a regular basis for work, pre-school, school or shopping, and are disappointed that there are few suitable walks for parents with young children right here in town. The few we have are very short and the one public trail by the green bridge, as it is, is not safely accessible. Improving the pedestrian access by the green bridge and along Levee Rd. is an important task and should be done no matter what happens in the Wetlands project.

Although I am an active member of the Point Reyes Village Association, and know the design review committee has studied this far more than I, I would still like to see more pathways than they are recommending. Alternative C's Southern Perimeter Trail is something I have always dreamed about. How I would love to have a bridge to cross to White's Pool! And wouldn't it be wonderful to have two trails--on the Wetland's side that was geared more to pedestrians (and

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perhaps equestrian too), and then have the bike access be part of the Levee Rd. widening project (or visa-versa)?

I do not have a strong opinion about the Mesa Spur Trail. However, I can see that if the Wetlands become a popular destination, it might be useful to have an parking area and entrance set aside for it, but I would like to see that be closer to town, if possible. As someone who frequently crosses Mesa Rd. at Lorraine, I find it can be a bit dangerous as it is--a lot of car travel too fast and increased use could make this even worse. I would like to see this part of the plan put on hold for now--perhaps it could be developed later if need be.

I like the idea of a dairy overlook with ADA access from town. The Point Reyes Station Village Association's suggestion of moving the access point to C Street seems well thought out to me. There is also interest in our community through the new West Marin Common's Group to improve the walkways/sidewalk along C Street to Highway One--which would make this approach even more inviting. It could also connect and attract visitor's more to the Dance Palace part of our town, which is a jewel often missed by first time guests to our village.

Thank you for you time. I hope my thoughts have been helpful.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Kutter

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February 12, 2007  
 POB 223  
 Pt. Reyes Sta., CA 94956

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
 Pt. Reyes Nat'l Seashore  
 Pt. Reyes, CA 94956

Re: Gracomoni Wetlands

Dear Don,

- > Please record my support of [ALT.D without the bridge]
- > Thanks to the presence of the National Seashore in our area, we are abundant in opportunities for hiking, biking, dogwalking and horse riding.
- > More and wider trails at the south end of the wetland project - riparian at creek edge - disrupt and discourage bird, insect, plant and animal behaviors.
- > A wedge over Lagunitas creek will create a magnet for day-trip recreation.
- > I do support a plan for viewing platforms in established edge areas.
- > Lets watch the marsh develop with the least amount of presence and the most of our appreciation.

Thank you for recording my choice.

Sincerely,

Jan Langdon

Copy to: Jan Jarvis  
 Regional dir.  
 Nat'l Park Service



Superintendent  
NPS & Giacomini

CENTRAL FILES	BUDGET	PERSONNEL	CONTRACTING	MAINT.	CULT. RES.	INT. RES.	FIRE MGMT.	RANGE & PLANS	NAT. RES.	LAW ENFORC.	SPEC. PK. USES	SCIENCE	SUPT.
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FEB 14 1971  
RECEIVED  
Point Reyes  
National Seashore

Dona Larkin  
Community Pathway  
Committee;  
Sustainable West Marin  
Project Coordinator  
Box 33, PRS 94956

Dear Superintendent Neubacher,

I would first like to commend the park for its thorough study of the project and its willingness for public input in the process.

There are so many factors in the equation which makes it difficult to see clearly the best course of action, but weighing all considerations I can see why the park feels that ALT. C is the "preferred Alternative".

Alternative C offers excellent restoration to the wetlands while simultaneously focusing on the sustainability goals also foremost in the overall objectives of the park. The creation of a trail to White House pool via a bridge over Lagunitas Creek is an integral component of the alternative transportation goals in our community, and setting up the potential for the path to continue to Inverness park is crucial in this stage of development. Offering educational opportunities through expanded public access and interpretive exhibits will help to foster the environmentalists of our future.

Therefore overall I support ALT C with a few concerns:

- ① How will the Aquisition of the parcels along SFD in Inverness Park effect the outcome of either ALT C or ALT D ?
- ② Parking - the proposed limited parking at Mesa Road could be problematic due to its remoteness. A location closer to town would better serve the project and the community. Perhaps near the ranch buildings or the corner of Hwy on + B Street, which would link with the improved access near the green bridge.

The necessary ADA component could be moved to the White House Pool parking lot.

- ③ Currently the greatest non-ag use of the area between Hwy one and the Giacomini Ranch is by dog owners on their daily walks. There is an important need in our community for a location to exist where dogs can run freely. Historically this has been the location. A possible solution to have both protected wetlands and content pets & owners would be to fence an area perhaps at the edge of the project for off leash exercise of pets in town. Ideally pets would still be welcome on the trail as is currently the practice.
- ④ Siltation of the bay could become a serious threat to habitat and water quality with the extensive excavation in both Alt. C & Alt D. What safeguards will be in place to prevent this?
- ⑤ My study was in the executive summary and I saw no details of the bridge but heard many comments that the stature of the bridge was excessive. Any efforts possible to to scale it down somewhat would be well regarded, but the bridge is crucial.

\* Please Note - while Alt C seems the best overall choice to me personally, I have also signed a document on behalf of the community pathway committee in collaboration with MCBC, the Sierra Club & Marin Access for Bikes. This group supports ALT D with the inclusion of the bridge & pathways of ALT C to Inv. Park & the Northern levee. Our support for D is contingent upon the inclusion of the bridge and pathway.

Once again thank you for the opportunity for public input, it is a decision of critical importance.

Respectfully, Dona Larkin



"Kevin Lawson"  
<yes@svn.net>  
02/13/2007 09:36 AM  
PST

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

Don Neubacher,

To make this area really accessible and useful to the public, we need to be able to walk (or bike) from White House Pool to Point Reyes. A foot bridge across the creek where the dam used to be would be brilliant.

Thanks,  
Kevin Lawson  
Home: (415) 663-9210  
Cell: (530) 545-2730  
Fax: (415) 873-1949  
P.O. Box 1293  
Point Reyes, CA 94956

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"Vicki Leeds"  
 <cabaline@svn.net>  
 02/13/2007 11:23 PM  
 PST  
 Please respond to "Vicki  
 Leeds"

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc: <jon\_jarvis@nps.gov>  
 Subject: Giacomini Ranch Property/Wetlands Restoration

To whom it may concern,  
 My vote is for a creative combination of alternatives "C" & "D". I would like to see the wetlands restored as much as possible to pre dairy ranch conditions, as well as to have the lowest impact pathway available connecting Inverness Park with Pt. Reyes Station. It would be great if this pathway could be a safe alternative route for locals of all ages, whether they be walkers, bicyclists or equestrians. Thank you very much for your consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely yours,  
 Vicki Leeds

PO Box 398

Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956

(Business owner in Pt. Reyes Station for 30 years, resident for 35 years, member of various local environmental organizations, & outdoor enthusiast)

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Ellen Lesli  
 <elesli@yahoo.com>  
 02/04/2007 01:33 PM  
 PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: jon\_Jarvis@nps.gov  
 Subject: Attn: Giacomini Wetlands RestorationPlan

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Ellen Lesli  
 PO Box 306  
 Inverness, CA 94937

Email : [elesli@yahoo.com](mailto:elesli@yahoo.com)

Feb. 4, 2007

Park Planning – Jon Jarvis  
 Re : Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

I have been a resident of the Point Reyes area for over 32 years.  
 In that time I have watched this area become more and more populated  
 And built up.

I am in support of what is best for the bay; the preservation and restoration of the fragile  
 ecological balance of the bay and the surrounding areas.

I strongly urge the park to support **ALTERNATIVE D** . We have to preserve this unique  
 area. There are so few "wild" areas left on this planet.

The public has more than enough access to this 75,000 acre park.  
 Any more access would be adding to the erosion of the very quality that attracts people  
 to this area.

Thank You for listening,

Ellen Lesli

It's here! Your new message!  
 Get [new email alerts](#) with the free [Yahoo! Toolbar](#).



"Ken Levin"  
 <klevin@horizoncable.com>  
 02/13/2007 08:35 AM  
 PST

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc:  
 Subject: (Giacomini) Tomales Bay Wetlands Restoration

This letter is in strong support of **Alternative D**. **Alternative D** is the plan most likely to restore the hydrologic and ecologic function of Tomales Bay and return the reclaimed cow pasture to a beautiful marsh.

The fewer "visitor serving" facilities or amendments included in the plan, the better. There are already enough in the area to provide access and views. In this particular situation nature must come first; it is important to give highest priority to restoration of the environment.

Particularly, no bridge over Lagunitas Creek. This would be a visual, environmental and financial disaster.

Ken Levin  
 Point Reyes Station

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Diane Levy  
 <diane@dianelevy.com  
 >

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

02/04/2007 06:10 PM  
 PST

Dear Superintendent Neubacher,

I am very concerned about the wetlands restoration plan in Point Reyes. Plan D is the least worrisome of the options presented. Please make this the priority.

The origin of the plan was to restore hydrologic and ecologic function of the bay. Plan D accomplishes this in the most cost effective and ecological manner.

In regards to human access to the area: There are already established alternative sites that provide parking, trails, and observation points at White House Pool, Martinelli Open Space and Olema Marsh. It is unnecessary that further financial output be used to create more access and it does not serve the original plan of restoration. In the long term more human access could create future problems for the ecology of the site and require greater financial burdens for maintenance and upkeep to the area.

Short sighted decision making has created the current overpopulation of non-native deer species. Curtailing the culling of the herds now presents the park with a public relations nightmare. This is not the time for another decision made for the present, without regard for the future impact. Rather than with the deer, when more intervention would have been better, in this case, less is best!!!

Please use Plan D, perhaps with a bridge across Papermill Creek as a concession to access, but no more than that. Plan D is the best option for the intended goals of the restoration project.

Thank you,  
 Diane Levy

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John Levy  
 <johnlevy@cs.stanford.edu>

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan comment

02/04/2007 04:33 PM  
 PST

Superintendent, Pt. Reyes National Seashore:

Regarding the proposals for restoration of the Giacomini Wetlands, I would like to note my strong preference for Alternative D.

The restoration of the wetlands is an important step in furthering the ecosystem represented by the National Seashore. In Alternative C, the inclusion of a bridge over Lagunitas Creek and the improvement of trails to ADA compliance level would add to the intensity of public use in the immediate area of the wetlands, threatening the effectiveness of the restoration in the most popular areas.

While we in the community surrounding the Point Reyes National Seashore welcome the seasonal arrival of millions of visitors to the park and to our community, I believe we must anticipate a steady increase in the pressure of visitors to the area and therefore minimize the number of access points in this very sensitive area. As a result, Alternative D is the best choice.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

--John V. Levy, Ph.D.  
 Inverness Park, CA

John Levy  
 415 663-0611

P.O. Box 1012  
 Inverness, CA 94907

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Barry Linder  
<barrylinda@earthlink.net>

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Tomales Bay restoration

02/09/2007 07:16 PM  
PST

Lets have plan D. Lets have bridge over creek so we can use the path to PRS. Thanks Linda Linder

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**Michael Linvill**  
1317 Lincoln Avenue, #15  
San Rafael, CA 94901  
(415) 453-4093  
mikelinvill@yahoo.com

February 11, 2007

Don Neubacher, Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes, CA 94956

Regarding: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

Dear Mr. Neubacher:

I first moved to Marin County from San Francisco when I was 10 years old in 1971. My parents came here in large part because of Marin's extraordinary scenery and unique balance of nature and people. I believe that it is a priority to not only preserve what is left of Marin's natural heritage, but also to restore as much of it as possible.

Thank you for your support of wetlands restoration at the south end of Tomales Bay. The restoration will help to sustain numerous threatened wildlife species, particularly Coho salmon which come to spawn in the Olema and Lagunitas creeks. However, I am concerned about the park's support of Alternative C, which will allow too much public access at the expense of wildlife.

Please reconsider your position and support Alternative D, the environmentally preferred alternative, because it provides for the most extensive restoration of the wetlands and will benefit wildlife the most. In addition, please provide for a bridge over Lagunitas Creek and the trail connection between Green Bridge and White House Pool. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Michael Linvill

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Ruth Linvill  
100 Thorndale, #106  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
ruthlinvill@aol.com

February 10, 2007

Don Neubacher, Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes, CA 94956

Dear Mr. Neubacher:

I am writing to you because I support Alternative D as the plan that should be implemented in restoring the wetlands at Giacomini. Although the plan supported by your office is a good one, it doesn't go far enough in reducing human intrusion on the wetlands. I also support a bridge over Lagunitas creek and the trail connection between Green Bridge and Whitehouse Pool. Thank you for hearing my comments.

*Ruth Linvill*  
+  
Ruth Linvill

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Dewey Livingston  
 <dlive@svn.net>  
 02/14/2007 10:51 AM  
 PST

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Marsh

✓	CENTRAL FILES
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February 14, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
 Point Reyes National Seashore  
 Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Comments on the Draft EIR, Giacomini Wetlands Restoration

Dear Don:

I appreciate the chance to comment on the EIR, as this is a very important and historic undertaking. For the most part, the document appears to be very good and thorough.

I support a combination of Alternatives B through D, with the following comments:

1. The proposed bridge would sit like a sore thumb in a critical section of the restoration project with its over-engineered abutments and approaches; the needed berm/levee to support a multi-use trail on either side would be a hindrance to proper restoration; and it would be too costly. As an alternative, we would propose a seasonal bridge that could be lifted into place with a crane in the spring and removed in the late fall, connecting a small, seasonal trail. This should be less costly, but I realize it probably wouldn't pass muster with all the regulations of this over-regulated society.

