



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.

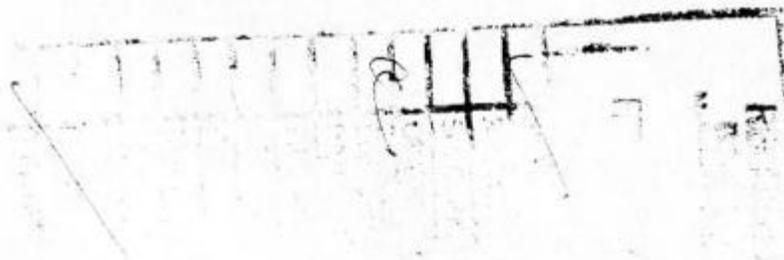
Be aware that "these charming wildlife trails" will likely end up on Bay Area Back Roads and in Sunset Magazine and will attract many more visitors and their cars to our already over-crowded town

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. Feltson
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 ^{obscure} 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

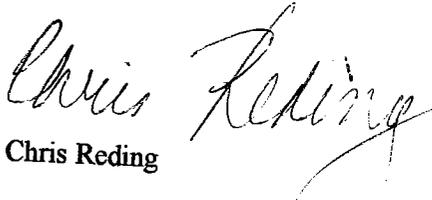
February 14, 2007

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

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Point Reyes National Seashore	
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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:

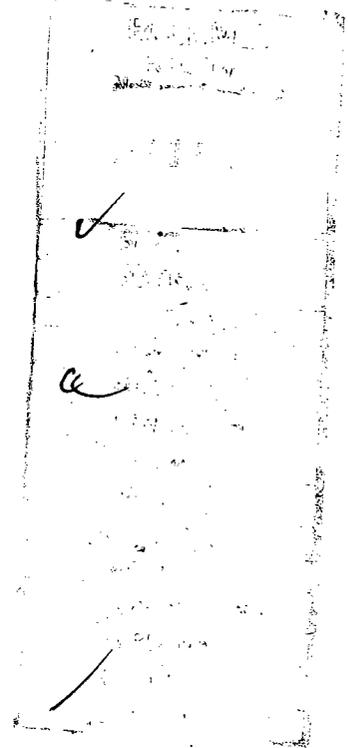
I am writing to you about the Giacomini Restoration Plan at Tomales Bay. As a long-time resident of Marin (my parents also live in Point Reyes) I cannot emphasize the importance of Western Marin's world-famous beauty and diverse wildlife. Accordingly, I appreciate Point Reyes National Seashore's plan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

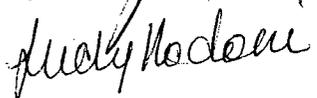
First of all we would like to thank the park for having this public dialog related to addressing alternatives for the Giacomini Wetland Restoration. Your process has proven to be thorough, educational, and a very transparent process. You and your staff should be thanked for this effort.

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

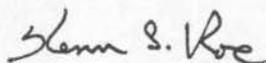
Dear Sir:

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"
 <mcroppers@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	
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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

Done see act of

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
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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