

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  |               |                     |
| SUPL.       | SCIENCE       | SPEC. PK. USES      |
| 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.

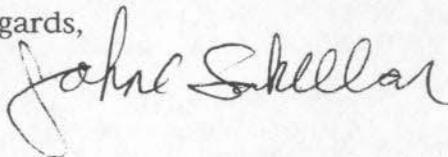
As a hiker of all the trails in Marin County, I have discovered there are trails for everyone: horseback riders, cyclists, day hikers, bird-watchers and overnight back-packers camping out. How about an area specifically for the birds and beasts?

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*

3438647703

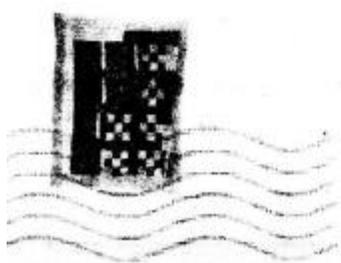
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*Pt. Reyes National Seashore  
 1 Bear Valley Rd  
 Pt. Reyes Station, CA  
 Superintendent*

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*Pt. Reyes Sta., CA  
 350 Meola Rd  
 94957*

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RECEIVED  
Point Reyes  
National Seashore

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,

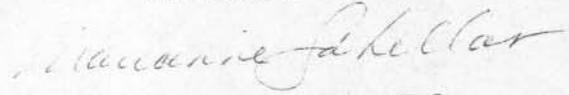
Thank you for such an informative and well-run meeting. I still do not understand why public access should be part of this equation in planning for restoration of the Giacomini Wetlands. It was not part of the original charge of the park service, and I'm sorry that public pressure is making inroads. 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.

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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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"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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**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  
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To: pore\_planning@rps.gov  
 cc:  
 Subject: Giacomini

RECEIVED  
 Point Reyes  
 National Conservancy

FEB 15 07

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| SCIENCE        |
| SPEC. PK. USES |
| LAW ENFORC.    |
| NAT. RES.      |
| RANGE CONS.    |
| FIRE MGT.      |
| INTERP.        |
| CULT. RES.     |
| MAINT.         |
| CONTRACTING    |
| PERSONNEL      |
| BUDGET         |
| CENTRAL FILES  |

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>

02/13/2007 06:33 PM  
PST

To: <Park\_Planning@nps.gov>  
CC:  
Subject: Gicomini Marsh Restoration

Don Neubacher  
Superintendent Point Reyes National Seashore

Subj: Gicomini 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

| RECEIVED                            |                |
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| Point Reyes<br>National Seashore    |                |
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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.com>

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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| National Seashore                   |                |
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