2. The whole project is impeded by the existence of the Levee Road: it is like leaving a piece of rotten meat in your newly cleaned refrigerator. Yes, another impossibility: replace most of the road with an elevated roadway. At the least, provide more than one new break in the road, possibly three to five; otherwise the project, especially involving Olema Marsh, will be compromised. Why such a big compromise when so much money and energy is being poured into this project?

3. A small trail along the east side railroad grade should be included: not a developed, wide, multi-use trail, but limited access (no bikes, pets, etc.). At the least, there should be no barriers of access to the area, as we doubt that individuals using a minor, unmarked and unpublicized trail have the potential to cause harm.

4. I am concerned about the fate of the original Inverness Park Store building. I acknowledge that it is in terrible condition and may not meet the criteria for the National Register, but it is a unique old structure being the only surviving historic commercial building in IP. I suggest that its shell be rehabbed into a small, unmanned visitor center/museum that could be opened by a passing ranger in the morning and closed up in the evening (seeing how dozens of park staff pass the place daily, and

many of them stop at Perry's!).

5. I am also concerned about creating a trailhead in Point Reyes Station without adequate parking.

As an aside, did you know that about 100 years ago, there was an elevated boardwalk along the creek at the road bend at the bottom of Balboa Road? A structural precedent for a trail to IP!

Thank you for this opportunity to comment, and good luck.

Dewey Livingston  
P.O. Box 296  
Inverness, CA 94937  
415-669-7706  
[dlive@svn.net](mailto:dlive@svn.net)



"Jack Long"  
 <jack@creeksidebirds.com>

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc:  
 Subject: You have received photos from Adobe Photoshop Album

02/14/2007 05:38 PM  
 PST

LETS STAY WITH ALTERNATIVE D WE DO NOT NEED MORE CARS OR PARKED CARS ON THE LEVEE ROAD I WOULD FEEL SAFER ON A FREEWAY THAN WALKING ON THE LEVEE ROAD SIR FRANCIS DRAKE BLVD. DOCTORS TELL US TO WALK MORE , IN THIS CASE WALKING COULD KILL YOU . THIS PICTURE TELLS IT ALL 35 YEARS LIVING HERE I HAVE SEEN IT ALL IF ALTERNATIVE D IS THE BEST CHOICE THEN STAY WITH IT JACK LONG

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"John Lopez \(\hm ofc\)"  
 <mecoak@hotmail.com>  
 >

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc: <Jon\_Jarvis@nps.gov>  
 Subject: Gacomini wetlands Alternative D w/bridge & change of parking

02/12/2007 04:56 PM  
 PST

**To Planning committee:**

With discussions with my family (Three children who use trails) our neighbors and community members there is debate of how best to give input for our National Park. We in the community do understand that the whole nation is paying for our beautiful backyard. I would like to put my vote for the limited access to the new wetlands but with a multiuse trail for pedestrian, equestrians and bicyclist (of course some info for use and right of way). With a bridge put at the point of the old Gacomini seasonal dam. This bridge would produce a continuous link to/from the park and Point Reyes Station and Inverness Park.

So while I would approve Alternative C because of the bridge, I would like to vote for Alternate D with the addition of bridge. I would also like to suggest changing the parking from near the Green Barn(Red Barn) current housing area to Park owned land in the current Gacomini dairy ranch area.

Thank you so much for allowing for our input.

**John Lopez**  
 11190 Sir Francis Drake (Levee Rd.)  
 Point Reyes Station  
 415-663-8801

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"Ruth Kantor Lopez"  
 <Bookworm@svn.net>  
 02/12/2007 03:17 AM  
 PST

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc: <Jon\_Jarvis@nps.gov>  
 Subject: wetlands restoration plans

After reviewing plans C and D for the wetlands restoration at Point Reyes National Seashore, I would like to urge the park to adopt plan D with the addition of the bridge over the creek. The bridge is much needed by the community, but the other access components of plan C I fear will cause undesirable development and related problems.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ruth Kantor Lopez  
 Levee road resident, Point Reyes Station

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**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting  
January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

Alt C

Public Access - connecting all the way to Inverness rather than stopping at Inverness Park, with a shared-use path should be included in the scope when it comes time to work with the County on this project.

Like Alt C's public Access,

LISA LUZZI

PO Box 526 PRS.

Good Job

[D would be good  
with C's Access]

• [lisaluzzi@gmail.com](mailto:lisaluzzi@gmail.com)



"Melissa Lyckberg"  
<gratitude@saber.net>  
02/07/2007 08:24 AM  
PST

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: FW: no on plan C

Hello - I want plan D not plan C.

Bruce Lyckberg  
663-1988

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"Melissa Lyckberg"  
<gratitude@saber.net>  
02/07/2007 08:23 AM  
PST

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: support of plan D

I support plan D. I live on Los Reyes Drive, near Mesa Road in Point Reyes Station.

I DO NOT WANT PLAN C!

Melissa Lyckberg  
Frank Howard Allen Realtors  
511 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard  
Greenbrae, CA 94904  
415-925-3262 direct  
415-309-5799 mobile  
[www.MoveToMarin.com](http://www.MoveToMarin.com)

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Point Reyes National Seashore	
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"Jay MacMahon"  
 <jmacmahon@freitasla  
 w.com>

02/12/2007 11:10 AM  
 PST

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc: <jon\_jarvis@nps.gov>  
 Subject: ALTERNATIVE D -- GIACOMINI WETLANDS RESTORATION PLAN

I own the improved residential property at 11150 and 11160 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. (Levee Road) since 1974, as well as 21+ acres of unimproved property at the end of Fox Drive in the Bear Valley Property Owners subdivision since 1960.

I support ALTERNATIVE D over ALTERNATIVE C

Sincerely, Jay & Gloria MacMahon.

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Melanie Matheson  
1317 Lincoln Avenue, #4  
San Rafael, CA 94901

February 12, 2007

Don Neubacher, Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes, CA 94956

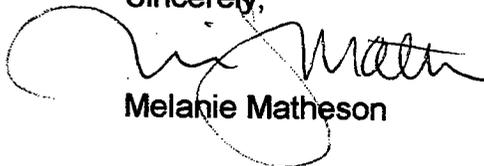
Dear Mr. Neubacher:

I support full restoration of the wetlands at Tomales Bay, specifically those at the southern end of the bay because of their importance as a home for wildlife. Salmon, in particular, depend on the creeks in the area as a place to spawn.

I have lived in Marin since childhood and am proud of Marin's commitment to preserving the natural beauty and wildlife over the years. To that end, I think that the plan your service has decided to utilize to restore the wetlands, although constructive in helping reverse the damage to the wetlands, will not be sufficient. I believe that **Alternative D is better** because it will be the most effective in reducing human impacts on the fragile wetlands. As part of a comprehensive plan to save the wetlands, I also support a bridge over Lagunitas Creek and the trail connection between Green Bridge and White House Pool.

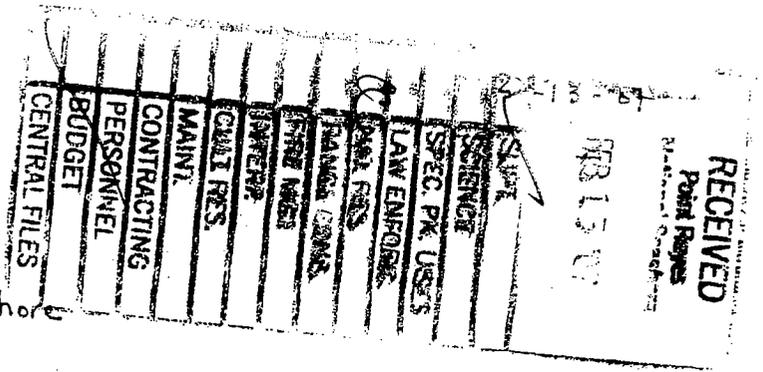
Thank you for your continued watch over Tomales Bay, and please bolster your effort by adopting Alternative D to restore the Giacomini Wetlands.

Sincerely,



Melanie Matheson

Don Neubacher  
Superintendent  
Pt. Reyes National Seashore  
Pt. Reyes CA 94956



Re: Alternative D - Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

Dear Mr. Neubacher,

As a resident of West Marin and a native plant habitat restorer, I respectfully request that you decide to implement Alternative D without a bridge.

Working on the levee road for the past several years has made it obvious to me how much the creatures that try to exist in and around the creek are limited and jeopardized.

If a bike lane is needed a better choice would be on the south side of the levee road.

Thank you for your consideration.

The wetlands and the bay need maximum restoration.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Mayer  
P.O. Box 1091  
Fuerness CA 94937

cc: Jon Jarvis, Regional Director, National Park Service

Lowman Person

SLIP	✓
SCIENCE	✓
SPEC. PK. USES	✓
LAW ENFORCE.	✓
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MAINT.	✓
CONTRACTING	✓
PERSONNEL	✓
BUDGET	✓
CENTRAL FILES	✓

DATE: 1-26-67

TO: SUPERINTENDENT

FROM: MICHAEL McENEANY 669-1868

SUBJECT: PERIMETER TRAILS ON RESTORED MARSH  
(ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE)

COMMENTS:

PERHAPS PERIMETER TRAILS AROUND THE RESTORED MARSH COULD BE CONSTRUCTED ALONG ~~THE~~ THE ST FRANCIS DRAKE BLVD. RIGHT-OF-WAY FROM WHITE HOUSE POOL TO IN USING CLEAN, COMPACTABLE NATIVE F COLLECTED FROM RESTORATION EXCAVATION PROJECTS.

THOUSANDS OF TRUCK TRIPS OUT TO PICKUP POINT COULD BE ELIMINATED AND A RESTORATION TRAIL CREATED IF THE EXCAVATED MATERIAL WERE UTILIZED IN THIS FASHION.



Trish McEneany  
 <mceneany@svn.net>  
 02/13/2007 10:29 AM  
 PST

To: Park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: lcrosse@co.marin.ca.us  
 Subject: Giacommini Marsh Restoration @ Point Reyes National Seashore

Regarding the creation of a bicycle and pedestrian path from Inverness to Point Reyes Station:  
 In two previous comments submitted to the Superintendent, I failed to mention that this subject has been discussed many times in the County of Marin planning process. Specifically, it is mentioned in the Marin County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, prepared for the Marin County Congestion Management Agency in June of 2000.  
 Given the County's interest in developing such a pathway along the Sir Francis Drake Boulevard right of way, one might see this as a good time to explore the possibility of a cooperative effort to achieve this end. Using the spoils from excavation activities in the marsh to widen the bay side shoulder of the roadway would save possibly thousands of truck trips over Ottinger's Hill, reducing costs and environmental disruption attendant with their disposal at Pierce Point.

Michael McEneany  
 Inverness, CA  
 415-669-1868

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Michael McEneaney

P.O. Box 892  
Inverness, CA 94927  
HS-669-1868

Point Reyes National Seashore  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting  
January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

Consider Removal of overhead utility lines along  
San Francisco Drake Blvd. from White House Pool to  
Inverness thereby making the shore-side  
shoulder of the road available for an ~~path~~  
informal or more developed path. PUC  
funds may be available to help fund this  
under section 70A per Leeza Cross @ Supkinsai's office

- Public Safety Enhancement
- Wetland Enhancement
- Other ongoing projects

FACTORS ~~FACTORING~~ EXPENDITURE

OF PUC FUNDS

INTRO / INU RESIDENT

IPUD BOARD MEMBERS

HISTORY OF BEING CUT  
OFF & LOSING ELECT SERV.

Point Reyes National Seashore  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting

January 25, 2007



1) Is restoration of Olema Marsh contingent upon excavating the west pasture?

What's the original height of the pasture &

→ is all that expensive excavation necessary?  
I'd like to see the Marsh restoration (C, or D)

2) We dog walkers would like to keep the Wildlife Conservation Board areas as they are: off leash, at least in practice. The nearest other places are Bolinas Ridge and Millerton, several miles away. Also, the pathway to Inverness Park should allow dogs.

Philip McKee / Inverness Park



kaycmahon@svn.net  
02/13/2007 11:09 PM  
EST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project

Email submitted from: /pore/parkmgmt/planning\_giacomini\_wrp\_eiseir\_draft\_2006.htm

Dear Superintendent Don Neubacher - I would like to thank you, and all of the other Park Service employees, consultants and volunteers, for the many years of hard work and dedicated effort to move forward the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project. My support is for Alternative D, with a little modification as is possible. Sincerely Yours, Kay McMahon 81 Dover Road (Box 201) Inverness CA 94937

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2/5/07

Dear Don,

I urge the park to  
support Alternative D  
with

the addition of a bridge  
across Laganitas Creek  
from the southern path  
from Pt Reyes.

Thank you

Nell Melcher



NELL MELCHER STUDIO

P.O. Box 153 \* Point Reyes, CA 94956

415-663-1815 \* Phone & Fax

[www.nellmelcher.com](http://www.nellmelcher.com)

Don Neubacher  
Attn: Giacomini Wetlands  
Pt Reyes Nat'l Seashore  
Point Reyes, CA 94956



"Jerry Meral"  
 <jmeral@horizoncable.com>  
 02/10/2007 08:05 AM  
 PST

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc:  
 Subject: Papermill Creek wetlands restoration

February 10, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
 Point Reyes National Seashore

Dear Don:

I support the selection of Alternative D, the Environmentally Preferred alternative that provides for the most extensive restoration of the Tomales Bay wetlands. There are three reasons:

- 1) With sea level rise, it is important to maximize wetlands productivity, so that the vegetation can "keep up" with the rising sea level.
- 2) Coastal wetlands are very scarce in California, so it is important to maximize their restoration.
- 3) The tourism economy of our area will benefit from restoration, since bird watching is a major activity for tourists here.

I support the position of the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin regarding the bridge over Lagunitas Creek and trail connection between the Green Bridge and the White House Pool.

Best regards,

Jerry Meral

Gerald H. Meral, Ph.D.  
 PO 1103  
 Inverness, CA 94937  
 phone/fax 415-669-9883  
 mobile: 415-717-8412  
 jmeral@horizoncable.com

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"Connie Mery"  
<cmery@horizoncable.com>

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: marsh restoration

02/08/2007 10:47 PM  
PST

Dear Don,

I think it would be best to have the maximum wildlife protected.  
Maybe that expensive bridge is unnecessary.

thanks

connie mery

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# Michael Mery

February 11, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: Comments on the Draft EIR: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration.

Dear Don:

You and the Seashore staff have done a first rate evaluation of the proposed wetland restoration, the excellence being reflected by the depth of the analyses in the draft EIS. I look forward with anticipation to watching the restoration proceed with the fascinating changes in vegetation and the various wild species that will benefit from the marsh.

I urge the Park to implement Alternative D, the "preferred environmental alternative." In my view, ecological restoration is primary and all other interests are secondary because of the rarity of wetlands, in general, and the health of the bay and our ecosystem, in particular. There are many special status species in the restoration area and that, too, calls for the best possible restoration effort.

I urge the following:

1. Implement Alternative D.
2. Eliminate the bridge over Lagunitas Creek because of excessive costs and budget limitations. Those monies would be more wisely spent on improving the connectivity between the Olema and Giacomini marshes.
3. Greater emphasis on the four major feeder streams: Lagunitas, Bear Valley, Olema and Tomasini Creeks. Limit public access to the riparian areas including the transitional zones allowing for the greatest possible vegetation and associated habitat improvement.
4. Maximize tidal access for all the drainages as per the description in Alternative D.
5. Eliminate the access point parking area at the farm worker housing on Mesa Road. This site will likely pose management problems for the Seashore as it will become a destination. The access in town near the ranch housing is much more desirable since visitors and residents can easily walk from town unlike the farm worker housing site where there is very poor pedestrian access from Mesa Road.
6. The Ag zoned property on the East side of the marsh should be in public ownership leading to the removal of all barns, etc.

The Preferred Alternative has many of the aspects of Alternative D, but in a weaker form. Because of the importance of the marsh and the unusual nature of this opportunity, doing the most complete restoration possible should be the goal.

My heartfelt thanks to you and your staff for your dedication to the ecosystem we share. The public/private partnership in which so many participate is possible because of the openness and professionalism of Park Service staff. I and many others look forward to the changes as the marsh evolves, as we watch the creatures and plant life with which we share this ecosystem become reestablished in their, and our, recovering wetland.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Mery". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Michael Mery

# Michael Mery

February 12, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: Additional Comments on the Draft EIR: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration.

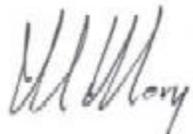
Dear Don:

To my prior comments I would like to add the following:

1. Please negotiate a management agreement with the California State Lands Commission to take on the responsibility for their 500+ acre parcel so as to integrate that management with the marsh restoration.
2. To facilitate foot and bicycle traffic from PRS to Inverness Park, please consider widening the SFD Blvd. from the Green Bridge west. Widen the southern portion so as to allow a bicycle and foot lane on the northern side of the road to the point where the path along the creek begins.
3. I add my support to the PRS Village Association letter, enclosed.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Mery".

Michael Mery

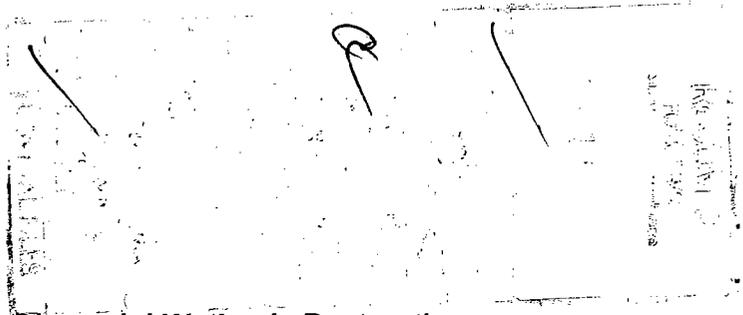
**BRIDGER M. MITCHELL**

---

290 Camino del Mar  
Inverness, CA

February 14, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956



**re: Comments on the Draft EIR: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration**

Dear Don,

I commend the Park Service and your team for the high-quality Draft EIR and for undertaking the public consultation process.

I have not had the opportunity to read the entire draft report, but have selectively reviewed the executive summary and descriptions of Alternatives C and D. I trust that the final decision need not be constrained to the precise alternatives contained in the report, but can be further developed and fine-tuned to reflect comments from this consultation. I have read the thoughtful and constructive comments of the Point Reyes Station Village Association and the Sierra Club and find them well considered.

In preparing the report staff has clearly considered a great many factors, and has been attentive to community comment. This is particularly evident in the components for public access included in Alternative C.

Nevertheless, I believe adequate access can be achieved at lower cost and with greater environmental benefits by moving toward a restoration plan constructed around Alternative D. **I support Alternative D.**

In particular, the perimeter trail along the southern boundary of the Giacomini Wetlands can be better achieved, at lower cost, by not installing a very costly pedestrian bridge. Instead, alternative D can be improved by widening the shoulders of the Levee Road to safely accommodate pedestrian and bicycle travel, improving connectivity between Point Reyes Station and Inverness.

Restoration of a single, interconnected wetlands area encompassing both the Giacomini fields and Olema Marsh is, to my mind, the component of the project that is least advanced. Clearly, reconception of the Levee Road as a causeway will involve other agencies. Nevertheless, funds not expended on the proposed bridge should be redirected to restoring the hydraulic connectivity of the Wetlands with the Olema Marsh.

I encourage you to continue to envision a restoration effort that transcends just the NPS and to work for coordinated and cooperative solutions with the County, ACR, and other affected organizations. The project will be more successful as a result of conceiving the environment at the southern end of Tomales Bay holistically.

Sincerely yours,



"Jim Monson"  
<jamesmon@svn.net>  
02/09/2007 03:45 PM  
PST

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc: "Julie" <juliemon@svn.net>  
Subject: Attn: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

Superintendent Neubacher and staff,

Thanks so much for all of the work that you have done in planning to make the wetlands restoration project serve community and environmental needs. I particularly appreciate the public meeting that you held at the Red Barn a few weeks ago. The presentation was very clear, and you did everything possible to give everyone a chance to hear and be heard.

Julie and I would like to indicate our preference among the various alternatives presented. We favor the EAC proposal presented at the meeting - i.e., alternative D, modified to include a bridge across the creek that would enable trail access from White House Pool to Point Reyes Station. We feel that this plan would give maximum environmental protection, while giving people access to the wetlands and providing a safe pedestrian walkway all the way to Point Reyes Station from White House Pool.

We look forward to the next steps in the restoration of the wetlands.

All the best,

Jim Monson  
40 Fox Drive  
Point Reyes Station

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SharonMooney  
 <smooney@svn.net>  
 02/11/2007 03:51 PM  
 PST

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Marsh

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 National Seashore

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I am in support of the proposal below suggested by Michael Mery:

uperintendent Don Neubacher  
 Point Reyes National Seashore  
 Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RE: Comments on the Draft EIR: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration.  
 Dear Don:

You and the Seashore staff have done a first rate evaluation of the proposed wetlands restoration, the excellence being reflected by the depth of the analyses in the draft EIS. I look forward with anticipation to watching the restoration proceed with the fascinating changes in vegetation and the various wild species that will benefit from the marsh.

I urge the Park to implement Alternative D, the "preferred environmental alternative." In my view, ecological restoration is primary and all other interests are secondary because of the rarity of wetlands, in general, and the health of the bay and our ecosystem, in particular. There are many special status species in the restoration area and that, too, calls for the best possible restoration effort.

I urge the following:

1. Implement Alternative D.
2. Eliminate the bridge over Lagunitas Creek because of excessive costs and budget limitations. Those monies would be more wisely spent on improving the connectivity between the Olema and Giacomini marshes.
3. Greater emphasis on the four major feeder streams: Lagunitas, Bear Valley, Olema and Tomasini Creeks. Limit public access to the riparian areas including the transitional zones allowing for the greatest possible vegetation and associated habitat improvement.
4. Maximize tidal access for all the drainages as per the description in Alternative D.
5. Eliminate the access point parking area at the farm worker housing on Mesa Road. This site will likely pose management problems for the Seashore as it will become a destination. The access in town near the ranch housing is much more desirable since visitors and residents can easily walk from town unlike the farm worker housing site where there is very poor pedestrian access from Mesa Road.
6. The Ag zoned property on the East side of the marsh should be in public ownership leading to the removal of all barns, etc.

The Preferred Alternative has many of the aspects of Alternative D, but in a weaker form. Because of the importance of the marsh and the unusual nature of this opportunity, doing the most complete restoration possible should be the goal.

My heartfelt thanks to you and your staff for your dedication to the ecosystem we share. The public/private partnership in which so many participate is possible because of the openness and professionalism of Park Service staff. I and many others look forward to the changes as the marsh evolves, as we watch the creatures and plant life with which we share this ecosystem become reestablished in their, and our, recovering wetland.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael Mery". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael Mery

TO THE  
SUPERINTENDANT  
PEREYES NATIONAL  
SEASHORE

I prefer plan "D"  
with~~out~~ the inclusion  
of a bridge and  
pathway for  
the  
Coconino Wetland  
Restoration Project  
I've lived in  
Pereyes since  
1973.

Charles  
Moran



Ann Nelson  
 01/30/2007 09:38 AM  
 PST

To: file  
 cc:  
 Subject: Fw: Attn: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project



M M  
 <marinspin@yahoo.com>  
 >  
 01/29/2007 05:46 PM  
 PST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Fwd: Attn: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

forwarded bt--- M M <marinspin@yahoo.com> wrote:

> Date: Sun, 28 Jan 2007 15:07:42 -0800 (PST)  
 > From: M M <marinspin@yahoo.com>  
 > Subject: Attn: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration  
 > Project  
 > To: parkplanning@nps.gov  
 >  
 >  
 > Jan. 28, 2007  
 >  
 >  
 > To:  
 >  
 > Don Neubacher, Superintendent  
 > Point Reyes National Seashore  
 > Point Reyes, CA 94956  
 > Attn: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project  
 >  
 > I would like the park to go with plan D because of  
 > the  
 > following reasons:  
 >  
 > D will provide more habitat for more  
 > wetland-dependent  
 > species, more natural hydrological function, and  
 > more  
 > extensive restoration of riparian habitats in the  
 > Lagunitas Creek delta and at the mouth of Tomasini  
 > Creek. Ultimately, these factors will contribute to  
 > a  
 > healthier Tomales bay and greater biodiversity along  
 > its shores.  
 >  
 > Thank you,  
 >  
 > Marjorie Morgenstern - Long time Marin County  
 > Resident  
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"Marble Marble"  
<marble74@hotmail.co  
m>

02/14/2007 12:04 AM  
GMT

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration: In Favor of ALTERNATIVE D

To all Concerned, I am STRONGLY in favor of measure D as written (without the modification of the bridge). The opportunity to restore these wetlands and grasslands should be pursued whole-heartedly and recognized as the special and necessary contribution this would make to the Tomales Bay ecosystem. Any paths (particularly those including dogs, horses and bicycles) are antithetical to this purpose as they would disrupt and impinge on returning birds and other animals and plants. Who would supervise the functioning of the proposed path, who would pick up the dog and horse feces (which contain contaminants and seeds from invasive plant species) left behind; who would insure that the dogs were not on leash and not routing birds, etc?; who would pick up the garbage left by humans?

In short, I feel the best policy is that which would contribute to the most efficient healthful functioning of Tomales Bay: ALTERNATIVE D.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Sincerely, Mary Moser

Search for grocery stores. Find gratitude. Turn a simple search into something more.

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terry nordbye  
<terry@visionroad.us>  
01/31/2007 10:29 PM  
PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
cc: on\_jarvis@nps.gov  
Subject:

### Giacomini Restoration

To the Editor of the Point Reyes Light From Terry Nordbye- Inverness

The proposed plans for the Giacomini wetlands include possible -bike, horse, and foot trails, a very big bridge, a boardwalk, parking spaces and more.

The bike path proponents say that bike trails will get people out of their cars I agree but that is only after they drove the sixty miles to get to the path. The trail would be dirt and those skinny tire bikes will not be on the trail People do not bicycle out here on dirt bikes from Fairfax or Fairfield they carry them on their cars and SUV's

The proposed board- walk would go through the old railroad right of way Most people have probably never foraged through this soggy over grown riparian area because since the trains stopped it has grown back to thick and rich and hidden habitat for many a critters. Bringing in structures boardwalks and people would be an irreversible disruption to wildlife, a visual insult the human eye and provide the park with an endless and expensive maintenance project

The bridge, according to Don Neubacher, would cost around \$800,000- big and strong enough to withstand the powers of flooding and earthquake. Now even in Gov't dollars, \$800,000 is a lot of bridge to look at. And then of course there is \$ maintenance.

If you build it, they will come.

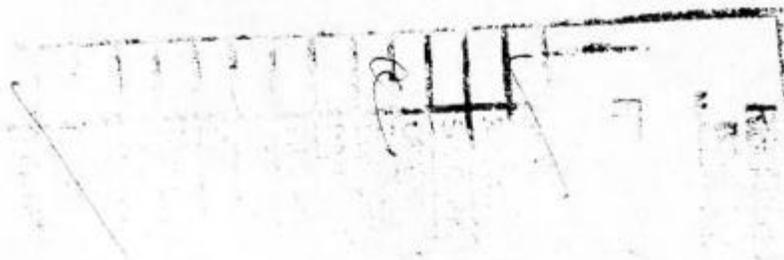
Be aware that "these charming wildlife trails" will likely end up on Bay Area Back Roads and in Sunset Magazine and will attract many more visitors and their cars to our already over-crowded town

Globally, plant and animal species are losing ground, dying off and becoming extinct The main reason for loss of species is loss of habitat. The main reason for loss of habitat is that humans always want a small piece of whatever is left. In the Giacomini wetland restoration- what is the right balance between pure restoration and our human "need" for access? . The more trails, bikes, horses, brigdes, construction, the less habitat, peace and ground for wildlife. All our demands are met at a cost to wildlife.

This restored wetland will be a thing of beauty, a gift for the wild things, and a centerpiece for Point Reyes Station. Does that not provide enough for our human needs? Can't untouched beauty satisfy our human needs? Could we accept that we don't have to do something to have something, to use something just because it is there?

Beauty does not have to be used; our lives and our soul can be enriched just by knowing it is there

Terry Nordbye





terry nordbye  
<terry@visionroad.us>  
02/11/2007 07:44 PM  
PST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
CC:  
Subject: wetlands

Please leave the wetlands to the wildlife. We (humans) have enough recreational things and toys and trails. Please keep people, dogs, bikes, strollers, picnics, etc out of the wetlands, that would include bridges, paths and boardwalks. I am sure I don't have to remind you how much habitat has been irreversibly already taken. Your restoration project is a great and commendable endeavor, please keep it as "pure" as possible.

Sincerely, Terry Nordbye- Inverness

PS I ride a bicycle, I spend a lot of days and time walking the trails of the park in my 30 plus years in Inverness.

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February 13, 2007

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE  
POINT REYES, CA 94955-9789

ku'i  
FEB 20 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, Ca. 94956

RE: comments on the Draft EIS: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration.

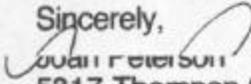
Dear Mr. Neubacher,

Having been a resident of Inverness for many years, I have been extremely pleased with the proposed wetland restoration. It will be exciting to return to Point Reyes and see the changes in vegetation and various wild species that will benefit from the marsh.

I urge the Park to implement Alternative D, the "preferred environmental alternative." Ecological restoration is primary and all other interests are secondary because of the rarity of wetlands, in general, and the health of the bay and the ecosystem, in particular.

Thank you for the opportunity to send you my comments.

Sincerely,

  
DAVID F. PETERSON

5317 Thompsn Creek Road  
Applegate, Oregon 97530



Richard Plant  
 <rlp@svn.net>  
 02/12/2007 12:33 PM  
 PST

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Marsh

Dear National Park Officials,

I support alternatives C or D of the Giacomini Marsh restoration project, but with all of the public walk in accesses as indicated in either of both proposals. This is in accord with a national need to provide more exercise opportunities for people while at the same time reducing reliance of fossil fuels for transportation. Additionally, the public has invested heavily in the Park and it is desirable for the public to be able to directly experience, when reasonably possible, that which they have funded. The concept helps to build support for future projects of a similar nature.

Sincerely,

Richard Plant

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pontacq@horizoncable.  
com  
02/15/2007 03:19 AM  
EST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project

Email submitted from: /pore/parkmgmt/planning\_giacomini\_wrp\_eiseir\_draft\_2006.htm

As a resident of Point Reyes Station interested in the viability of the restoration of the Tomales Bay wetlands (also called the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project), I VOTE FOR OPTION D.

I do NOT support a bridge or multi-use trail on either the east or west side of the wetlands.

I support an unimproved viewing trail for locals all the west side, if possible.

Jeanette Pontacq 415 663 1700 Box 1237/PRS 94956 pontacq@horizoncable.com

✓

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✓

Comments on the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Plan:  
2/8/07

I am writing to express my concerns about the Preferred Alternative C of the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project. I live on the Levee Road and currently use the informal footpath already established in the designated area. I often walk from the Green Bridge access, through the Marin County Open Space area and along Lagunitas Creek between the stream and the pasture land.

Over the decades, since it was a natural wetland, this area has gone through many changes. In the past 30 years, we have seen an over-grazed monoculture returned to a diverse forest in the Marin County Open Space plot adjacent to the Green Bridge. We have also seen the streamside area alongside the Giacomini pasture become further degraded as the ranch sent in dozens of truckloads of dirt to repair the breached levees created after last years floods.

Now there is an opportunity to return much of this land to a viable wetland. Lagunitas Creek needs to be considered a key part of this! At the moment, there are many wild creatures still using the creek. To name a few: black crowned night, great blue and green herons, kingfishers, river otters, and western pond turtles. All these animals are very sensitive to human disturbance. (Those of us, who have an ongoing relationship with the creek, know that they tend to stay away from people, dogs and vehicles and congregate in the more secluded spots.) The trail, as proposed, would potentially bring in way too much use for this very fragile area. Many of us are sure that creating a large boulevard, encouraging multiple uses, will put it way over a sustainable threshold.

"Build it and they will come." We suspect that this trail will not be used to facilitate local mobility. That is not even feasible as there is no plan to be able to get farther north than White House Pool. But instead, it will become a way for horses and bikes to connect up with the Bear Valley trail system. This is a logical use as the current connection through Olema Marsh has to be accessed from the dangerous Levee Road. (This, by the way, remains a real issue but it is not an appropriate responsibility of the Restoration Project.) We also see the inevitability of the Lagunitas trail being used by tourists who want to get out and see the Wetlands on a short, convenient walk from town.

All such use will have a very negative impact on the delicate creek ecosystem. I raised this concern during the last public meeting (1/25/07). The response was that compared to current conditions, which is a leveed ranch, the habitat will be better. I would like to point out that we are not trying to improve on a bad situation. We are trying to restore a wetland and riparian habitat to the way it was pre-ranch!

My recommendation then is that, unless Alternative C can be adapted to include a small footpath and a simple one-lane footbridge, there should be no change in the current accessibility along Lagunitas Creek. If this is not possible, Alternative D - the Environmental option - is the best and only choice.

Susan Prince  
11180 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, PRS

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William Prince  
 <princew@horizoncable.com>

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: alternative D

02/13/2007 10:26 PM  
 PST

> Superintendent, Pt. Reyes National Seashore Point Reyes, Ca.  
 > 94956 Attn: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan  
 >

I support Alternative D for the Wetlands Restoration Project. Please choose to protect our most valuable resource in this way.

Sincerely,  
 William Prince  
 225 Camino Del Mar, Inverness  
 Po Box 767, Inverness  
 415-669-7332

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Feb 9 2007

THOMAS QUINN
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National Park Service  
FEB 9 2007

National Park Service  
Don:

May we keep the original goals of this wetland.  
We endorse Alternative D.

Additionally -

1. Purchase the entire ranch and remove the possibility degradation by development on the edges of this important restoration as well as a small unique village. (wellfully avail yourself of Prop 84 funds)
2. No bridge to nowhere - spend the savings on the protections listed above.
3. address the significant effects of 2 drainage sites of the village's polluted surface runoff water
4. removal of Riprap installed by the Army Corps in 1983 - the year after Lagunitas Creek flooded and attempted to relocate its streambed.
5. be aware of the new projected changes in sea level through Global warming.
6. be alert to a Willow invasion from the South of the wetland.

7.  
THOMAS QUINN  
A R T I S T

(415) 663-1770

PO BOX 225 . POINT REYES STATION . CALIFORNIA 94956

7. request the County remove the Cypress trees on C Street. They were planted to <sup>obscure</sup> screen the Soaping Barn.
8. Consider leaving island segments of the north and south levees at removal time.
9. Soil removal on the east side of the creek should be routed on Central ranch road and not up Third Street. This residential neighborhood with its people (children), dogs, and quietude has been disregarded and menaced enough by the dairy.

Sincerely

Tom and Jeri Quinn

C H R I S R E D I N G

Post Office Box 252  
36 Cypress Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

415 663-8266

February 14, 2007

Point Reyes National Seashore  
National Park Service

RE: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration

I support Plan D as I am concerned that the traffic and parking issues that could arise from the Wetlands restoration and public access in the vicinity of the town may degrade the pedestrian character of the community and our quality of life.

Sincerely,

*Chris Reding*  
Chris Reding

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"Lisa Ridge"  
<lisa.ridge@gmail.com>  
02/14/2007 08:07 PM  
PST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: wetland restoration

Dear Mr. Neubacher:

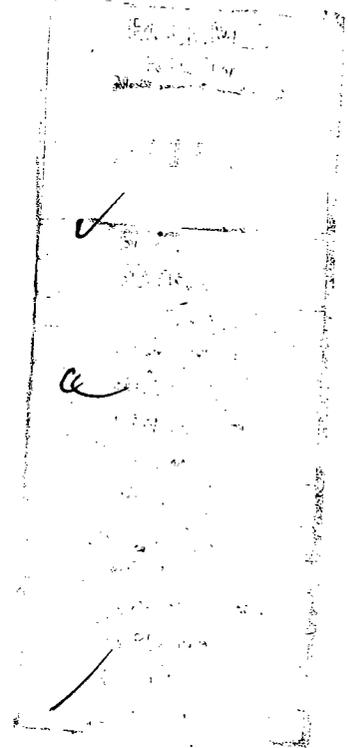
I am writing to you about the Giacomini Restoration Plan at Tomales Bay. As a long-time resident of Marin (my parents also live in Point Reyes) I cannot emphasize the importance of Western Marin's world-famous beauty and diverse wildlife. Accordingly, I appreciate Point Reyes National Seashore's plan to restore the wetlands at Tomales Bay, which will do so much to enhance local wildlife.

But I think we should do as much as possible to save the wetlands, so I hope you will support Alternative D. I support Alternative D because it goes a step further in restoring the wetlands and, concomitantly, the wildlife that they sustain.

In addition, I support the construction of a bridge over Lagunitas Creek and the trail connection between Green Bridge and White House Pool, as part of the restoration plan. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Ridge  
Novato, CA 94947 (formerly in Inverness)





Russell Ridge  
 <theridges@telescience  
 .net>

To: <pore\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc:  
 Subject: Tomales Bay Wetlands Restoration Project

02/13/2007 10:20 AM  
 PST

To Don Neubacher, Supt.  
 Point Reyes National Seashore

Dear Don,

Sorry to be so late in submitting our comments. My wife and I would respectfully ask that the park service support Alternative D for the wetlands restoration: maximize marsh development and minimize human 'footprints' on a nature area.

I (Russell) am a retired professor of biology, College of Marin. One of my biology 'heroes', Garrett Hardin of U.C. Santa Barbara, had polio as a child. I was impressed when he stood with the aid of crutches at an open hearing and defended wilderness areas. "These are areas that should have limited access." He would deny access to himself, but knowing that they existed was the greater good. This is the opposite attitude of the person from Novato (whose name I won't list) who got up at a public hearing in the early days of The Pt. Reyes Nat'l Seashore, and pleaded for a road through the middle of the seashore (now designated as 'wilderness'), so that he could drive his elderly grandmother through the area. "We're paying for this park, so we should be able to use it". What a lack of understanding for the integrity of nature areas!

A few paths and/or observation sites around the edges could be permitted, but please keep traffic out of most of the marsh land. This is not that large an area to be invaded by humans.

Sincerely,  
 Russell and Margaret Ridge  
 Inverness Park  
 P.O. Box 396, Pt. Reyes Sta.  
 663-1716

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Dennis and Judy Rodoni  
P.O. Box 254  
Olema, Ca. 94950  
415-663-8370

February 13, 2007

Don Neubacher, Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA. 94956

Regarding: Giacomini Wetland Restoration

Dear Don,

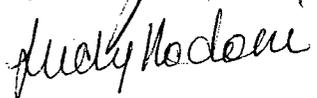
First of all we would like to thank the park for having this public dialog related to addressing alternatives for the Giacomini Wetland Restoration. Your process has proven to be thorough, educational, and a very transparent process. You and your staff should be thanked for this effort.

We believe that Alternative D provides us with the best possible wetland restoration with the most benefit for our environment and surrounding communities.

Some of the other alternatives discuss access possibilities, but our preference would be to provide the very best possible wetland restoration, with viewing areas for education and enjoyment, but very little human footprint into the wetlands

Sincerely

Dennis and Judy Rodoni

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February 10, 2007

Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

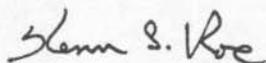
Dear Sir:

My family settled in Bodega in 1851, establishing ranches in the area, and building summer homes at Dillon Beach, which we visit regularly.

As an educator and writer, I have written numerous articles about the history, wildlife, and birds of the area in national and regional magazines.

I am thrilled that the Giacomini pastures will be restored to Wetlands. However, I am strongly in support of Plan D, which I believe will increase and protect habitat, as well as a free-flowing stream. Plan C would increase traffic, noise, and congestion, that will infringe upon the delicate, ecological setting.

Sincerely,



Kenn S. Roe  
3325 Saint Moritz Court  
Redding, CA 96002

cc: Jon Jarvis



"Mark Ropers"  
 <mcropers@horizoncab  
 le.com>

To: <Park\_Planning@nps.gov>  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration - Alternative D

02/14/2007 11:18 AM  
 PST

Dear Superintendent Don Neubacher:

Having read about the various alternatives in aregard to the restoration of the Giacomini Wetlands. I have also read in The Point Reyes Light that The Park seems intent on implementing Alternative C. I request that you give such a leaning further thought and instead implement Alternative D.

Alternative D is the more pure avenue to take and one which still allows us to enjoy the restored wetlands - only in a more pure fashion. And pure fashion appears to be the vision of the Park on so many other matters! Thus it should be a natural for you to choose.

I really hope that you do not build a bridge across Lagunitas Creek. That option simply is an expenditure of money you do not need and it would detract from the beauty of the restored wetlands. As much as we are looking forward to the restoration of the wetlands, we do not want it to become an amusement park with parking problems, crowds, etc.

Please implement Alternative D.

Very truly yours,

Mark Ropers  
 P.O. Box 883  
 Inverness, CA 94937

GIACOMINI POINT REYES RESTORATION PROJECT	
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Charles Gay/Pamela  
 Ross  
 <rossgay@mos.com.np  
 >

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
 CC:  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands

02/14/2007 10:13 AM  
 ZE5C

Dear Don,

Although we live on Inverness Ridge for only half the year and are currently at our winter home in Kathmandu, Nepal, we have been following the Giacomini Wetlands restoration proposals online and want to add our comments on the various alternatives presented.

We are in favor of Alternative D, with the addition of a bridge to make a trail connection from White House Pool to Green Bridge. In general we support the most extensive possible restoration of the Tomales Bay wetlands, and are willing to give up most public access in order to achieve that restoration. But we also believe that the trail connection would be of enormous value to our communities, and that it could be designed in such a way as to encourage walking use only and discourage or prohibit other use (i.e., bicycles). A bicycle lane on Levee Road would be a safe and useful addition.

Thank you,

Pamela Ross & Charles Gay  
 60 Drake Summit Rd.  
 Inverness CA 94956

*Don't see it*

PS--Please cancel our email of Feb. 13--it was sent in error before we had fully understood the alternatives. Thanks.

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Jonathan Rowe  
 <jonrowe@earthlink.net  
 >  
 02/13/2007 11:28 PM  
 PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov, jon.Jarvis@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands -- For Alt. D

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February 13, 2007

Superintendent  
 Point Reyes National Seashore  
 Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Dear Superintendent:

I have to support PLAN D for the Giacomini Wetlands. This is not because I am against public access, but because the alternative - Plan C - is unfitting both for this community and for the wetlands themselves.

For example, it would be good to have a footpath to connect Inverness Park to Point Reyes Station. However, as I understand it, Plan C would give us not a footpath but rather something approaching a narrow road. This likely would become a highway for bicycles on weekends. What about people who walk, especially small children?

Already we have to dodge the bikes that come at us two and three abreast as we walk along local roads. Now we could have the same experience in what is supposed to be a quiet and natural wetlands?

The same question applies to the parking area and access point proposed for the area that is now farm worker housing off of Mesa Road. Perhaps you are not aware that Mesa Road is much used by walkers. People walk their dogs and walk to town; some walk just for the fun of it. Most days I walk my son, who is four years old, to preschool, and then back again in the afternoon.

Now you are proposing to put a parking area along this road that many people are walking? I'm going to have to contend with park traffic as I walk my son to school? Walking is something to be encouraged, not run off the road. I hope you are prepared to install a sidewalk along Mesa Road - currently there is none - because we residents are going to need one if we have to face park traffic in the street.

Please pause a moment to reflect upon the irony. As part of a project to restore a wetlands to its natural state, you are proposing to increase automotive traffic in a residential area next to that wetland. You do not need to do this. There is parking already at the elementary school on weekends. More parking is coming soon on the new lot behind main street on the Ecumenical Housing site.

Both of these lots are just a short walk away. They exist already (or will shortly, in the case of the EAC site) -- as do the lots at White House Pool and the Olema Marsh. How much more parking and access do you

need for this one wetlands, especially considering the spacious National Seashore parklands (and parking) that are nearby?

For these reasons among others, I urge you to go with the plan that does the most to advance the core purpose of this restoration project - that is, Alternative D.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Rowe

Point Reyes Station

Feb. 7, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Giacomini Wetlands Restoration DEIS/EIR  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

RECEIVED	Point Reyes	Marin National Park
FEB 9 - 17		
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LAW ENFORC.	RANG. RES.	RANGE CONS.
FIRE MGT.	INTERP.	CULT. RES.
MAINT.	CONTRACTING	PERSONNEL
BUDGET	CENTRAL FILES	

Re: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

Dear Superintendent Neubacher,

As a long time resident on Mesa Road, I am advocating the implementation of Alternative D for the following reasons:

1- The area where Tomasini Careek enters the bay has a distinctive riparian habitat conducive to the preservation of red-legged frogs, tide-water goby and steelhead trout. If a walking trail is installed, that, and a parking area and toilet may upset this delicate balance.

2- The proposed walking trail will destroy the quality of life - quietude and privacy of those residents on the bluffs and plateaus above.

3- The hunting shack may invite vandalism and parties by teenager and others looking for a place to do so. Also this area may be difficult to police and enforce against trouble-makers and vandals.

4- The NOISE generated by large groups of people will inhibit the finding of a new protected home to the thousands of animals and birds who will find a sanctuary here.

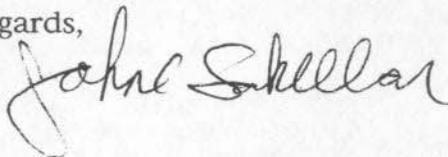
As a hiker of all the trails in Marin County, I have discovered there are trails for everyone: horseback riders, cyclists, day hikers, bird-watchers and overnight back-packers camping out. How about an area specifically for the birds and beasts?

The Olema Marsh has one fine overlook, a viewpoint from the bluff above that lets the animal and birdlife go about their business down below, as observers (humans) above can observe them in quiet. A perfect arrangement of live-and-let-live exists between the human and animal kingdoms without the birds and animals being disturbed.

Cannot the same thing be made of the Martinelli Ranch trail? It is accessed by way of Hwy. 1, north of town. It has a parking lot and well out of the way of residential areas, thus avoiding traffic and pedestrian congestion. It offers from the bluff above, as at the Olema Marsh, a magnificent overview of the bay below, much grander in fact, because the bluff or plateau above it is at a higher altitude, affording the observer magnificent views all the way to the North where the mouth of Tomales Bay breaks into the Pacific and to the South and across to the Shoreline on the West, encompassing from this vantage point all therein (birds and animals) which the restored wetlands will contain.

Thank you for your consideration. Regards,

John C. Sakellar (resident Mesa Rd.)  
P.O. Box 610  
Point Reyes Station, California  
94956



(custer@svn.net)

cc: Jon Jarvis

January 22, 2007

Superintendent

Pt. Reyes Natl. Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Pt. Reyes Station, CA. 94956

Lorraine

JAN 23 11

Dear Don and Lorraine,

My name is Marianne Sakellar, and I live at 350 Mesa Rd, on the hill directly above the proposed wetlands restoration at the southeastern perimeter in Pt. Reyes Station. Thank you for sending me the letter # L7617 regarding the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan, which I have read and understand. However, I fail to understand why there isn't a plan that suggests NO public access. I thought that the wetlands restoration was for the benefit of wildlife, plant and animal in general, and the endangered tidewater goby, in particular, as well as the red-legged frog, and steelhead trout. Public access, by definition, would disturb that very noble goal. We have so many thousands of acres of public access here in Marin, with trails, facilities, parking extant, we do not need more. Please leave the animals alone. They will thrive without human encroachment, but will be slower to nest, slower to breed, slower to feed while subject to our presence and our noise.

**To my knowledge, in Marin we do not have public access this close to homes. Because my neighbors and I would feel the brunt and dangers of public access, I am very worried about the close proximity to our homes of this proposed spur trail on the southeastern perimeter. I worry about safety, noise levels, and loss of privacy. I actually think these would be the personal concerns of the wetlands wildlife, as well, if they had a voice.**

I worry about fire. Our prevailing winds are from the southwest. Groups of walkers, birders, bicyclists who would come in the daylight or teenagers there at night partying could easily start a fire that would sweep up this hillside very quickly. Because of the very private location and easy access from Mesa Rd., a spur trail would invite activity down there, particularly at night, but also in the daytime, that would endanger our safety. It only takes a burning cigarette carelessly discarded. We have elderly, children, animals, and numbers of folks who might just be sleeping. We could easily suffer loss of life and destruction of property. We have thus far had to monitor occasional bonfires on that trail late at night – illegal, but not overseen by law enforcement. Please check the police reports. How **would** this proposed spur be policed? How **could** it be?

My second concern is noise. There have literally been countless times that we on the hillside have had to stay inside with our windows shut because of the noise coming from the trailers. This is hard on summer days. I have discovered that sound travels upward and again, with the prevailing breezes, the sound is further carried right into our homes.

Conversations, music, yelling, laughter, kids, dogs, arguments ... we get it all, day and night. It is hard to be assailed by other peoples' noise when we ourselves seek the quiet. We've paid our dues, believe me. Being forced to hear music and conversations, particularly among groups of people is disturbing, and if I am disturbed by it, imagine how the wild animals will react. My hunch is they will make themselves scarce.

I also am very concerned about my family's loss of privacy. We will be entirely visible, and for those of us who live outside the town and enjoy the privacy this affords, the proposed spur trail will be an invasion. I am particularly worried about a possible parking lot and latrine, and the attendant traffic that this would attract on Mesa. Visitors to Pt. Reyes would come to use the latrine to compensate for the single public bathroom in the town. It would increase traffic and noise on Mesa. It might just smell awful, too. It would be a sensory blight and would, I am sure, drive down our property values.

In conclusion, I ask you to please propose a No Public Access Plan in consideration of the wildlife we hope to preserve in the wetlands, and in consideration of the families here that a proposed spur trail would so negatively effect. I refer you to the enclosed paper authored by Gordon Bennett, representing the Sierra Club, dated July 2004, most particularly to the last paragraph on page two.

I am with respect,

*Marianne Sakellar*  
Marianne Sakellar

[msakellar@marin.k12.ca.us](mailto:msakellar@marin.k12.ca.us)

cc: Jon Jarvis

*M. Sakellar*  
*20 Bay Hill*  
*Pt. Reyes Sta., Ca.*  
*94956*

**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
**Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting**

January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

Hi - Lorraine had mentioned that a foot trail beyond Whitehouse pool was not being considered because the person on the path could look right into residents' backyards - it's the same on the Mesa. If you create a spur, users would be in our front yards - entirely visible. Please - no spur on Mesa. Ho D

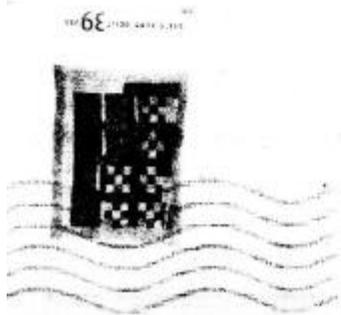
*Marianne Schell*

94957 34386+3703

*94957*  
*Pt. Reyes Station, CA*  
*1 Bear Valley Rd*  
*Pt. Reyes National Seashore*  
*Supervisor's Office*

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*Pt. Reyes Sta., CA*  
*350 Meola Rd*  
*94957*



RECEIVED  
Point Reyes  
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FEB 9 - '02

Feb. 6, 2002

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Superintendent

Pt. Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Pt. Reyes Station, CA. 94956

Dear Don and Lorraine,

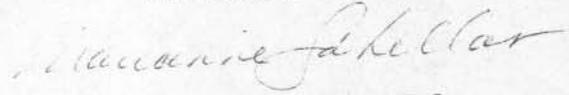
Thank you for such an informative and well-run meeting. I still do not understand why public access should be part of this equation in planning for restoration of the Giacomini Wetlands. It was not part of the original charge of the park service, and I'm sorry that public pressure is making inroads. I see our lovely community going the way of Sedona, Arizona and Moab, Utah ... completely taken over by tourism and special interests such as bike coalitions. Since you advised us to write our choices, here are mine:

First choice: Leave the Wetlands alone

Second Choice: Proposition D

Please do not put a spur trail on Mesa.

Thank you,  
Marianne Sakellar



350 Mesa Rd.  
Pt. Reyes Station  
msakellar@horizoncable.com

Point Reyes Station  
Jan. 15, 2007

Dear Don and Lorraine,

I welcome the idea of a public path along the old railroad right of way. So it was with surprise that I learned from the Coastal Post that a public parking lot is planned off Mesa Road.

I feel I speak for many Pt. Reyes residents who welcome Park visitors. Local businesses and employees depend upon them. However, many of us feel pushed out of these places especially on busy weekends. Considering the wealth of resources in the nearby Park, I would appreciate your consideration of a modest, of interest to wildlife watchers, non-vehicular resource of interest mostly to residents.

Sincerely



Nancy Sakellar  
P.O. Box 610  
Point Reyes Station  
California  
94956

custe@svn.net

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Point Reyes Station  
Feb. 7, 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Giacomini Wetlands Restoration DEIS/EIR  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

Dear Don and Lorraine,

I strongly support the adoption of Alternative D, the environmentally preferred option.

The Public Access portion of Alternative C would lead to unacceptable levels of traffic, noise, pollution, and interference with the project aim, that is restoration of the wetlands and protection of habitat for the species that live there.

I thought the mood of the January 25 community meeting was definitely for Alternative D.

*Thanks.*

Sincerely

*Nancy Sakellar*

Nancy Sakellar  
P.O. Box 610  
Point Reyes Station, California  
94956

(custer@svn.net)

cc: Jon Jarvis

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*[Handwritten signature]*

request this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Please include a rationale for your personal information being withheld from public review that demonstrates disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy. Unsupported assertions will not meet this burden. In the absence of exceptional, documentable circumstances, this information will be released. Submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will always be made available for public review in their entirety.

Address written comments to: ATTN: Superintendent, Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project DEIS/EIR, Point Reyes National Seashore, 1 Bear Valley Road, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956. You may also email your comments. Please reference the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project in the subject line.

A **Notice of Availability** (61 KB PDF) has been published in the Federal Register and on December 13, 2006. Superintendent Don Neubacher issued a **letter** (20 KB PDF) notifying interested parties that this DEIS/EIR was available for review and comment.

Top of Page

Complete Document PDF (146 MB) (coming as soon as we can get it uploaded)

This document has been divided into smaller-sized files so that visitors with slower internet connections have the option of downloading desired chapters and/or figures separately if they do not wish to download the complete document as a single large file.

**Document Chapters** (Figures Included)

- Cover (1,053 KB PDF)
- Abstract/Executive Summary (pp. i - xviii) (20,078 KB PDF)
- Table of Contents (pp. il - lvi) (73 KB PDF)
- Acronyms (pp. lvii - lx) (53 KB PDF)
- Chapter 1: Purpose and Need for Action (pp. 1 - 26) (3,171 KB PDF)
- Chapter 2: Alternatives, Including the Preferred Alternative (pp. 27 - 126) (35,899 KB PDF)
- Chapter 3: Affected Environment (pp. 127 - 330) (46,458 KB PDF)
- Chapter 4: Environmental Consequences (pp. 331 - 640) (5,995 KB PDF)
- Chapter 5: Consultation and Coordination (pp. 641 - 654) (440 KB PDF)
- Literature Cited (pp. 655 - 676) (142 KB PDF)
- Index (pp. 677 - 684) (53 KB PDF)
- Appendices (pp. A-1 - A-12, B-1 - B-28, C-1 - C-17) (5,927 KB PDF)

*Please put my vote in for D*  
*Thanks Shirley Tab*

Top of Page

**Document Chapters** (text and figures separate)

- Abstract/Executive Summary (pp. i - xviii) (277 KB PDF)
- Table of Contents (pp. il - lvi) (73 KB PDF)
- Acronyms (pp. lvii - lx) (53 KB PDF)
- Chapter 1: Purpose and Need for Action (pp. 1 - 26) (278 KB PDF)
- Chapter 2: Alternatives, Including the Preferred Alternative (pp. 27 - 126) (875 KB)

SHIRLEY SALZMAN  
Box 1455  
Point Reyes Station  
California 94956



Wendy Schwartz  
<wenpaint@horizoncable.com>

To: <Park\_Planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: The Giacomini Marsh

02/11/2007 03:32 PM  
PST

Dear Don,

I don't do well with letters like these, so I'll just say I am strongly in favor of Alternative D—more emphasis on environmental restoration and less on human access. There is already enough of the latter.

Keep up the good work!

Wendy Schwartz

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Point Reyes National Seashore	
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"Rishi Schweig"  
 <rishi.schweig@gmail.com>

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini restoration

02/13/2007 01:48 AM

PST

Please respond to  
 rishischweig

I realize that you are hearing many voices in our community debating the difference between Plans C and D. I am writing to suggest that the entire community - residents and visitors - will be best served by a plan that includes a bridge across Lagunitas Creek.

Such a bridge will provide a valuable connection between the existing park holdings and the newly acquired ranch. It will enable hikers, cyclists, and horse riders to avoid the most dangerous and congested sections of the highway while continuing to enjoy the park all the way from Bear Valley to the village itself.

I was privileged to walk the entire property a few years ago, participating in the early survey work. I am excited to see the changes as the old pastures become wetlands and the rich mix of wildlife does even more to restore the earliest uses of this beautiful piece of property.

Still, the use of the land must include a reasonable, careful use by human beings. On the one hand, we all live here together, and locking this valuable land away would reduce its viability. On the other hand, no one wants to see this become an area sacrificed to sprawling parking lots or paved 10 foot wide paths.

A properly maintained path near Lagunitas Creek will not reduce the wetlands being restored, nor will it disrupt habitat of sensitive species. I am quite concerned that construction of facilities farther north of town, on the east side of the Giacomini property, might not be as suitable - for both of these reasons.

I support a blend of Plans C & D, keeping parking nearer the green bridge, removing all structures possible from the property. I strongly request, for safety, comfort, and enjoyment of what we own, that a bridge be built as early as possible, providing a continuous path from the village at least as far as White House Pool, and preferably past Inverness Park as far as the old north levee.

I deeply appreciate all the work done by Don and park staff. I have enjoyed reading the EIS and poring over the maps and charts. Thank you for seriously accepting your role as citizen in this community.

Sincere Thanks,  
 Rishi Schweig

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National Park Service	
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**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting

January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

Will the tidegates on  
~~the~~ Fish Hatchery Creek  
be removed under the current  
proposal?  
rishi.schweig@gmail.com



Moreva Selchie  
 <msselchie@horizoncable.com>

02/13/2007 11:05 PM  
 PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: jon\_jarvis@nps.gov  
 Subject: Attn Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

I vote for alternative D plus the bridge to connect existing trails Inv. Pk to PR Stat.

I've been a homeowner here since 1968 and was in the local lobbying that stopped the diking at its present extent. Thanks for the Restoration Plan! Please go slowly, slowly for the sake of plants and wildlife during the efforts to restore.

Moreva Selchie, PO Box 82, Inverness

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Marie Yvonne Severitti  
20 Tomasini Canyon Road  
P.O. Box 1166  
Point Reyes sta., CA 94956  
(415) 663-9293

February 12, 2007

Superintendent of Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes, Sta., CA 94956

Re: EIS/EIR: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

Dear Superintendent:

This letter is to comment on the alternatives presented in the EIS/EIR for the restoration of the Giacomini wetlands. My comments to said EIS/EIR are as follows.

1. **I support Alternative D.** It is my opinion that the increase in excavation to inter-tidal elevations in the southern portion of the east pasture, as shown in the plan/map for Alternative D, would be best for the habitat and the overall restoration of the wetlands.
2. **I am not in favor of the proposed walk/bicycle bridge** as discussed in Alternative D. I am not convinced there would be enough use of said bridge to justify the cost. The bridge may create the need to channel water flowing from the creek impairing restoration and/or the natural flow of the creek. Also, the bridge may impact scenic views. Reasonable improvements could be made to the Green Bridge and along Levee Road facilitating bicycles/walking, etc.
3. The Mesa Spur Trail mentioned in Alternative C could be problematic and is likely to have little use due to its out-of-the-way location.
4. Entrance to the Overlook should be far enough from the residential area to preserve its integrity. Traffic, noise, litter, etc. disrupt the quiet enjoyment residents are entitled. Please help preserve the residential area as an integral part of our community.

Thank you for your consideration on these comments.

Sincerely,



Marie Y. Severitti

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"Susan Seymour"  
 <Susan\_Seymour@pitzer.edu>  
 02/13/2007 03:16 PM  
 PST

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
 cc: <Jon\_Jarvis@nps.gov>  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

We strongly favor Plan D for the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration

We live in Inverness Park where we look down on the to-be-restored wetlands, which we have been looking forward to for the past 25 years--ever since the park made this critical property part of its desired expansion. Now it should be restored in a way that best protects threatened wildlife. Humans to not need full access to an area that is so environmentally sensitive and critical to the wellbeing of Tomales Bay, the Coho salmon, etc. We already have an incredible luxury of trails in the park

Thank you for your consideration

Susan Seymour & Laurence Graham  
 57 Laurel St.  
 Inverness Park, CA

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nancy stein  
 <nanstein@svn.net>  
 02/12/2007 11:51 AM  
 PST

To: pore\_planning@rps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini

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Point Reyes	
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I am a 30 year resident of West Marin. I raised my daughter here and have worked for many years as a landscape designer. I served on the EAC board for 4 years, and am very active in the environmental community.

I strongly support a bridge connecting the white house pool area with the trail into the Marsh.

All of the residents of Inverness and Inverness Park rely mainly on the town of Pt. Reyes for supplies, community and health. Of necessity, we are the major users of automobiles in Pt. Reyes. As the town grows, it becomes more and more important to connect the Inverness users to Pt. Reyes by means other than cars. Parking lots are not what the people of Pt. Reyes want to see!

Parking at White House Pool, and traveling by foot or bicycle to Pt. Reyes would mean a bird watching opportunity in a day of errands! It would also connect school children from Inverness Park to the School. It would mean a lot to middle and high school children who might want to stay in town after school for activities, but would miss the bus as a result. I know as a parent that I would have felt a lot more comfortable with my child walking in a marsh rather than a busy highway.

I oppose the use of the Green Bridge as the access point to Pt. Reyes. The proposed trail into Pt. Reyes via the Green Bridge would mean many problems such as widening the road; and it is a much less desirable way to access the town. It could never provide the safety and enjoyment that the bridge across the creek that would connect to the trail leading into town would give. Because of this, a "bike trail" into town along Sir Francis Drake is not going to get the use of children and people like myself, 60 years old...I simply do not feel safe riding a bike along the highway, no matter how wide the trail!

It seems to me that the Giacomini Marsh was purchased by the National Park, not the Nature Conservancy. I believe that the public can interface with wildlife in ways that benefit both; and that with proper engineering, the humans using the trail will not harm the birds and wildlife in the marsh, and may in fact, become more knowledgeable and interested in protecting the environment, because they use it. Closing people out of the wetlands in a place so close to town, a place that is caught between heavy traffic and development seems wrong to me.

4th street also seems like a better access point to the wetlands than 3rd, since it's already a commercial street, which passes by the fire station and the storage unit.

Please consider the Martinelli property just outside of Pt. Reyes Station. Although it has a long trail, accessed by foot traffic and horses, it's been a great connection to the bay and the wildlife along that corridor, and I am not aware of any heavy or inappropriate use by humans.

I understand that the people living on the bluff above the bay may not want a trail along the old railway right of way. With the exception of that piece of trail, I fully support Alternative C and the multiple use of the wetlands.

I do believe that the citizens of Pt. Reyes have the right to complain about the "outsiders" who come to our area. The National Seashore belongs to all the people in the world who come here, and I for one, think those people learn a great deal about nature, and are taught to

protect it by the inspiration and familiarity they gain by using it.  
Sincerely,  
Nancy Stein



"Britt Stitt"  
 <bstitt@lovett-silverman  
 .com>

To: <Park\_Planning@nps.gov>  
 CC:  
 Subject: Gicomini Marsh Restoration

02/13/2007 06:33 PM  
 PST

Don Neubacher  
 Superintendent Point Reyes National Seashore

Subj: Giacomini Marsh Restoration

Dear Superintendent,

Please add my vote of confidence to Option D, the full environmental restoration plan. I have done some consulting for the park---Chimney Rock Pier--- and will be glad to donate my engineering and estimating time towards the project.

Sincerely,

*Britt Stitt*

PO 351  
 Inverness, CA 94937  
 415.559.0095

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dog owners to comply with regulations, I encourage the Park to prohibit dogs adjacent to or on Tomales Bay wetlands.

Although I have used the term "Giacomini Wetlands" throughout this letter, I strongly encourage the Park consider renaming the project and the site. With all due respect to the Giacomini family, they made a sizable profit from the sale of the property and do not need further recognition. I suggest calling the project "Tomales Bay Wetland Restoration".

With Alternative D, we will have a beautiful, ecologically-functioning Tomales Bay wetland where birders and biologists will consider vocalizations of black rail as commonplace, rather than an exciting novelty as we do now.

I think you for this opportunity to comment on the Draft EIR. I want to express appreciation for the staff time to produce such a beautiful and valuable document.

Sincerely,

Emilie Strauss  
1606 Hearst Ave.  
Berkeley, CA 94703



Chris Lish  
Sent by: Loretta Farley  
02/16/2007 11:56 AM  
PST

To: strauss@haas.berkeley.edu  
cc: Ann Nelson/PORE/NPS@NPS  
Subject: Re: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetlands

*Kris*  
FEB 16 2007

DO NOT REPLY to this email, rather be sure to reply to PORE\_Webmaster@nps.gov.

Dear George ,

Your message has been forwarded. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact us again at PORE\_Webmaster@nps.gov or check our website at [www.nps.gov/pore](http://www.nps.gov/pore).

Thank you for your interest in Point Reyes National Seashore.

Sincerely,  
Loretta Farley  
PORE Park Ranger

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

strauss@haas.berkeley.edu



strauss@haas.berkeley.  
edu  
02/15/2007 03:19 AM  
EST

To: PORE\_Webmaster@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetlands

Email submitted from: /pore/contacts.htm

This is to support Alternative D with the possible exception of the bridge over the creek. There is plenty of opportunity for recreation in the Seashore, however the wetlands perform a unique function.

George Strauss 1468 Grizzly Peak Berkeley, CA 94708



Carol Sweig  
<carolsweig@yahoo.co  
m>

To: Park\_Planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: Alternative D

02/12/2007 02:21 AM  
PST

Please choose this most protective plan. We have so little left!  
Thank you.  
Carol Sweig and Jim Lawry

Everyone is raving about the all-new Yahoo! Mail beta.

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tortay2@yahoo.com  
02/11/2007 01:34 PM  
EST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov  
cc:  
Subject: From NPS.gov: Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project

Email submitted from: /pore/parkmgmt/planning\_giacomini\_wrp\_eiseir\_draft\_2006.htm

We are writing to support Alternative C for the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project. We live and work in Point Reyes and enjoy the expanding wildlife habitat. We believe Alternative would allow everyone, even those with disabilities, to enjoy the restored wetlands.

Thank you, Tor Taylor and Laurie Monserrat Point Reyes Station, CA

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Richard Vacha  
 <rwvacha@horizoncable.com>  
 02/11/2007 01:47 PM  
 PST

To: park\_planning@nps.gov  
 cc: jon\_jarvia@nps.gov  
 Subject: Fwd: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Richard Vacha <rwvacha@horizoncable.com>  
 Date: February 10, 2007 10:52:53 PM PST  
 To: parkplanning@nps.gov  
 Cc: kitty@overlook.com, jonjarvis@nps.gov, hath@horizoncable.com  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project

Superintendent, Pt Reyes National Seashore

Dear Sirs,

I have lived alongside the Giacomini fields for 25 years and have eagerly anticipated the day of its conversion back to natural wetlands. This is a tiny, but important, step in a badly needed shift toward restoring a damaged planet.

The stakes are high. The human race is beginning to wake up to the realization that the impact of modern civilization is endangering the viability of the earth itself to support life systems.

Every step towards restoration is critically important and must be undertaken with unprecedented clarity and boldness.

It is with this view that I urge you to adopt Alternative D as the plan which will, in the long run, be the best plan for Pt. Reyes and for the Earth. That would be a step in the right direction on the long road ahead toward preserving life on earth as we know it. The issue is nothing less than this.

Others have noted the specific local concerns--the effects on the town, quality of life in the neighborhoods, habitat pressures on sensitive species, etc. While I agree that Alternative D would be the best choice in all of these areas of concern, I urge you to support what is the only truly conscientious choice possible- the highest level of restoration and preservation.

The concerns about access and personal use of parklands, that many express will be shown in future years to be part of a terribly short-sighted and inadequate way of looking at the problems we face.

Making the choice for the highest preservation may be difficult now, but when you look back on this choice in future years, it will be obvious that is the correct one.

Thank you very much for being part of a restoration process that, no matter which Alternative is chosen, is a valuable step forward. I personally appreciate your efforts in this regard.

Richard Vacha

Dear Don Neubacher,  
I am in favor of  
Plan C, very enthusiastically.  
I now live in Marshall,  
but recently bought a  
place in Inverness Park  
on Sir Francis Drake.

Thank You -  
R. Jander-Master

*Rec'd 2/16/07*



huntergatherer8@yahoo.com

02/15/2007 10:10 PM  
EST

To: pore\_planning@nps.gov

CC:

Subject: From NPS.gov: restoration project at giacomini land

Email submitted from: /pore/parkmgmt/planning\_giacomini\_wrp\_eiseir\_draft\_2006.htm

It looks to me like you are planning to spend a great deal of money and energy to do a big project when I would think nature itself, in the form of tides and annual floods, would bring about the restoration of a healthy marshland here. The islands that would be left where the current levies are would certainly provide good wildlife habitat. My six year old daughter and I live quite close to where this project would be going on and we certainly don't want to be exposed to the noisy and dangerous construction(or destruction)project you seem to be planning. Let nature take it's course. Sincerely; Hunter&Willow Wallof



L/6107

Dear Superintendent,

I wanted to show my support for Alternative D. I am always interested in whatever plan restores the land to the highest degree.

I'm not so supportive of a new parking, as in Plan C.

Thanks for your attention.

Linda Deer Weisenberg  
Bx 823  
Inverness CA 94937

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FEB 14 '07

Betty Wheelwright  
P.O. Box 1359  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956  
415.663.8759

February 13 2007

Superintendent Don Neubacher  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Dear Superintendent Neubacher:

I appreciate the obvious care with which the Draft EIS/EIR for the Giacomini Wetlands has been done. Like many residents of Point Reyes Station, I look forward to the restoration of these wetlands and to the increased health of the Tomales Bay ecosystem.

I also appreciate the Park Service's efforts in **Alternative C** to accommodate the local community by building a bridge over Lagunitas creek that would link the existing southern perimeter footpath and the White House Pool. However, I support **Alternative D**, the environmentally preferred alternative, because I believe the Park Service's highest priority should be the restoration and health of the Giacomini Wetlands and Tomales Bay, not expanded public access. The Point Reyes National Seashore already has abundant access to its varied and rich natural resources. The existing White House Pool Trail and the proposed Dairy Overlook (in **Alternative D**) will provide limited access to the Giacomini Marsh.

I oppose the following aspects of **Alternative C**:

➤ **Bridge connection between existing southern perimeter path and White House Pool trail.**

A safe bicycle and pedestrian path between Point Reyes Station and Inverness Park would best be achieved by widening Levee Road. Widening Levee Road would be less expensive than the proposal for the bridge in Alternative C, and it would meet community needs while allowing the maximum restoration of the wetlands.

➤ **Mesa Spur Trail**

I'm opposed to the Mesa Spur Trail because I believe that it could easily become a public nuisance. It would attract people to an area that would be hard to supervise and would bring excessive amount of traffic onto Mesa Road and into the surrounding residential area.

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➤ **Improved Trail Access at Green Bridge**

I support the proposed improvement of trail access at Green Bridge.

➤ **Access to Dairy Overlook**

The access to the Dairy Overlook should be from C Street at a location between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets. Like many residents in Point Reyes Station, I don't want the access to the Dairy Overlook via Third Street. I'm concerned that Third Street will be overloaded with traffic. The turn from State Route 1 onto Third Street is already congested and, at times, dangerous.

I believe that Alternative D will maximize the marsh restoration while doing as much as possible to protect the historic character of downtown Point Reyes Station. Those of us who live in Point Reyes Station support the restoration of the marsh, but we want it to be done in a manner that doesn't destroy the character of the town in which we live. Imagine what would happen to Point Reyes Station if it were located where the parking lot for Bear Valley Trail is right now. Those of us who live in Point Reyes Station have made a considerable investment in the community where we live, and many of us have supported the restoration of the Giacomini Marsh. We are asking the Park Service to do the right thing environmentally and the right thing for the preservation of the historic downtown by implementing Alternative D.

Sincerely,



Betty Wheelwright



"Michael and Barbara Whitt"  
<mbwhitt@svn.net>

02/06/2007 09:10 PM  
PST

Please respond to  
"Michael and Barbara Whitt"

To: <park\_planning@nps.gov>  
cc:  
Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Plan

I strongly favor Alternative D for the following reasons: the primary purpose of purchasing the ranch was to return it to wetlands, which in turn would restore the bay and its ecosystem to a more pristine state; any traffic through the wetlands would diminish their function and degrade their value to wildlife; access around the edges already exists; it is not the duty of the NPS to provide transportation routes through sensitive habitat. I know the park service has been the victim of some bad publicity recently, but I don't think it necessary to sacrifice its mission to appease its critics. What makes this area a national treasure is its beauty, serenity and

wildlife values, which have always been so ably protected by the PRNS & GGNRA, in harmony with dairy ranching and agriculture, a model for the rest of the country.

Thank you for considering my views. Sincerely, Michael Whitt M.D., PO Box 240, Pt. Reyes Sta, CA 94956 (a physician in the community of Pt Reyes for 37 years)

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Point Reyes  
National Seashore

FEB 9 - '07

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2-7-7

Don Neubacher  
Superintendent  
Pt Reyes Nat'l Seashore

Dear Don,

Giacomini Wetlands Restoration  
Plan

I hope you will implement alternative D for the Giacomini Wetlands. I have not talked to Suler and Tipper recently, but I am sure they support D. I know that the park has taken a lot of criticism over the past few years, but I hope you won't let that influence your decision. The public already has access to the marsh, as much as they need for esthetics and wildlife viewing. Bounding a path through the marsh to get from one place to another is, as I'm sure you know, not in the spirit of preservation.

Enclosed is a poem I wrote about Bear Valley years ago. I don't know if you ever saw it. The marsh-to-be - as well as many other special places in the Park - could inspire a similar poem or Suler.

Thanks for hearing me out.

Wishing the Park a happy 2007.

Richard White

All around the yellow field  
the forest like a boundary  
between the known and unknown,  
the seeker and his quarry,  
embraced and held my joy.

I was filled with the meadow,  
my spirit soared upward  
like the steepled fir,  
and I felt what  
any lover  
of this meadow  
had known:  
It was a place  
no one should ever own.

Point Reyes National Seashore

*no white*

### BEAR VALLEY MEADOW

for Ane Rovetta

When I first walked here  
the meadow filled my mind,  
spread before me and behind,  
as if my whole life were contained  
in its open expanse.  
The island of fir and bay,  
chattering with woodpeckers,  
pointed to the sky.



"Dorothy&Geoff White"  
 <doge@svn.net>  
 02/11/2007 08:26 PM  
 PST

To: <Park\_Planning@nps.gov>  
 CC:  
 Subject: Giacomini Wetlands Project Planning

Dear Supt. Don Neubacher et alii:

First of all my wife and I would like to thank you for all the good work you have done in acquiring these lands for the Seashore and in laying out the alternative possibilities for its treatment. We lived in Inverness for twenty-one years, and we know how important this area is to the health of the park and to the public's use and enjoyment.

We would urge you to adopt the general outline of plan D, perhaps with certain modifications. We know that the bridge over Paper Mill Creek that is being considered is highly controversial and also expensive, and that it is opposed by many people with whose general concept of how to treat the area we agree. Nevertheless, if budgetary restraints permit it, it is our personal opinion that it should be built. The possibility of highway-free foot passage from Point Reyes Station to White House Pool has always seemed to me intriguing and desirable, and I hope it might be incorporated in whatever plans you ultimately adopt.

Whatever decisions you may make in this and other matters concerning the wetlands, we will be looking forward with great eagerness to watching the transformation of this vital area.

Regards, Geoff & Dorothy White

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Attn: Superintendent  
 Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project DEIS/EIR  
 Point Reyes National Seashore  
 1 Bear Valley Road  
 Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

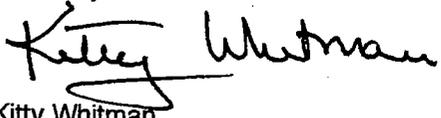
Dear Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project management team:

I have reviewed the EIR in some detail and am delighted by the extensive plans to restore the present Giacomini property to wetlands. I concur with many local residents in preferring Alternative D, the "environmentally preferred alternative" with the addition of a bridge across Lagunitas Creek near the old summer dam, securing an off-road alternative trail along the Levee Rd. corridor. I would prefer to see funds available for ongoing invasive plant removal rather than construction and maintenance of new overlook infrastructure.

I was surprised to find little mention in any of the alternatives of exotic plant removal in the mesic coastal scrub area of the Pt. Reyes mesa bluff (one or two clumps of Pampas grass on the Tomasini Creek channel berm were called out for removal). A significant number of trees in the extensive eucalyptus stand bordering the Martinelli Ranch fall within the project area, with broom and other invasive plants spreading from their understory. I would like to advocate for a cooperative effort between private landholders and the park service for the removal of this stand during the initial phase of the Giacomini Wetlands Restoration Project. Difficulties of access will make their removal prohibitively expensive after the levees are breached, given the steep and erosive bluff on which they are growing. This may be the first and last chance for the trees' removal.

Many thanks for your impressive efforts to make this project happen. Hats off!

Sincerely,



2/16/07

Kitty Whitman  
 88 Overlook Rd.  
 Point Reyes Station, CA 94956  
 (415) 663-1474

Rationale for the removal of eucalyptus stand on the Pt. Reyes mesa bluff at the project area/Martinelli Ranch boundary

\*The trees are considered a noxious and aggressively spreading pest of immediate concern according to the Seashore's Exotic Plant Management Plan. Fire safety for both homes and habitat would be improved by their removal.

\*The trees on the levee and the old railroad grade are unstable, eroding the bank, and compromising the integrity of the Tomasini Creek channel levee. The channel is considered essential to maintaining habitat for the endangered Tidewater goby for the next ten to twenty year period. Continued creekside erosion in this area would undermine the efforts of the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project to improve water quality in Tomales Bay.

\*The trees interfere with hydrology of the bluff. After restoration, Tomasini Creek's current channel will depend on perennial or seasonal seep flow from the Mesa to create the brackish condition required by the Tidewater goby. Freshwater flows should increase following the trees' removal. The less stagnant the channel, the lower the mosquito risk for residents.

\*The understory of the eucalyptus stand supports little native vegetation and harbors non-native plants considered Category 1 by the Seashore, highest priority for control or eradication. As long as the stand remains, it will serve as a nursery for invasive plants such as broom and Himalayan blackberry which will spread south into the mesic coastal scrub. The continuous removal of these exotics would be a maintenance nuisance for the park and the homeowners in an area with extensive poison oak and dense willow thickets.

\* The mesic scrub ecosystem at the foot of Pt. Reyes mesa has been found to be key riparian habitat, with 10% of birds observed in the project area during winter occurring in the bluff area. Revegetation of this section of bluff following exotic plant removal would comply with the Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project's stated objective of creating more riparian habitat, forming an unbroken habitat corridor between the Martinelli and Giacomini lands. Additionally, native vegetation would help to stabilize the creek bank.

\* The viewshed opportunities from the proposed Tomales Bay trailhead spur trail are compromised by this eucalyptus stand. Views of the shallow shorebird area and the Point Reyes mesa bluff are blocked by the eucalyptus trees at the terminus of the proposed trail. Their removal would substantially enhance the intactness of the native landscape. Secondly, replacing the trees with an arroyo willow and coyote brush thicket would inhibit the public from wandering into the area of protected habitat at the trail's terminus.

\* Marin County's Local Coastal Plan and the Point Reyes Community Plan also call for exotic plant removal along the Pt. Reyes mesa bluff to preserve the physical, ecological and visual integrity of the area. Cooperation between federal, county and local agencies could streamline the permitting process for adjacent landholders.

\* Given the prevailing winds and the eastward trend of the mesa's geography, this eucalyptus stand is not serving as a windbreak for residents. Its removal will restore natural wind conditions to the project area.

\* A cooperative federal/private effort would expedite the process in various additional ways: 1) the trees could be felled across property boundaries, reducing costs to both parties 2) hauling away the tree material on still extant ranch roads rather than transporting them up the bluff and through residential neighborhoods would reduce impacts; 3) an acceptable regime for managing re-sprouts adjacent to the wetland could be agreed upon 4) and a revegetation plan could be jointly arrived at and implemented with professional oversight.

February 5, 2007

Superintendent

Pt. Reyes Natl. Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Pt. Reyes Station, CA, 94956

Dear Don and Lorraine,

I am a resident on Mesa Road, living just above the Giacomini Ranch, and quite accustomed to the hoards of tourists coming into town on the weekends, over crowding the once quiet, sensible town. I am afraid, like many other residents, that if there does happen to be an open spur trail on the Mesa, there will be no silence, no space in town, and no room for endangered animals such as the goby, the red -legged frog and the steel head trout. I am joining many others in asking you to please think about what these huge factors could do to change this town for the worse.

I vote YES on proposition D

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<input type="checkbox"/>	CULT. RES.
<input type="checkbox"/>	MANU.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONTRACTING
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERSONNEL
<input type="checkbox"/>	BUDGET
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CENTRAL FILES

Thank you,  
Maria Wilson

*Maria Wilson*

350 Mesa road  
Point Reyes Station  
Girlontheloose14@yahoo.com

RECEIVED  
Point Reyes  
National Seashore

FEB 13 2007

*Douglas Wright & Lillian Hames-Wright*  
*180 Third Street*  
*PO Box 1116*  
*Point Reyes Station, CA 94956*

February 12, 2007

ATTN: Superintendent  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project DEIS/EIR  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SUPT.
<input type="checkbox"/>	SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/>	SPEC. PK. USES
<input type="checkbox"/>	LAW ENFORC.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAT. RES.
<input type="checkbox"/>	RANGE CONS.
<input type="checkbox"/>	FIRE MGT.
<input type="checkbox"/>	INTERP.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CULT. RES.
<input type="checkbox"/>	MAINT.
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONTRACTING
<input type="checkbox"/>	PERSONNEL
<input type="checkbox"/>	BUDGET
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CENTRAL FILES

Re: Comments on Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project DEIS/EIR

To Whom It May Concern:

At the request of the NPS, we offered public scoping comments in a letter dated November 5, 2002 concerning a number of issues that we believed should be examined in the NEPA/CEQA process. We are pleased that a number of those issues have been addressed in the DEIS/EIR. However, the Draft document does not respond to several other matters set forth in 2002, and so our comments at this time reflect these continuing concerns. We would like to offer the following comments on the Draft EIS/EIR:

1. We appreciate that the NPS believes it is appropriate to designate a "preferred alternative" and an "environmentally preferred alternative". We also understand that on the basis of comments on the Draft document, and further considerations of the matter by the NPS, that the resulting restoration plan may very well incorporate elements from two or more of the alternatives examined. Consequently, we are not inclined to offer a preference for a specific alternative set forth in the Draft document.

2. Regarding **hydrology**, we wish to once again address a number of matters at a location that was within the original project area, near the intersection of Third and C Streets in Point Reyes Station.

a. Along the west side, or project side, of C Street, between Third Street and some point north of Fourth Street, there has been a consistent history of hydrological activity that the

DEIS/EIR does not address, even though: one, the NPS currently owns a portion of the land that is subject to this activity; and two, the amount of activity would suggest to us that the hydrology should certainly be considered in terms of its relationship to the restoration project.

For years, water pooling has occurred in the cow pens that are located near the intersection of Fourth and C Streets. A similar but smaller pooling of water has occurred south of that location, in the cow pen between Third and Fourth Streets. From an historic standpoint, long-time local residents recall that when Fourth Street - that is, the block between B and C Streets - was filled, a natural drainage channel was covered by the fill on Fourth Street. Although it may be possible that the pools are spring-fed on-site, as well, this history suggests that the pooling is fed from beneath Fourth Street.

This drainage system emerges in the cow pen which, although it has also been subject to fill, is at a lower elevation than Fourth Street. As evidence of the drainage and pooling, approximately twenty years ago the Giacomini ranch installed a tile and gravel "French drain" in order to pipe the water away from the cow pens, but this device failed in operation. Recently, in conjunction with the January 25 NPS meeting, several of us inspected the pooling. On a date which followed over four weeks of virtually no precipitation, standing water was visible in several locations in the cow pen, particularly in the area west of the end of Fourth Street.

These water flows are not examined in the DEIS/EIR, although it is apparent that the water emerging from this underground drainage system is seeking a path to the south and/or west, through the restoration area to lower elevations near Lagunitas Creek. We believe that the analysis should include consideration of this hydrology and that there should be an explanation of why the property currently owned by the NPS at this location, as well as the property (tract 05-165) excluded from the Giacomini purchase, should not be considered integral to the restoration and included in the project. Why has this drainage system not been included in the DEIS/EIR analysis? Why does the NPS choose not to address this hydrology matter on property which was originally intended to be part of the restoration project and which is in part owned by the NPS?

b. In the event that the aforementioned parcels were to be included in the restoration project, and the plans to remove the levee, the road leading to the levee from C Street, and the removal of fill from the area adjacent to C Street, are realized, what would the impact of this be upon the future vegetation resources along that path? Over the course of the past 20 years, a line of willows and other low growth has occurred adjacent to our property within the (state-owned) open space that lies southwest of the corner of Third and C Street. Although this growth is characterized in the DEIS/EIR as being viewed "negatively" by property owners (us, we assume), we actually view it as positive since it has provided a lively new habitat for a variety of bird and animal species.

Were the aforementioned (2.a) hydrology system to the north along C Street to be incorporated into the restoration project, the opportunity would be provided for a further restoration of habitat, perhaps in the form of additional willows and low growth, but in

whatever form establishing continuity of vegetation northward, adjacent to C Street. This growth would be fostered by the drainage systems previously noted and a fine, natural boundary to the restoration area would be formed. We ask why incorporation of this opportunity has not been considered and examined?

c. It is noted in the DEIS/EIR (page 191) that run-off from a considerable portion of the streets of Point Reyes Station is channeled into the open space at a point near the intersection of Third and C Streets. We have always assumed that this is a contaminated water source and that the (seasonal) flow of this water may change its course once the restoration project removes the levee, removes the road to the levee, and reduces the level of filled pasture aside the levee. We believed that the DEIS/EIR presented an opportunity to examine the impacts of this runoff upon the existing and future habitat, and if necessary, to address possible mitigation measures. We have not been able to find any such consideration in the Draft document, other than the brief description cited, and ask why this impact is not addressed?

3. Regarding **public access**, we appreciate the recognition in the Draft document that creating a trailhead in the vicinity of Third and C Streets in Point Reyes Station, thereby formalizing the informal trailhead that has existed there for years, would have "moderate" (negative) impacts upon that location in terms of parking and traffic. Certainly, given the fact that there is no off-street parking provided, now, or in the plans described in the DEIS/EIR, creation of a trailhead at this location would indeed have negative parking and traffic impacts at the location. Although we have no objection to pedestrian and bike movements at this location, the streets serving this residential enclave do not have the capacity to handle the traffic that would be anticipated if a formal and signed trailhead were created. Locating parking and a trailhead that is immediately accessible to Route 101, as is proposed in Alternatives C and D, is logical in terms of addressing the impacts of auto movement and parking.

4. The **project definition**, or boundary, remains a curious matter to us, and the history of the proposed property exchange, initiated in early 2006, should not be disregarded in the context of the DEIS/EIR. Certainly this history of the restoration project has been largely ignored in the Draft document. Why does the DEIS/EIR not provide a description, or history, of the changes in the project area definition, between the time of the original purchase and now? Why is there no explanation or rationale provided for the implicit (as represented in the Draft document) decision on the part of the NPS to not include the parcels along C Street, and specifically the lower elevation parcels adjacent to C Street from Third Street north of Fourth Street, within the restoration project?

5. The DEIS/EIR discussion of **visual resources** is curious and raises some questions. It is noted that the existing view of the restoration area from C Street in Point Reyes Station is "obscured" by a "25-foot tall stand" of Cypress trees (p. 327). In fact, these trees are less a "stand" than a "row" that lines the west edge of C Street from a point south of its intersection with Fourth Street north to its intersection with Fifth Street. The trees are, we believe, within the County-owned right-of-way, and they exist because they

were planted originally to mitigate the visual impacts of the operating dairy farm from the village.

In the past, we have stood on C Street with NPS staff and discussed the view opportunities that would be provided, along C Street, when the restoration project is realized, since C Street would afford a fine view, to the west and north, of the southern portion of the project area. Of course, it was assumed in these discussions that: one, the NPS would adhere to its original concept for the project and purchase all of the parcels along the south blocks of C Street; and two, that the Cypress trees, their purpose no longer existent, would be removed. Why have these considerations, in terms of public visual resources, been ignored in the Draft document?

6. We would also like to take this opportunity to offer some brief comments on further **project funding**, in light of: one, the brief history of the project's acquisition phase (on page 7); two, the status of the five parcels that were removed from the original purchase, at the request of the Giacomini family; and three, the statement on page 8 of the DEIS/EIR which is apparently referring to a second proposed land exchange.

Per our comments, above, regarding project definition, it does seem unnecessary for the NPS to consider an exchange of property in order to secure the lowland parcels adjacent to Inverness Park, or for that matter, to secure those low elevation parcels adjacent to C Street (which we believe should be part of the restoration project area).

The DEIS/EIR explains well (on pages 8-9) the justification for the Giacomini wetland restoration effort. The loss of wetlands in California has been documented in countless studies and publications over the years. Consequently, the opportunity presented by the Giacomini restoration effort is an important counter to this historic trend, and if my understanding is correct, the location and scale of this restoration project makes it one of the most important efforts of its kind on the west coast.

That being the case, it would seem that the project should have been, and continue to be, a very high priority for funding from any number of public and private entities. Certainly, past funding commitments to the project reflect its significance. However, since our discussions in early 2006, in the context of debating the then-proposed property exchange, the funding picture has improved significantly. As we suggested at that time, changes in national administration, in the make-up of congress, and in Sacramento, can have a major affect upon the level of potential funding.

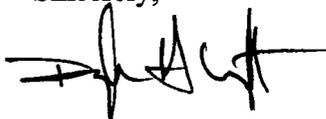
There continue to be an array of specific funding sources for acquisition and restoration of wetlands, including US Fish & Wildlife grant programs (specifically those aimed at endangered species habitat, appropriate for the Inverness Park parcel), EPA accounts, Caltrans mitigation funding, and private donor funds, all of which have provided, or could provide, (additional) increments of funding for the Giacomini project. To this point, we note the announcement within the past week a \$1 million grant from the National Coastal Wetlands Program was secured for the restoration project.

Moreover, in November of last year, California voters passed Proposition 84, which is estimated (by the Trust for Public Land) to provide a total of \$350 million for wetlands acquisition and restoration. Certainly, the Giacomini project would compete well for this funding, for either acquisition or restoration, or both. In addition to Prop. 84, California also passed Proposition 1B, which could help the Giacomini project meet other specific funding needs. A new congress, with a new majority, has begun business in Washington, and already there is talk of serious funding for the LWCF, a budget recommendation addressing the backlog of NPS unfunded needs, and an energized focus on environmental initiatives.

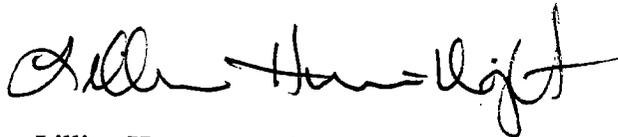
Given its scale and significance, the Giacomini restoration project should be a highly visible, very attractive, and priority candidate for additional funding. The opportunity to actively pursue established as well as new funding sources for a project of this importance suggests that the possibility to do more, rather than less, within the project's scope is very real. It also impugns the viewpoint that a property exchange - one that gives up NPSW resources that could otherwise add to the project's quality - is somehow necessary to accomplish a project that would as a result be "less" than it need be.

The original project concept made a great deal of sense, in terms of removing non-compatible agricultural uses from a restoration setting, as well as defining a project in a logical manner that would enhance view opportunities, preclude possible future development impacts upon the newly restored habitat, and offer a project with clear, undistorted boundaries. We very much support efforts to find funding in order to expand, rather than diminish, the project, and would be pleased to assist in any way possible.

Sincerely,



Douglas G Wright



Lillian Hames-Wright

&

**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting  
January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

Excellent long term work by the Park Service -

Thank you for a year

We support option D with the addition of the sledge / path \*

(public access)

Provide County follows Park's lead with trail design

(not too wide / environmentally sensitive)

**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting

January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

Please be SURE to include  
a through path from  
White House Pool to  
Pt. Reyes

**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting  
January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

THE EFFECT ON RESIDENTS OF  
PRS !!! IMPACT OF MORE  
PARKING, TRAFFIC, NOISE,  
CROWDEDNESS. WHY HAVE  
AN OVERLOOK RIGHT IN OUR DOWNTOWN !!  
~~FOR~~ CHECK THE ADDRESSES OF PEOPLE WHO  
ARE WANTING THIS. THEY PROBABLY DON'T LIVE HERE.

**Point Reyes National Seashore**  
Giacomini Wetland Restoration Project Meeting

January 25, 2007



Please add any additional issues that were not brought up at this meeting:

Prefer Alternative D because of my concerns  
about the impact of a public trail along  
Lagunitas Creek. Recommend that, if there is  
a connection here, it be a small path & bridge  
to accommodate walkers only. - This would truly  
be a local access trail.